

COUNCIL MINUTES
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETINGS
MARCH 19, 2015 AT 3700 HOGGE ROAD – PARKER, TEXAS
MARCH 20, & MARCH 21, 2015 AT 205 NORTH MURPHY ROAD – MURPHY, TEXAS

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Barna called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm on March 19, 2015 at the Southfork Ranch in Parker, Texas. Councilmember Betty Nichols gave the invocation before the dinner on Thursday evening.

Mayor Barna reconvened the work session at 3:08 pm on March 20, 2015 at the Murphy Activity Center in Murphy, Texas.

Mayor Barna reconvened the work session at 9:13 am on March 21, 2015 at the Murphy Activity Center in Murphy, Texas.

2. ROLL CALL & CERTIFICATION OF A QUORUM

Susie Quinn, City Secretary, certified a quorum with the following Councilmembers present for all three days:

Mayor Eric Barna
Mayor Pro Tem Scott Bradley
Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Owais Siddiqui
Councilmember Ben St. Clair
Councilmember Betty Nichols Spraggins
Councilmember Sarah Fincanon
Councilmember Rob Thomas

3. STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION

A. Discussions regarding Council vision, objectives, priorities, and strategic goals.

Thursday evening was spent getting to know Council and staff better. An ice-breaker exercise of "IF" questions was introduced. Councilmember Thomas discussed the Conversations for the Extraordinary.

Friday the meeting reconvened at 3:08 pm and everyone was challenged to contribute their thoughts regarding the city's current vision statement, the mission plan, the city's motto, values and principles. Two groups made up of staff and Council members were created to discuss the various topics. The groups came back together following the brainstorming and created the following ideas:

Murphy values a safe, vibrant, family-oriented distinctive city that fosters a strong sense of community.

In order to accomplish and sustain our Purpose, Murphy will follow these guiding principles:

- *We will seek innovative solutions for local issues;*
- *We will have engaging community activities and programs for all ages;*
- *We will have attractive and inviting parks and trails;*

- *We will encourage civic and community involvement;*
- *We will have a bold sense of economic vitality;*
- *We will maintain professional and highly trained staff with a servant leadership focus;*
- *We will respectfully enforce all laws and regulations;*
- *We will have well maintained infrastructure;*
- *We will uphold quality building standards*
- *We will have strong relationships with neighboring communities;*
- *We will be compassionate, caring citizens, neighbors and city staff.*

On Saturday morning, an overview of the prior day's accomplishments was completed. The city's motto "Life lived at your pace" was discussed. The group further fine-tuned the above statements before being divided up again to have a "Conversation for Opportunity". Items to be discussed included:

- *Thinking about our City of Murphy?*
- *What is missing?*
- *What would you like to see in the future?*

Council reviewed notes from prior work sessions in 2007 and 2009.

Following the two group discussions, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Siddiqui wrote-up the following items, Mayor Barna also discussed their groups ideas which were all comingled and discussed by the group as "Conversation for Opportunity":

- *Electrical infrastructure*
 - *Timber's*
 - *Bury power lines*
- *Aesthetics*
 - *Median irrigation / maintenance*
 - *Unique street lighting*
- *Community Outreach*
 - *More engagement with Chamber of Commerce and Exchange Club*
 - *State of the City of Murphy*
 - *Citizen of the Year*
 - *Government Days in the schools*
 - *Y.E.A. (Youth Entrepreneurship Academy)*
- *Parks / Recreation*
 - *Multipurpose fields*
 - *Lacrosse / Cricket / Soccer*
 - *Lighting the fields*
 - *Natatorium*
 - *Recreation Center*

- *Parades*
- *Trail Connectivity*
- *Community Gathering Place*
 - *Library / E Library*
 - *Public House*
- *Traffic*
 - *Signal lights – TxDOT/ Weishers Coordinator*

- *Other*
 - *Community Foundation*
 - *Sister City*
 - *Naming Rights*
 - *Central Park Amphitheater Utilization*
 - *Housing Rehabilitation*

- *Comprehensive Plan Update*

- *Safety*
 - *Disaster Plan / Coordination*

- *Legislative Issues*
 - *Murphy's Interests better represented*

Following that group discussion, the following points were determined to be the ones to have more follow-up discussion:

- *Community Development*
 - *Beautify medians*
 - *Community Foundation*
 - *Comprehensive Plan Update*
 - *Land inventory review*
 - *Lighting of medians*
 - *Community Identity*
 - *Signage*

- *Parks, Recreation, Open Spaces*
 - *Maintenance*
 - *Fund*
 - *Strategies*
 - *Murphy Activity Center*
 - *Purpose / repurpose (all city buildings)*
 - *Fields*
 - *Trail Connectivity*
 - *Dog Park*
 - *Utilization of Central Park*

In addition, the group also discussed the need for a Community Improvement Committee to review the following to determine if a bond Issue might be necessary in the near future:

- *Community Improvement Committee*
 - *Infrastructure of roads and sidewalks*
 - *Public Safety*
 - *Street Lights*
 - *Parks / Trails*

Following that discussion, a short to do list was created to be completed:

- *Develop a calendar with 12 months of Community Events*
- *Historical Society – repurpose an area for storage and more display*
- *Community Survey*
- *Where is our priority?*
- *Naming a Charter Review Committee in 2016 or late 2015*

4. ADJOURNMENT

On Thursday evening the group left around 9:00 pm, on Friday evening at 7:02 pm and on Saturday, the meeting adjourned at 1:43 pm.

APPROVED BY:



Eric Barna, Mayor

ATTEST:

Susie Quinn, City Secretary