

**WORK SESSION MEETING OF THE IRVING CITY COUNCIL
 AMENDED MEETING MINUTES
 June 28, 2013**

The Irving City Council met at the Irving West Branch Library, 4444 W. Rochelle Rd., Irving, TX for work session on June 28, 2013 at approximately 11:55 a.m. The following members were present/absent:

Attendee Name	Organization	Title	Status	Arrived
Beth Van Duyne	Irving City Council	Mayor	Present	
Mike Gallaway	Irving City Council	Councilman	Absent	
Allan E. Meagher	Irving City Council	Councilman	Present	
Dennis Webb	Irving City Council	Councilman	Absent	
Joe Putnam	Irving City Council	Councilman	Absent	
Rose Cannaday	Irving City Council	Councilwoman	Present	
Brad M. LaMorgese	Irving City Council	Councilman	Present	
Gerald Farris	Irving City Council	Councilman	Present	
Thomas Spink	Irving City Council	Councilman	Present	

DISCUSSION TOPIC

Mayor Van Duyne convened the meeting at approximately 11:55 a.m. Councilman Gallaway and Councilman Putnam were absent at this meeting.

1 Receive Input on Proposed FY 2013-14 Strategic Plan

Nancy Bartlett with Bartlett Alliance facilitated the Strategic Planning Session. The goal is to build a strategic plan for FY 2013-14.

Tommy Gonzalez, City Manager, presented the following:

1. Historical overview of the last five years including decline of revenue and increase in expenditures
2. General Revenues from 2009-2013
3. Financial Strengths
4. Employee Focus
5. Cost Containment
6. Maintained Services and Improved Quality
7. Increased Customer Satisfaction
8. FY 2013-14 Budget overview included General fund revenues, property and sales taxes, and increase in personnel costs
9. Operating Expenditures
10. Budget comparison to other cities
11. FY 2013-14 Budget Challenges
12. Strategic Plan and Future Development
 - a. Economic Development
 - b. City Facilities
 - c. Rebuilding Infrastructure
 - d. Neighborhood Redevelopment

13. Growing Demands for City Services
14. New Revenue Sources
15. Water Supply
16. DART Expansion

Mr. Gonzalez concluded that the recession continues to impact revenues however the City was pro-active in reducing costs and expanding key projects identified in the Strategic Plan. He added that there are multiple short and long-term policies that must be evaluated.

Mayor Van Duynes asked that each council member identify and discuss the issues or projects, in their district and city wide that each council member would like to see addressed during FY 2013-14.

Councilman Gerald Farris stated his primary focus is around quality of life issues, including the following:

1. Neighborhoods - value of homes and maintaining the integrity of the neighborhoods
2. Code enforcement - review and update code ordinances to include strict guidelines
3. Additions focus on the problem of single-family homes turning into multifamily housing (illegally)
4. Open spaces – a plan that includes parks and/or city facilities in all areas of the city and neighborhoods
5. Economic Development - Heritage Crossing, Beltline Road and Irving Blvd.
6. Synergy of current boards - try to utilize the boards more effectively, appoint appropriate/qualified members to boards

Councilman Tom Spink stated that his primary focus is on increasing revenue and resident involvement with city projects. He expanded with the following:

1. Citizen involvement - Neighborhood Associations and Town Hall meetings
2. Would like to see the City work more with the school board
3. Review of city workforce - 75% of budget is on salaries
4. Appoint a strong Irving representative to the DART Board
5. Council work as a team to do what is best for the City

Councilwoman Rose Cannaday stated that her primary focus is on economic development. She added the following were items also of interest:

1. Quality of life issues
2. City continue to be involved with the school district
3. Economic Development - Orange Line, Entertainment Venue, and continue to attract new businesses
4. Libraries - would like to see a library in the Urban Center
5. Water - connect East Texas pipeline
6. Would like for the city to stay focused on goals
7. The city implement a Volunteer of the Year award.

Councilman Dennis Webb stated that the following items are issues and projects he would like to see addressed:

1. Would like to see branding for the city that would include events to attract visitors and compete with other cities
2. Handicap accessible sidewalks throughout the city - get input from residents on problem areas for people in wheel-chairs
3. Community Partnerships - using volunteers whenever possible throughout the city and get input from the residents on how the city can develop partnerships with organizations to improve our communities
4. Therapeutic program for youths with disabilities - expanding the current program within the Parks Department from three days a week to five days
5. Review Houses and Human Services programs - concerns on current processes that involve placing residents in homes

Councilman Brad LaMorgese stated that the following items are issues and projects he would like to see addressed:

1. Fiscal responsibility
2. Create a Public Safety Committee
3. Street and sidewalk improvements that will be needed as there continues to be growth in the urban area
4. Create a Parks Master Plan to address the need for increased green space in North Irving (Valley Ranch) and a tennis facility
5. Gas drilling
6. Update the Commercial vehicle ordinance to address current problems in residential areas
7. Would like to see the City implement the use of large city trash bins
8. Transportation infrastructure - State Hwy 183, Loop 12, and DART
9. Entertainment - make Irving a destination place

Mayor Van Duyne stated that she spoke to Councilman Allan Meagher regarding his focus for the upcoming year and they are as follows:

1. Build a Motor Cross Park
2. A dog park in the Valley Ranch area
3. Senior Center in North Irving
4. Review Houses and Human Services programs - concerns on current processes that involve placing residents in homes

Mayor Van Duyne stated that the following items are what she would like to see addressed in the upcoming fiscal year:

1. Master Plan schedule that includes the development of single family homes, retail, streets, schools, and water
2. Texas Stadium site and 183 – start planning on what is needed to develop the site
3. Heritage Crossing – would like an update once a month
4. Charter School in Heritage Crossing area and in the Las Colinas area
5. Urban Center/Water Street - would like to see festivals, farmers markets, water events and a movie theater

6. CDBG Funding – ensure that funding is maintained for domestic violence and family advocacy
7. Branding campaign

Mayor Van Duyne asked council members to inform her on what board or committee they would like to serve on as a liaison.

Nancy Bartlett summarized goals of council expressed during this meeting and will implement the issues and projects in the FY 2013-14 Strategic Plan Strategies.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:00 p.m.

Beth Van Duyne, Mayor

ATTEST:

Shanae Jennings, TRMC
City Secretary