

STATE OF ALABAMA            )  
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COUNTY OF BALDWIN        )

The City Council met in a Strategic Planning Meeting at 4:30 p.m., Delchamps Room, 161 North Section Street, 161 North Section Street, Fairhope, Alabama 36532, on Tuesday, 10 June 2014.

Present were Council President Jack Burrell, Councilmember Rich Mueller, Diana Brewer, and Kevin Boone (arrived 5:02 p.m.), Mayor Timothy M. Kant, and City Clerk Lisa A. Hanks. Councilmember Michael A. Ford was absent.

Council President Burrell called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. and handed out the agenda.

The following topics were discussed:

1. Finances

(a) Council President Burrell requested the proposed budget to be complete by the last week in August; and ready for adoption at the first meeting in October. Finance Director Jill Cabaniss said that Mayor Kant would be meeting with Department Heads in June on labor, merit raises, etc. There will be a second meeting in July for capital improvements, travel, etc.

(b) Debt reduction was discussed next by City Treasurer Nancy Wilson. She mentioned the two point upgrade in our bond rating. Ms. Wilson also commented that there are no GOWs to reduce or payoff in the next year. We are looking at the URWs for possible reduction. The money used for the Triangle down payment from the Gas and Electric was also mentioned: Gas should be paid off by year end; and Electric is still owes \$1.3 million.

2. Jonathan Smith, Planning Director, discussed the Comprehensive Plan and gave the date and location for the three public input meetings: October 21, 2014 will be at Homestead Village; October 21, 2014 will be at Fairhope Elementary School; and October 23, 2014 will be at Fairhope Intermediate School. He stated the scope work was already done for consultant to oversee; and the consultant will conduct these meetings. Councilmember Mueller suggested a work session with both the Planning Commission and the City Council.

3. Boards and Committees were the next item on the agenda. Jonathan Smith brought the Pedestrian and Bike Trails Committee and the need for this committee to be sanctioned by the City Council. Mayor Kant commented the committee is excited and willing to help on traffic issues.

Mayor Kant mentioned the Board of Adjustments needing members; one alternate member and either reappoint or appoint a member. Council President Burrell said we need to dust off our roster and see if there are any vacancies or expired members.

Council President Burrell commented we are investing a lot in our schools with in-kind services over a half million dollars. Arts Committee was mentioned and the need to move forward with the committee.

Councilmember Brewer announced Gretchen Schapker had resigned, so we will need to appoint a member.

4. Stormwater was next on the agenda to be discussed by Jennifer Fidler and Jonathan Smith. Ms. Fidler stated the City only owns a few retention ponds. Mr. Smith mentioned our attorney stating the City cannot go onto private property unless a retention pond causes damage to others downstream. Retention ponds were built for a 25 year storm event, but in 2007 we amended the requirements to build for a 100 year storm event. He stated that it would take years before we would see the effects of Low Impact Designs (LIDs) which are maintained through landscapers. Ms. Fidler commented the City owns approximately five retention ponds.

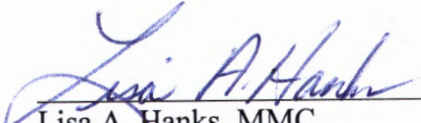
Mayor Kant said the April 29, 2014 storm overran all ponds. The Building Department should require an engineer to sign off on flood plain. Mr. Smith said the City may want to look at requiring freeboard being up a few more inches or feet.

5. Chief Petties discussed Public Safety with regards to the City's radios. He discussed the recent issues with dead spots/zones in the City. The radios need to be compatible with the Baldwin County Sheriff's office and the City of Daphne Police Department. The Fairhope Volunteer Fire Department has a grant for the needed antenna. This radio expenditure of approximately \$200,000.00 is not budgeted for this year. This new radio system would allow us not to lose radio contact. Daphne and Magnolia Springs both have an antenna.

Mayor Kant gave a recent example of radios not connecting to dispatch, to other officers, or to a helicopter hovering overhead. This is posing a threat to our officers. Council President Burrell questioned the longevity of the equipment before upgrades are needed. Jeff Montgomery, IT Director, explained the P25 radio is federally standard. Chief Petties mentioned the GPS and monitor is included along with the motor bridge. The consensus of the City Council was to put this on the next agenda.

There being no further business to come before the City Council, the meeting was duly adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

  
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Jack Burrell, Council President

  
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Lisa A. Hanks, MMC  
City Clerk