

**CITY OF OWOSSO
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 28, 2021
6:00 P.M.**

PRESIDING OFFICER: MAYOR CHRISTOPHER T. EVELETH

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: MAYOR CHRISTOPHER T. EVELETH

PRESENT: Mayor Christopher T. Eveleth, Mayor Pro-Tem Susan J. Osika, Councilpersons Janae L. Fear, Jerome C. Haber, Daniel A. Law, Nicholas L. Pidek, and Robert J. Teich, Jr.

ABSENT: None.

CITIZEN COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

There were no citizen comments.

ITEMS OF DISCUSSION

Strategic Planning

Facilitator Patrice Martin was present to guide the City Council through the second of three strategic planning sessions. The goal of tonight's meeting was to better understand the roles and processes of the City Council as they pertain to the Master Plan.

Ms. Martin gave a brief overview of how the Master Plan was developed with input from staff, Council, the Planning Commission, citizens, and local stakeholders and how it can serve as a strategic plan for the City. She talked about how crucial it is that expectations are clearly articulated and everyone involved understands their role in the process and how those roles complement and support each other.

Next, Council discussed their role in the implementation of the Master Plan and the current state of affairs with this undertaking, making a list of their observations.

The Council recessed from 6:57 p.m. until 7:03 p.m.

Upon their return the Council was asked what their desired role would be in implementing the Master Plan in the future and a second list was generated. Ms. Martin then guided the Council through a discussion as to how the two lists were similar and different. The group also talked about the need to complete the feedback loop and report back to everyone whose input was received how the information will be used.

The group then assembled a list of resources and strategies that would be necessary to support the desired future state. The list is as follows:

Resources / Strategies

- Identify where agenda items "live" in the Master Plan
- Institute Council/City Manager work sessions
- Close the feedback loop with citizens, City staff, and boards & commissions
- Improve technology/Wi-Fi in the Council Chambers
- Understand what citizens really want

Wrapping up the meeting Ms. Martin asked each Councilmember to give one reason for optimism. A sampling of those reasons follows:

- Everyone on Council seems to be in the same headspace
- The positive way this Council works together
- Opportunities like this that allow people to put their ideas out there
- Excitement about making the Master Plan part of the culture

City Manager Nathan R. Henne carefully cautioned the group that culture changes happen slowly and will take time.

The last strategic planning session will involve the City Council and Department Managers and will be scheduled in the coming weeks. The goal of the session will be to develop outcomes and measures to assess the implementation of the Master Plan.

NEXT MEETING

Monday, October 04, 2021

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS OPENINGS

Brownfield Redevelopment Authority – term expires June 30, 2022
Building Board of Appeals – Alternate - term expires June 30, 2022
Building Board of Appeals – Alternate - term expires June 30, 2024
Downtown Historic District Commission – term expires June 30, 2022
Owosso Historical Commission – 2 terms expire December 31, 2021
Owosso Historical Commission – term expires December 31, 2022
Owosso Historical Commission – term expires December 31, 2023
Planning Commission – term expires June 30, 2022
Zoning Board of Appeals – Alternate – term expires June 30, 2024
Zoning Board of Appeals – term expires June 30, 2023

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilmember Fear for adjournment at 8:04 p.m.

Motion supported by Councilmember Law and concurred in by unanimous vote.

Christopher T. Eveleth, Mayor

Amy K. Kirkland, City Clerk