

CITY OF MUSKEGON
CITY COMMISSION WORKSESSION

Monday, June 13, 2022
5:30 p.m.
City Commission Chambers
933 Terrace Street, Muskegon, MI 49440

MINUTES

2022-53

Present: Mayor Johnson, Vice Mayor German, Commissioners Gorman, St.Clair, Emory, and Ramsey

Absent: Commissioner Hood

2022 Long Term Goals Presentation

Staff and Commissioner s met on April 15, 2022 to create a shared vision of the future with major goals, key objectives, and one-year tasks. After receiving the report from our facilitator, Lew Bender, city division and department heads developed a draft City Commission Vision for 2022-2027. The vision includes four major goals:

2027 Goal 1 - Destination Community & Quality of Life

2027 Goal 2 - Economic Development, Housing, and Business

2027 Goal 3 - Community Connection

2027 Goal 4 - Financial Infrastructure

Staff is seeking input on the draft vision and will bring a final version to commission for approval at a later date.

The leadership team will discuss the plan at regular intervals and confirm that the plan is guiding decision making. After a 6-7- month time frame, staff will discuss the vision at a work session to determine if changes are needed. A year after adoption, the group will reconvene to consider progress made and develop action items for the next year. Future decisions should be reviewed in light of this vision/strategic plan.

Discussion took place.

Transmittal of 2022-2023 Proposed Budget

Staff is transmitting to the City Commission the proposed budget for fiscal year 2022-23 which starts July 1, 2022. Both hardcopy and electronic versions of the budget have

been distributed to Commissioners. Additionally, the budget is available for inspection on the City's website and at the City Clerk's office.

The proposed budget was reviewed in detail with staff at the June 13, 2022 work session. A public hearing on the budget was held at the regular Commission meeting on June 14, 2022. City ordinance requires that the budget be adopted by the Commission on or before the second Commission meeting in June.

Finance Director, Ken Grant and Interim City Manager, LeighAnn Mikesell presented information on the proposed 2022-23 FY Budget.

Discussion took place, some changes will be made before the Public Hearing presentation taking place on Tuesday, June 14, 2022.

Traffic Studies

Staff is looking to inform Commission and the Public on two corridors proposed for traffic studies during 2022.

Staff is working towards soliciting proposals from engineering firms to provide a comprehensive traffic study on the Apple Avenue and Getty Street corridors within the City. The focus of the traffic studies will be to assess the corridors for potential road dieting in the future.

The studies will be empirically based and will primarily consist of data collection, computer modeling, conceptual renderings, and cost estimates. The end report will be presented back to the Commission and public upon completion.

City staff has had preliminary discussions with Muskegon Heights and Norton Shores regarding potentially extending the Getty Street road diet to cover the entire corridor south to US-31 BR (Seaway Drive) though those discussions are still ongoing.

MDOT has a major reconstruction project planned for Apple Avenue in 2026 which will provide an opportunity for implementing any recommendations from this study. Getty Street is a corridor within the city that would be a good candidate for a future Safety funded project to help reduce crashes.

Both routes are traditional examples of road diets with the 4-lane to 3-lane conversion being a widely utilized and broadly proved method to increase the operational capacity of a roadway and improve the safety simultaneously. Included below are a couple of links pulled for the Iowa DOT that cover the common questions, and information on the benefits for these projects:

<https://iowadot.gov/traffic/4-to-3-lane-conversion/4-to-3-lane-conversion-myths>

<https://www.desmoinesregister.com/videos/news/2019/01/16/iowa-department-transportation-explains-4-3-lane-conversion/2596034002/>

Staff intends to post the RFP's later this month and bring them back for award at the City Commission (if necessary) in July to allow for work on the studies to commence later this summer.

Discussion took place regarding this item.

Beach Parking Neighboring Community Proposal

Staff are seeking approval of a proposal to offer discounted parking passes to neighboring CDBG entitlement communities.

Last year, a proposal was made to neighboring communities that allowed them to offer discounted beach parking passes to their residents if the community participated with Muskegon on the discount. The City Manager for Muskegon Height disagreed with the proposal, and the city instead provided a number of free parking passes to the City of Muskegon Heights. At the time, commissioners and staff offered the passes in an effort to assist our low-income neighbors and provide them time to develop a program to aid their own residents. The new proposal offers discounted passes and phases out the program over the next 2 years.

Discussion took place regarding this item – it will be removed from the June 14, 2022 agenda and may be considered at a later date.

Public Comment: No public comments were received.

Adjournment: The City Commission Worksession Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann Marie Meisch, MMC – City Clerk