

CITY OF MOUNT HOLLY
2015 CITY COUNCIL RETREAT
January 29th and 30th
Mount Holly Municipal Complex

Thursday, January 29th

9:00a.m.

Call to Order by Mayor Bryan Hough

Ground Rules, Schedule, Parking Lot Items

Ground Rules—Ask questions, stay on task, stay on topic, respect opinions, participation, get done!!

Parks and Recreation—*Mark Jusko*

- All Inclusive Park

There was discussion regarding a possible site at the Glendale and Hawthorne property for an all inclusive park. There is not a park of this type in the area and would be a draw to Mount Holly. The City could ask Holy Angels for input. There was additional discussion regarding the Glendale location being the best location for this type park due to parking and loading and unloading. Look at possible purchase of property for parking.

- Long Range Plan

There was discussion regarding the ABC funds. Councilman Hope reminded the Council that they promised to look into lowering the tax rate once the ABC store is paid off. Mayor Hough offered that using ABC funds for Parks and Recreation is a way to give back to the community and the citizens.

There was discussion regarding the needs of Parks and Recreation.

Comments were made that the city needs more ball fields and gyms. There were concerns that that the middle school is no longer going to let the City use fields. Mayor Hough advised that he would set up a meeting with the athletic director. There was further discussion in regard to up fitting River Street Park for ball fields. Consensus was a Feasibility study For River Street Park.

Ecorps—Redevelop the plan and produce something that the city can wrap hands around work with.

- Expansion of Tuck Center

The consensus was a Study for Tuck Park and talk with A and E about acquiring adjoining property. There was continued discussion regarding the ABC funds. Councilman Hope made a motion to set up a recreation fund from the abc store. Councilman Moore seconded. All voted in favor.

Discussion of Public Works Facility and North Fire Station—*Miles Braswell*

Dave Johnson

There was discussion regarding a Construction Manager at Risk. There was additional discussion regarding Cox and Schepp and getting advice from them on the delivery method of the project. It was the consensus of Council to make contact with Cox and Schepp for advice regarding the delivery method and to re-establish the Construction Committee made up of Councilman Hope, Bishop and Toomey.

North fire station

The conclusion of the discussion regarding the North Fire Station was to proceed forward, look into a Construction Manager at Risk and seek grants for Fire department and personnel to house the new fire station (safer grant)

Waste Treatment—*Dave Johnson*

There was discussion regarding the time line of the waste treatment facility with CMUD. It was consensus that the Utility Committee come back on board and the City be proactive in meetings with CMUD.

Mr. Jackson proposed a lease agreement proposal with a city employee that would like to rent Jacks Place. Councilman Moore made a motion to allow Buck Schuler to move into Jacks Place. Councilman Bishop seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Councilman Gowen made a motion to recess until tomorrow morning (Friday) at 9:00am. Councilman Bishop seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Friday, January 30th

Mayor Hough reconvened the meeting at 9:00 a.m.

Greenway Update—*Greg Beal*

Mr. Beal presented an update on the Greenway Project. One of the items discussed was the project timeline. Mr. Beal advised that the Greenway project will be a 6 month project after the start date. There will be a Greenway Project page added to the city website. The Mayor asked that this presentation be revised and go before the Foundation.

Economic Development—*Greg Beal*

Mr. Beal talked about the challenges that the City is faced with in regard to the downtown area. The Council discussed these issues and came up with some ways to help approach them. First of which will include an update to the Comprehensive Land Use Plan and the Strategic Visioning Plan—an RFQ to go out in the next couple of weeks. Other areas discussed were ways to promote the City for downtown residential and businesses through the TDA, press releases and local business and corporate heads.

Debt Structure—*Jamie Guffey*

Mr. Guffey reviewed the current debt and the impact of future debt. One of the things to try to accomplish going forward is ways to lessen the burden of debt to the City by passing to local industries. There was discussion regarding the waste treatment plant and the impact it would have on future debt. Council asked that during the budget process to estimate the funds generated for an additional \$1 on water bill for Capital Fund.

Fee Schedule—*Jamie Guffey*

Africa Otis

Dave Johnson

Miles Braswell

Mark Jusko

There was discussion regarding the fee structure, more specifically the system development fees and policy. The fee schedule will be on the February Council Meeting Consent Agenda for approval.

At this time the Assistant City Attorney, Marie Anders asked the City Council to consider a resolution approve a street closing and meter relocation request form Clariant. She explained the significance of closing Alexander Street and relocating the meter. Councilman Bishop made the motion to approve the resolution (#13015A). Councilman Gowen seconded the motion. All Council Members voted in favor.

Real Estate—*Danny Jackson*

Mr. Jackson reviewed that city owned properties commenting on the particular properties that have potential uses. He advised that the Historical Society has requested the use of the Annex. Council agreed that this item will be placed on the consent agenda at the February meeting. Other items discussed were moving the departments from the Massey Building to the Adrian property and selling the Massey property. Another priority is to get the property in front of the Holiday Inn back on the book.

Special Events—*Danny Jackson*

There as discussion regarding the City taking over special events. It was explained that Springfest is now an event that is handled by the Park and Recreation Department. The Christmas parade will also be taken over by city staff. Council suggested making the July 4th Fireworks a bigger event by adding a band.

Centralina Council of Governments Membership—*Danny Jackson*

The City Council agreed to renew the membership with the Centralina Council of Governments.

Wrap-up—*Mayor Bryan Hough*

The Mayor and City Council was very impressed with the information and the organization of the annual retreat. They thanked staff for all the hard work that was put into the two day meeting. 3:3 Adjourn

Councilman Moore made a motion to adjourn. Mayor Pro Tem Toomey seconded the motion. All Council Members present voted in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 3:16p.m.

The 2015 Council Priorities that came from the annual retreat are attached as part of the minutes.