

City Council Workshop - Hybrid (In-Person & Electronic) (Tuesday, September 3, 2024)

Generated by Maryelizabeth Garcia on Friday, August 30, 2024

1. Opening Items.

Procedural: 1.01 Call To Order

Mayor Hernández called the workshop to order at 5:33 PM.

Procedural: 1.02 Roll Call

PRESENT:

Mayor - Norma L. Hernández

Council Members – Paul Jessup; Michael Cleveland; Tito Espinoza Jr.; Melodie Williams; Heather Schermann; Monica Boyle

Staff- City Administrator, Michael Rizzitiello; City Clerk, Sherri St. Clair.

Also Present -

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Loren Peterson

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Procedural: 1.03 Pledge of Allegiance

Information: 1.04 Public Comment - None

2. Workshop Topics.

Information: 2.01 Strategic Plan Update - Mr. Ratkai

Mayor Hernández introduced Mr. Ratkai of Safeland Strategic who presented to Council the Strategic Planning process that the City is undergoing, and the results of the Community Survey as they stand at this time. The survey has produced 55 responses from the community and 19 from City of College Place staff members; respondents indicated that College Place on the whole is headed in a "positive direction," and that First Responders and parks are the most valued community assets. Mr. Ratkai informed Council that College Place's top three strengths are that it is safe, friendly, and has a small town feel. Barriers to success were identified as: tax revenue, sustaining essential services, customer service through utility billing at the City of College Place, land ownership impacting business growth, and unfunded mandates that are impacting operations. Mr. Ratkai presented priorities for the community including but not limited to affordable housing, continued economic development, public safety, community facilities improvements, planned growth, infrastructure improvements including sidewalks and other accessibility-related growth, regional collaboration, and continued bike and pedestrian infrastructure and accessibility. The survey period will be extended to recruit more respondents, especially College Place students of all ages as well as minority residents. Mr. Ratkai presented a timeline for project completion, indicating that the process will be completed by the end of calendar year 2025.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion: 2.02 Pacificorp dba Pacific Power and Light (PP&L) - Ms. Culwell

Ms. Culwell informed the Council that 20 years ago, the City of College Place granted a franchise agreement to PacifiCorp to provide power to residents, and reviewed franchise agreements the City has provided to other businesses. Ms. Culwell updated Council on recent engagements and remediation efforts including daily updates and monetary penalties with PacifiCorp.

Discussion ensued.

Information: 2.03 Government Finance 101 - Mr. Carleton

Mr. Carleton presented to Council the budget process for 2025. Mr. Carleton informed the Council that the City of College Place is driven from fund accounting and are required by RCW to operate under a balanced budget model where resources are driven by budgets. Mr. Carleton described the relationship between whole department budgets and the funds they are associated with, and provided training on the City's Budget Process and the annual roles and responsibilities of departments and Department Heads. Mr. Carleton presented the timeline for this year and estimates that the process will be complete complete by December 12, 2024, and adopted on December 31, 2024.

Discussion ensued.

Information: 2.04 June Yard of the month - Chief Tomaras

In the absence of Chief Tomaras, Mr. Rizzitiello presented the June Yard of the Month at 411 Mountainview Drive.

Information: 2.05 July Yard of the Month - Chief Tomaras

In the absence of Chief Tomaras, Mr. Rizzitiello presented the July Yard of the Month in the Tremont area neighborhood.

Information: 2.06 August Yard of the Month - Chief Tomaras

In the absence of Chief Tomaras, Mr. Rizzitiello presented the August Yard of the Month 1161 Scenic View Drive.

3. Closing Items.

Discussion, Information: 3.01 Good of the Order

Council Member Williams requested the City Clerk to email the Strategic Planning Document to Council.

Procedural: 3.02 Conclusion

Mayor Hernández concluded the workshop at 7:02 PM.

Approved:

Signed by:

Norma L. Hernández

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Norma L. Hernández – Mayor

Attest:

Signed by:

Maryelizabeth Garcia

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Maryelizabeth - City Clerk

The foregoing minutes are the official record of the City Council Workshop that occurred September 3, 2024. Further detail may be obtained by reviewing the actual audio recording made during this session.