

**City Council Special Meeting
Planning Retreat Session I
February 28, 2014**

The City Council of the City of Elizabeth City met for a Special Meeting (Planning Retreat) on Friday, February 28, 2014 at Montero's Restaurant, located at 414 McArthur Drive, Elizabeth City, NC.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Joe Peel
Councilwoman Jean Baker
Councilman Ray Donnelly
Mayor Pro Tem Anita Hummer
Councilman Tony Stimatz
Councilman Michael Brooks (Arrived at 3:50 p.m.)
Councilman Kem Spence (Arrived at 6:10 p.m.)
Councilman Montravias King (Arrived at 3:50 p.m.)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Councilman Darius Horton

OTHERS PRESENT: City Manager Rich Olson
City Clerk Vivian White
Facilitator Madeleine Henley, Walking Stick Associates

The City Council Special Meeting was called to order by Mayor Joe Peel at 3:40 p.m. Mayor Peel welcomed everyone to the planning retreat and recognized City Manager Rich Olson for the introduction of Madeleine Henley, facilitator.

Ms. Henley led a discussion of the Council whereby rules for the meeting were established, objectives were developed and the agenda to be accomplished over the two-day session was presented.

The City Council participated in a SWOC analysis to identify the City's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and challenges. City Manager Olson provided an update on progress made toward the Council's established 2006 goals. The City Council discussed these previously established goals and, by consensus, deleted the goal to "Improve City Streets" as this was considered to be included in the goal to "Improve City's Infrastructure". Also by consensus, the goal to "Increase Entrepreneurial/Small Business Opportunities" was added, as it was agreed that this goal is important in growing the City's economy.

2014 City Council Goals:

1. Ensure Sound Fiscal Responsibility
2. Improve City's Infrastructure
3. Strengthen Inter-governmental Relationships
4. Provide Youth and Senior Activities
5. Deliver Cost Effective, Quality Services
6. Improve the Quality of All Neighborhoods
7. Increase the Quantity and Quality of Jobs
8. Increase Entrepreneurial/Small Business Opportunities

The City Council also discussed the objectives identified during the 2012 retreat, which were to be used in meeting the established goals. These objectives were considered to be still relevant; however, an additional objective to “Improve Skills of Local Workforce” was added by consensus.

2014 Council Objectives:

1. Information Technology
2. Waterfront Development
3. Marketing Elizabeth City
4. Electrical Usage/Rates
5. Attracting Businesses
6. Parks and Recreation
7. Downtown Development
8. Improve Skills of Local Workforce

There being no further business to be discussed, Mayor Peel recessed the planning retreat to reconvene on March 1, 2014 at 9 a.m. at Montero’s Restaurant.

Joseph W. Peel
Mayor

Vivian D. White, NCCMC
City Clerk