

MINUTES
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF MURPHY
Murphy Community Center
205 North Murphy Road
Murphy, Texas

Tuesday, March 27, 2012
6:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Baldwin called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

2. INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL & CERTIFICATION OF A QUORUM

The following Councilmembers were present:

Mayor Bret Baldwin
Mayor Pro Tem John Daugherty
Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Colleen Halbert
Councilmember Dennis Richmond
Councilmember Scott Bradley
Councilmember Bernard Grant

The following Councilmembers were absent:

Councilmember Dave Brandon

4. OTHER CONSIDERATION ITEMS

4.1. Discussion and action regarding the Strategic Planning Session held February 23-24, 2012.

Joe Gonzalez, Facilitator, guided a discussion between Council and staff posing the following questions:

- 1) What do you need from Council/Staff?
- 2) One year from now, how would you like staff/Council to be working?

Council responses to question number one:

- 1) What do you need from Council/Staff?
 - Continued patience
 - Effective, accurate, and timely communication
 - Prepared for Council meetings and ensure all options are vetted
 - Access to information for Council/Residents
 - Separate facts from recommendation
 - Complete information
 - Be proactive in areas of concern and in addressing concerns
 - Help Mayor/Council to understand which ceremonial duties are priority
 - Share good things; positive stories
 - Give information as it relates to the 'big picture'
 - Help Council 'defend' decisions with solid and thorough agenda items
 - List all options – then recommendation

Staff responses to question number one:

1) What do you need from Council/Staff?

- Open, clear, communication on a regular basis
- Continued trust
- Utilize staff for information
- Trust in staff
- Support of recommendations
- Big picture goals; direction for next five years
- Solid decisions
- Understand employee perspective
- Clear direction on what kind of city you want; financial support of that determination
- Clear vision for departments/city
- Guidance and clarity on type of department

Council responses to question number two:

2) One year from now, how would you like staff/Council to be working?

- Every decision has been considered thoroughly with consideration to financial and community impact
- Use expertise of staff to fullest extent
- Good communication with solid reasons for decisions
- Working on next set of goals
- Respect for each other's autonomy
- Solid trust levels
- Disagreements are isolated to issue
- Working towards same goals
- Clear sense of direction
- Collaborative; same team
- Defined goals and strategy

Staff responses to question number two:

2) One year from now, how would you like staff/Council to be working?

- Goals that we stick to
- Staff working towards vision of Council
- Shared vision
- Set priorities competitive with other target cities
- Same goals; same team
- Council makes policy and staff implements
- Support of staff
- Making solid decisions and moving forward
- Respect
- Don't look for wrong; build on what is right

There was significant discussion about email communication with regards to acknowledging, responding, and prioritizing. The expectation from Council is that all emails are acknowledged.

Staff asked for clarification on "Appropriate Distribution of Work" as noted in the Strategic Planning Session as a focus area of Council. Council explained that they want to ensure the right staff is in the right place.

Mr. Gonzalez concluded the session by asking “What has been accomplished?”

The following responses were given:

- Understanding of each other’s perspectives
- Understanding of perception/misperception of trust
- Relationships/better rapport established

5. ADJOURNMENT

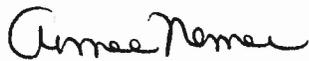
With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m.



APPROVED BY:


Bret M. Baldwin, Mayor

ATTEST:


Aimee Nemer, City Secretary