



CITY OF AUBURN HILLS

City Council Workshop

Minutes

June 14, 2021

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor McDaniel at 5:30 PM

LOCATION: Public Safety Building, 1899 N. Squirrel Rd, Auburn Hills, MI 48326

Present: Mayor McDaniel, Council Members Burmeister, Hawkins, Kittle, Knight, Marzolf, and Verbeke

Absent: None

Also Present: City Manager Tanghe, Assistant City Manager Grice, City Attorney Beckerleg, City Clerk Pierce, Assistant to the City Manager Skopek, DPW Director Melchert, Senior Services Director Adcock, Recreation Director Hegdal, City Assessor Griffin, Fire Chief Taylor, Police Chief Baker, Finance Director Schulz, Community Development Director Cohen, Fieldstone Golf Club Manager Hierlihy, City Engineer Juidici, Management Assistant Hagge

Mr. Tanghe introduced the Goals and Objectives Workshop. He explained that this workshop is held in June as the City's budget process for the next fiscal year will begin soon. Some of the items discussed may have a cost associated with it and can be incorporated into the upcoming budget.

Mr. Grice updated Council on the status of the current goals.

Dr. Patrick Piskulich facilitated a discussion on how the covid pandemic affected each department and how it impacted its operations. Policies, training and the use of technology changed, as well as learning to provide critical services in a different way while still trying to connect with the residents. It was noted that the City continued to remain open to provide services to the residents. City Council commended staff on their efforts during this time.

City Council and staff reviewed the Mission, Vision, and Values of the City and agreed that the City has met all three items. Dr. Patrick Piskulich facilitated the discussion to establish the goals and objectives for 2022. Several previous objectives were removed as they have already been addressed and several new objectives were added.

Discussion ensued on establishing a measurable carbon footprint, exploring opportunities for improved storm water management, optimizing online interactions and services, expand the opportunity for growth for teens as well as inclusion and diversity, Hawkwoods, pathways, a Fire Department inspection program, the back to work plan for businesses located in the City, skate park, and the golf course.

2022 Strategic Goals & Objectives

I. Focus relentlessly on fiscal and operational sustainability

- Continue to pursue new revenue streams, acting upon opportunities as they become available
- Seek creative ways to reduce expenditures
- Require consistent departmental budget implementation & accountability
- Pursue a AAA bond rating
- Explore opportunities to improve stormwater management

II. Deliver outstanding city services

- Seek tech improvements in line with current trends in IT
 - Enhance internal IT infrastructure
 - Optimize our e-interface for residents
- Identify new/additional opportunities for council & staff to engage citizens
- Respond to generational & cultural needs
 - Connect kids to mentors – job skills (engage Teen Council)
 - Connect to kids 13-18 years of age
 - Opportunity for growth: 21-50 year olds (incl. our corporate community)
 - Enhance the cultural competence of our service delivery
- Explore recreation partnerships for AH kids
- Aspire to the Top 100 municipal golf courses for Fieldstone GC

III. Drive strategic community development

- Further develop M-24/Opdyke Road Corridor
- Support the effort to increase water flow in river corridor
- Focus redevelopment efforts on TIFA, city-owned, and private properties
- Continue downtown parking analysis

IV. Continue to grow a vibrant, sustainable, safe & connected community

- Continue to enhance community engagement via communications, e.g., construction, developments, events
- Continue to increase corporate engagement – monitor back-to-work configurations among major city employers via the (budgeted) 2022 business survey
- Continue to connect with school-age children
- Continue to keep Auburn Hills friendly and livable for all ages (Phase II)
- Evaluate civic center campus security measures to protect employees and the general public
- Decrease community risk, e.g., implement a Fire Safety Inspection Program
- Seek to obtain missing Riverwalk parcels/easements
- Redevelop the AH Skate Park

V. Retain & attract high quality employees

- Maintain and grow a talented, customer-focused workforce
- Address deficits to attracting and retaining employees, across city departments
- Invest in employees through ongoing training & development)
- Focus continuously on succession & business continuity planning
- Incorporate diversity training for all city employees

The meeting adjourned at 8:54 PM.

Kevin R. McDaniel, Mayor

Laura M. Pierce, City Clerk