

January 3, 2013

**PRINCETON COUNCIL MEETING
January 3, 2013**

The meeting of the Mayor and Council was held on this date at 5:00 p.m. in the Main Meeting Room in the municipal complex for the purpose of priority/goal setting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The audience participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

NOTICE OF MEETING

The Clerk read the following statement.

The following is an accurate statement concerning the providing of notice of this meeting and said statement shall be entered in the minutes of this meeting. Notice of this meeting as required by Sections 4a, 3d, 13 and 14 of the Open Public Meetings Act has been provided to the public in the form of a written notice. On December 21, 2012 at 3:45 p.m., said schedule was posted on the official bulletin board in the Municipal Building, transmitted to the Princeton Packet, the Trenton Times, the Trentonian, the Town Topics, and filed with the Municipal Clerk.

ROLL CALL

The Municipal Clerk then called the roll.

Present: Mesdames Butler, Crumiller Howard and Messers Liverman, Miller and Simon. and Mayor Lempert.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Mr. Bruschi, Ms. Monzo.

Priority/Goal Setting

Joseph Stefko, Ph.D., President and Chief Executive Officer, Center for Governmental Research, (CGR) presented a power point presentation to the Princeton Council in regard to priority and goal setting. Mr. Stefko said that the goal was to start a dialogue, reminding Council that there is an immediate emergence of issues and that Princeton is still very much in the transition process.

Mr. Stefko said that the point of priority setting is to determine issues and opportunities, strategic topics, and to determine priorities and directions.

Mr. Stefko said that the survey that CGR has developed is an effort to inventory and prioritize and that the goal of the survey from the council perspective was to identify the end goal. He suggested

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that when filling out the survey to begin thinking in priority terms, then consider the relationship to transition, to inventory then categorize wants, musts and needs.

(CGR power point presentation appended to this set of minutes)

Liz and Dan Neeland, Snowden Lane, spoke about their concerns regarding a cell tower being built near their home.

Alain Kornhauser, 24 Montadale Circle said that he was disappointed with this meeting and that he has spent an hour listening to issues that are already decided.

Mary Blair, 159 Philip Drive said that the issue of leaf and brush collection needs to be reexamined and that the recent Hurricane has pushed it over the edge. She said that there is confusion between the two municipalities and asked that the governing body listen to public input.

John Heilner, 144 Library Place said that the issue of the Morven Tract is unfinished.

Alyce Bush, 192 Loomis Court asked why the lights keep going out in Princeton as she worries about this when the wind blows.

Pam Machold, 713 Prospect Avenue, said that issues of concern to her included leaf and brush pickup, an easement at the Textile Institute, the Shade Tree Commission, tree care, and the care of our parks.

Henry Singer said that the work of the Transition Task Force was transitional not transformational and encouraged Council to seek improvement on their recommendations. Mr. Singer also urged Council to continue with open policies, volunteering his help.

Ms. Crumiller asked the public to please contact Council about their concerns.

Mr. Simon asked Mr. Stefko to walk the Council through the rest of the priority setting process. Mr. Stefko asked that additional comments be gotten to him by next week and CGR will "clean" the information. He said that he would get a summary of the raw data to Ms. Monzo for distribution and review. Mr. Stefko said that he would provide Council with an electronic version of tonight's power point.

Mr. Miller said that he would like more of the public to comment and asked how do we do this? Mr. Stefko said that it was important to find ways to direct people to the website.

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Ms. Howard asked to keep the survey a “living document” and how do we give direction to the volunteers of the Boards, Commissions and Committees?

Mr. Bruschi pointed out that staff was in the audience to be part of the process and has filled out the survey too.

Mr. Simon asked for suggestions for preparing for the next session. Mr. Bruschi said that Council will receive a packet within a week to 10 days for the next discussion. He said to plan for an active discussion. He said that the discussion will be structured to be discussed in bigger categories and efficient discussion.

Wendy Meager said that there should be a review of the different organizations that receive public support with some thought given to whether these are the right organizations receiving the right level of support. She noted that the Arts Council of Princeton receives no support from the municipality.

Mr. Singer recommended a process called ideation as a structured format to help prioritize issues and encouraged Council to develop a process specifically to follow up on the issues that come out of the process.

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Linda S. McDermott
Municipal Clerk