



**City Council
Special Meeting Minutes - Draft**

Tuesday, August 24, 2021

9:00 AM

Special Meeting - Goal Setting Priorities

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Rogers called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Present: 6 - Mayor Chris Rogers, Vice Mayor Natalie Rogers, Council Member Eddie Alvarez, Council Member Victoria Fleming, Council Member John Sawyer, and Council Member Tom Schwedhelm

Absent: 1 - Council Member Jack Tibbetts

2. WELCOME FROM THE MAYOR

Mayor Rogers made comments of welcome and noted this session was to check-in with staff on the adopted budget in June and to discuss what can be accomplished in the coming months.

3. COMMENTS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

Interim City Manager Jeff Kolin commented the city is at a crossroads due to challenging times over the past few years from the fires to the ongoing pandemic. Mr. Kolin gave recognition to staff for their dedication during the challenging times, the impact it has had on the organization, and that Santa Rosa is ready to transition back to recovery and growth into the future. Mr. Kolin stated that as an Interim City Manager, his job is to take care of staff and Council and to get the organization ready for new leadership.

Council Member Tibbetts joined the meeting at 10:24 a.m.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Gregory Fearon spoke on his interest to expand communication tools in the City to facilitate better communication between Council and the community, that all recordings should be easily found on city media pages, and suggested a redesign of communications tools.

Stephanie Picard Bowen, Generation Housing, spoke encouraging

Council to be bold in addressing housing scarcity and affordability, to build smart and sustainability, to end exclusionary zoning, to make a policy change to reduce impact fees for permanent supportive housing, and to not halt housing due to water shortages.

5. WORKSHOP AGENDA

Nancy Hetrick and Clare Coleman, Management Partners, provided an outline for the workshop.

A review of the priorities set in February were made by each department portfolio lead.

Clare Hartman, Interim Assistant City Manager, provided an update on Community Development, Community Engagement and answered questions from Council.

Jason Nutt, Assistant City Manager, presented Transportation and Public Works operations portfolio and answered questions from Council.

Jennifer Burke, Director of Water, presented operations in the Water Department and answered questions from Council.

Mayor Rogers recessed the meeting at 11:53 a.m. and reconvened at 12:25 p.m.

Present: 7 - Mayor Chris Rogers, Vice Mayor Natalie Rogers, Council Member Eddie Alvarez, Council Member Victoria Fleming, Council Member John Sawyer, Council Member Tom Schwedhelm, and Council Member Jack Tibbetts

Fire Chief Scott Westrope presented the Fire Department priorities and answered questions from Council.

Police Chief Rainer Navarro presented Police Department priorities and answered questions from Council.

City Attorney Sue Gallagher presented and answered questions from Council

Adriane Mertens, Chief Governmental Communications Officer, presented and answered questions from Council.

Amy Reeve, Human Resources Director, presented Human Resources priorities.

Eric McHenry, Chief Information Technology Officer, presented Information Technology priorities.

Jan Mazyk, Chief Financial Officer, presented Finance priorities.

Ms. Hetrick presented themes that emerged from interviews with Council Members and reviewed priorities.

Council discussed their highest priorities related to homelessness, ARPA funds, the city as a service provider, work on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, climate change, staff resources to provide high quality customer service, retaining good staff by making sure their voices are heard, and hiring a city manager as soon as possible.

6. WRAP-UP

7. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Mayor Rogers adjourned the special workshop at 5:13 p.m.

Approved on:

Stephanie A. Williams
City Clerk