



Meeting Minutes  
City Council

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Tuesday, April 25, 2023

5:00 PM

Council Chambers  
200 West Walker Street

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**Council Work Session**

The City Council of the City of League City, Texas, met in a work session in Council Chambers at 200 West Walker Street on the above date at 5:00 p.m.

**Mayor:**

**Nick Long**

**City Council Members:**

**Andy Mann  
Tommy Cones  
Tom Crews  
John Bowen  
Justin Hicks  
Chad Tressler  
Sean Saunders**

**City Manager:**

**John Baumgartner**

**Assistant City Manager**

**Rick Davis**

**Assistant City Manger-CFO**

**Angie Steelman**

**City Attorney:**

**Nghiem Doan**

**City Secretary:**

**Diana M. Stapp**

**Chief of Police:**

**Gary Ratliff**

**Executive Director of Capital Projects**

**Ron Bavarian**

**Director of Engineering:**

**Christopher Sims**

**Director of Finance:**

**Kimberly Corell**

**Director of Human Resources/Civil Service:**

**James Brumm**

**Director of Parks & Cultural Services:**

**Chien Wei**

**Director of Public Works:**

**Jody Hooks**

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS**

Mayor Long called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and called the roll. All members of Council were present except Andy Mann, Tommy Cones and Justin Hicks.

Absent 3 - Mr. Andy Mann, Mr. Tommy Cones and Mr. Justin Hicks

Present 5 - Mayor Nick Long, Mr. Tom Crews, Mr. John Bowen, Mr. Chad Tressler and Mr. Sean Saunders

A motion was made by John Bowen, seconded by Chad Tressler, to suspend the rule and move up Item 3. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes – Mayor Long, Mr. Crews, Mr. Bowen, Mr. Tressler and Mr. Saunders

Absent – Mr. Mann, Mr. Cones, Mr. Hicks

2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

3. **DISCUSSION REGARDING COMMUNITY-BASED STRATEGIC PLANNING**

Rick Davis, Assistant City Manager, gave a presentation.

Thank you, Mayor and Council. About 15 years ago I came into contact with a concept that's called Community-Based Strategic Planning, and like one of those ah-ha moments you probably have had before, I really thought, hey you better listen to this, this is incredibly important. I'd like to take all the credit for inventing this concept, I did not. I borrowed it, plagiarized it and have utilized it for more than a half dozen cities in the last 15 years. It is a concept that I have shared liberally with my colleagues, and I've shared with John, and something that he really wanted us to present to you. I gave you a smattering of that, or a brief explanation of what Community-Based Strategic Planning is at our retreat, but nothing in-depth. What I'm going to present to you is something that is very similar to what I've presented to other audiences and I think it captures, in a nutshell, what strategic planning is all about, especially Community-Based Strategic Planning.

**Elevating Trust**

**The Power of Community Based Strategic Planning**

In a nutshell... Community-based strategic planning is a process by which citizens and local government engage in an exercise of deep listening and the subsequent identification of citizen priorities, those things citizens believe are most likely to elevate their quality of life.

**Americans' Trust in levels of Government vs. 2020 and Historical Average**

- A full third of our citizens likely do not trust our willingness or ability to address their needs.
- Not a new problem.
- Local government has arrived at its lowest all time trust level.

**Trust fuels our organizational engine. Even the wealthiest community is bankrupt without it. With it, even the poorest city can make great things happen.**

**Trust results when “trustworthiness” and demonstrated “competency” collide.**

**A community-based approach to strategic planning allows for the opportunity to address both elements of trust.**

**An ICMA Survey indicated that only two-thirds have or use a strategic plan to guide decision making. Of those, only a third allowed their residents to play a role in creating it.**

**The reality is that both citizen apathy and outrage are many times the product of a lack of civic engagement. Many citizens desires involvement in local governance beyond simply Election Day.**

#### **The Community Based Strategic Planning Process**

- **Setting the Stage**
- **Data Gathering (Listening)**
- **Identification of Citizen Priorities**
- **Report Composition**
- **Implementation & Return and Report**

#### **Setting the Stage:**

- **Appoint the Strategic Planning Advisory Group**
- **Develop the Mission**
- **Gather the Stakeholders**
- **Brand and Promote the Initiative**
- **Define and Schedule Events**

#### **Listening:**

- **Focus groups**
- **Workshops**
- **Open houses**
- **Survey(s)**
- **Create creative contests and events**
- **Virtual interactions**

#### **Identification and Priorities**

- **Data Analysis**
- **Strategic Directives**
- **Key Initiatives**

- **Consider the Unsaid**

**Putting it all together:**

- **Strategic Directives & Initiatives**
- **Tool Box**
- **The Presentation**

**4. ADJOURNMENT**

**At 5:41 p.m. Mayor Long said, there being no further business this meeting is adjourned.**

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**NICK LONG  
MAYOR**

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**DIANA M. STAPP  
CITY SECRETARY**

**(SEAL)**

**MINUTES APPROVED:**