

**ARLINGTON CITY COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING WORKSHOP AGENDA
JUNE 17, 2019 AT 5:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

1. Call meeting to order
2. Roll Call
3. Approve Meeting Workshop Agenda
4. Review and discuss proposed 2019 Arlington City Council Goals.
5. Review and discuss the top three Arlington City logo submittals.

ADJOURNMENT

**ARLINGTON CITY COUNCIL
COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 17, 2019**

The Council Workshop meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m., Mayor Richard Nagel presiding.

Members present: Richard Nagel, Michelle Battcher, Tom Hatlestad, Jim Heiland and Ben Jaszewski.

Members absent: Adam Cowell

Also present: City Adm. Pat Melvin and Sibley County Economic Development Intern Michael Kedrowski.

Motion by Battcher, seconded by Jaszewski, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the agenda.

The purpose of the Council Workshop meeting was to discuss the 2019 Arlington City Council Goals and to review and discuss the top three Arlington logo submissions.

Administrator Melvin provided the Council with some background on the Council goals. On February 19, 2019 the Council met in a workshop setting to review the individual goals submitted by each council member and on February 21, 2019 the Council met with the EDA and Planning and Zoning Committee to talk about common goals for the year. Input from these two meetings was combined resulting in the draft of proposed Council goals for 2019. The Council reviewed each goal line by line and had discussion on each.

In the first item under Business development and retention goals the Council did not feel that it had much of a role other than that of supporting the EDA in its effort to work with businesses on succession planning. This led into the seconded bulleted item which was to keep Main Street Arlington vibrant and busy by working more with the Chamber. There was some brief discussion about the City and Chamber roles which some felt would benefit from working more cooperatively. It was noted how well the City and Chamber work with regards to the Farmer's Market and what a success that has been. The Council directed Administrator Melvin to go to a Chamber meeting to explore options for working more with the Chamber. The third bullet in this section was to negotiate purchase options for a future industrial park and the group agreed that it would be beneficial to at least have first right of refusal on some possible properties. This does not require the City to spend significant dollars on land that will sit vacant but does give the City an option to purchase in the future. This is more ideal since a business would first show interest in relocating or expanding in Arlington before the City even considers the purchase. The City of Arlington currently has 22 acres for which it has no access and the Nickel property located north of the racetrack. Otherwise there are no commercial or industrial properties available if a business were to approach the City looking for possible sites.

The first item under increasing housing options, attracting new residents and maintaining quality of properties was revised to show the Council supporting the EDA in marketing more senior and low income housing and moved to the third category of long-range planning. The second item creating a campaign to promote the benefits of residing in Arlington was simply changed to supporting Choose Arlington, the program initiated by the EDA which resulted in the University of MN Extension gathering focus groups and organizing residents to make change in Arlington. The Council felt strongly that this group had been mobilized and it was imperative to keep it going. The Council felt that maintaining the quality of life in Arlington through provision of emergency services, sponsoring community events, providing amenities and addressing issues was already occurring and did not need to be a goal. One discussion that did come up was whether or not the City could do more to schedule entertainment at the Gazebo at Memorial Park. The Council was supportive of that initiative.

The last category was long-range planning. This included developing and following a five year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) which the Council agreed with and making improvements to the City's infrastructure as funds allowed. Along with those improvements the Council expressed a desire to revisit the City's long range sidewalk plan and to each year repair and fix sidewalks that needed attention. The last item under this category was contracting for Information Technology services and making electronic retention of documents a priority. The Council talked about how the network needed work and that once that occurred it was their hope to not have to hire an expensive monthly IT consultant to maintain and trouble shoot the City's outdated home network. There was also discussion about the documents at the Community Center and how making progress on scanning and retaining those documents was not occurring due to time constraints. The Council directed Melvin to obtain quotes for having the material in the closet scanned into the City's Laserfische system.

Administrator Melvin will revise the Arlington City Council 2019 Goals and present them to the Council for approval at the July 1 Council meeting.

Administrator Melvin shared with the group the prior discussion that Mayor Nagel, EDA Director Newsom, and he had regarding updating the City logo. The City logo currently is the baseball water tower, however some participants in the Choose Arlington suggested that maybe it be updated. Based on that a suggestion was made to the Council to conduct a logo contest and the City was very happy to have about ten creative designs submitted. Three of those designs as selected by Mayor Nagel, EDA Director Newsom, EDA Intern Michael Kedrowski, and Administrator Melvin were forwarded to the Council for final decision. The Council had a two and two split between the more modern pyramid design and the Arlington Live-Work-Play-Stay design. The Council was reminded that it could tweak any of the designs and that from previous discussion it was apparent that some Council members wished to stick with the Choose Arlington logo. The Council suggested Administrator Melvin talk with Council Member Adam Cowell who had a pre-excused absence about his preference in order to make the decision. The logo decision will be revisited at the July 1 Council meeting for a decision.

Motion by Battcher, seconded by Hatlestad, and passed by unanimous vote of those present to adjourn the meeting at 6:22 pm.

City Administrator Patrick Melvin

Mayor Richard Nagel