

MINUTES

Special Meeting (Open Agenda) -Annual Goal Setting Session

October 12, 2010

Vice Mayor Terry Senger called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m. at the Fairfield Municipal Building, 5350 Pleasant Avenue. The following Councilmembers were present: Tim Meyers, Terry Senger, Mitch Rhodus, Mike Snyder, Mike Oler, and Tim Abbott. Staff present: Art Pizzano, Dennis Stuckey, John Clemmons, Dave Crouch, Dave Butsch, Mary Hopton, Don Bennett, Mike Dickey, Jim Bell, Erin Donovan, Greg Kathman, and Carol Mayhall.

Annual Goal Setting

City Manager Art Pizzano gave a preview of the meeting, noting that each department head will give highlights from the 2010 Report on Mayor and City Council Goals. He briefly discussed the quote "Recessions take the fun out of governing. There's no money left for any more grand developments".

Economic/Community Development

City Manager Pizzano read the departmental goal, "Launch a comprehensive residential retention plan, which incorporates changing demographics (age, economics, and crime), property maintenance, property redevelopment and quality of life. Establish core baseline measures to monitor results of the plan." Planning Manager Erin Donovan explained one of the ways residential retention is measured is through the Neighborhood Enhancement Action Team (NEAT), which has inspected over 4000 properties to date for 2009 and 2010 with an additional 1100 properties expected to be inspected by year end. Economic Development Manager Greg Kathman discussed for redevelopment of properties, the Patterson Place redevelopment project advanced this year and hopefully financing will be worked out to construct a senior living facility. Mr. Kathman explained one aspect that was not mentioned specifically in the goal written last year, but they feel is important is job creation. He discussed earlier this year there was an absorption of over 600,000 square feet of commercial/industrial space in our community.

Public Safety

City Manager Pizzano read the departmental goal, "Enhance public safety services to the community through new technology and dedication to have a safe community for all residents. Continue to explore efficient ways to make Fairfield a safe community." Police Chief Mike Dickey reviewed various technology projects including 9-1-1 mapping to locate cell phone callers, license plate reader, GPS tracking system, new monitors in the communications center for some major intersections in the city and an electronic satellite pursuit system. He commented they have finished the first year on the countywide radio system. He discussed the crisis response system with the schools. Chief Dickey briefly mentioned the department's involvement with NEAT. Fire Chief Don Bennett discussed the technology used including using CODY, modems that are now carried which can transmit a twelve lead EKG to any receiving hospital in Greater Cincinnati, and the GIS System that is used with street guide.

Parks & the Environment

Mr. Pizzano read the departmental goal, "Maintain and promote the City's focus on having the region's premier recreational facilities and programs while establishing a plan to add new, innovative, quality of life attractions with an environmental friendly focus." Parks Director Jim Bell briefly discussed for economic development, the bike race held at Harbin Park, the MASC tournament, and other activities that bring money into the community. He discussed adding the spray ground and heaters at the Aquatic Center, helped with revenue and freshened up a 13 year old premier facility.

Operational Excellence

Mr. Pizzano read the departmental goal, "Evaluate and improve departmental efficiency and communication, measuring progress." Assistant City Manager Dennis Stuckey explained operational excellence goal touches on all the departments. He discussed the participation in the Center for Performance Measurement for the second year and training that was provided by Management Partners, Incorporated.

Utility Infrastructure Support

Mr. Pizzano read the departmental goal, "Provide and ensure Fairfield's commitment to environmental sustainability and utility infrastructure that meets the needs our residents and businesses in the most efficient manner possible." Public Utilities Director Dave Crouch discussed how they broke this goal into five categories of priority: 1) continuity of service 2) exceptional water quality 3) environmental responsibility 4) reduce energy consumption 5) maintenance of competitive rates. Mr. Crouch discussed the generator installation at Muskopf Road Pump Station with the generator at the water plant and a well that was retrofitted to provide water under emergency power to about 75-80% of the community. He discussed as far as exceptional water quality a study for the water age and the distribution center in general is moving forward. Mr. Crouch discussed extensive inspections that were passed for the Water facility and Wastewater facility and the labs. He explained the Utility Department continually monitors and tracks electric, gas throughout the city and has established thresholds that are emailed to departments. Mr. Crouch briefly discussed the rate study.

Public Works Infrastructure Support

Mr. Pizzano read the departmental goal, “Provide a cost effective approach to ensure that our existing and new Public Works infrastructure meets the needs of the community.” Public Works Director Dave Butsch discussed the pavement management system, which is used to evaluate all the streets and give them hard numbers to decide what is paved. He discussed the inter-layer systems and asphalt rejuvenator, which are used to extend the life of the pavement and infrastructure. Mr. Butsch discussed the raised pavement marker lens replacement used to extend the life of the raised pavement markers. He discussed the guardrail replacement/upgrade, which may become a semi-annual program to bring the cost down. He discussed the televising/relining of storm sewers and the traffic signal systems. Mr. Butsch discussed the cost reduction for the landscaping maintenance contract. Mr. Butsch discussed the Fleet and Facility Manager Position. Mr. Pizzano commented this vacancy resulted in retrofitting the position.

Community Relations

Mr. Pizzano read the departmental goal, “Look for new ways to foster cooperative projects with the school district which have the potential for job creation and economic development.” He discussed the Keystone Distribution project, which involved the schools. He discussed the Huffman recreation project, which a member of school board has been involved with as well as Parks Board and the Planning Commission. He further discussed a hostage training exercise performed by the police and fire on school property and involved the schools.

Councilmember Meyers explained these specific goal items established by City Council last year, maintain and are the mission statement for each of the areas. Council decided to keep the same departmental goals. Councilmember Council discussed the main and specific goals and objectives for 2011. Councilmember Abbott proposed the following goal for Finance, “To operate within a fiscally conservative budget, while maintaining current bond rating and necessary reserves to provide service levels that position Fairfield to retain residents.” Council discussed 2011 goals including: the finance goal - to operate in a fiscally conservative budget, while maintaining current bond rating and necessary reserves to provide service levels that position Fairfield to retain residents; review and prioritization of the CIP; development of a PR campaign to promote quality of life and resident retention; and to take the specific Council goals and have a Council-Manager Briefing on those specific items.

Adjournment

The Council/Manager Briefing adjourned at 9:47 p.m.

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council

Mayor's Approval

Date Approved _____

Respectfully Submitted,

Angela Johns
Clerk of Council