

PRINCETON COUNCIL MEETING
January 6, 2015

A meeting of the Mayor and Council was held on this date at 6:00 p.m. in the Main Meeting Room in the municipal complex, 400 Witherspoon Street, Princeton, NJ 08540.

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 23, 2014 at 1:3 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, Simon and Mayor Lempert.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Mr. Dashield, Ms. Monzo, and Ms. Champion.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The audience participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Kip Cherry, Dempsey Avenue asked that Council consider hiring a consultant to assist the Public Transit Advisory Committee in working on ridership for the Dinky. She said that ridership is down from the same timeframe last year. Mayor Lempert said that New Jersey Transit would have to be a partner in this project.

Stephanie Chorney discussed with Council waste, recycling and composting.

Daniel Harris, 28 Dodds Lane said that many are eager for Council to pass a new ordinance pertaining to leaf and brush collection. He said that the current situation, on the streets during high leaf

season, poses many dangers to the municipality and he wanted to address the municipality's legal liability.

Steve Hiltner, 139 North Harrison Street announced that the Friends of Herrontown Woods is now a nonprofit.

Bainy Suri discussed with Council the possibility of a bag ordinance within Princeton.

WORK SESSION: GOALS & PRIORITIES, Marc Dashield, Administrator/Facilitator

Mr. Dashield worked with Council on a Goals and Priorities setting exercise for 2015.

Upon completion of the exercise, Mr. Dashield said that he would prepare a listing for the goals and priorities as set by Council for further discussion at a future Council meeting.

(Goal Session Outline, 2015 Goals, & Strategic Priorities 2015 attached)

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Linda S. McDermott
Municipal Clerk

GOAL SESSION OUTLINE

I. Pre Meeting Preparation

- a. Council completes strategic priority and priority initiative/goals questionnaire and returns to staff
- b. Staff compiles the strategic priorities and priority initiatives/goals and returns response to Council for review prior to the meeting

II. Work Session Activities

a. Strategic Priorities

- i. Council identifies the top 3 strategic priorities
 1. Conduct "Post it" voting exercise
- ii. Strategic priorities not identified as top three (3) to be used in the tier classification below

Priority Initiatives/Goals

- iii. Council places each initiative into a tier
 1. Mandatory Activity
 2. Tier I – Strategic Priority
 3. Tier II – Essential Activity
- iv. Prioritization
 1. Conduct Top five voting exercise

III. Post Work Session Activities

- a. Staff will compile the results of the work session into a document for approval by the Council.
- b. Staff to develop action Plans based on results

**FOR DISCUSSION BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL
2015 GOALS**

1. Economic Development/Economic Development Task Force

1.1 Tourism

1.1.1 Work with local organizations to enhance Princeton as a destination for shopping, eating, entertainment and sightseeing

1.1.2 Improve appearance of CBD, abandoned bikes, trash, and empty tree wells

1.2 Businesses

1.2.1 Work with local organizations to determine reasons for many vacant office buildings in Princeton. Develop plan to attract startup, small and medium size corporations to Princeton

1.3 Local Shopping –

1.3.1 Work with owners of Princeton Shopping Center to develop plan to Reinvigorate shopping center

2. Consolidation Issues

2.1. Prioritize and establish schedule for remaining sections of code requiring harmonization

3. Neighborhood Development

3.1. Decide on direction of Witherspoon St/Witherspoon – Jackson neighborhood initiative

3.2. Review recommendations of Advisory Planning District task Force for possible implementation

4. Affordable Housing

4.1. Complete work of Affordable Housing Task Force and review recommendations for implementation

4.2. Establish plan for housing rehabilitation to meet expected COAH requirements

5. Parking

5.1. Complete harmonization of parking ordinances

5.2. Review staff recommendations for improved ticketing and payment system for Spring St garage, and implement an improved system

6. Historic Preservation

6.1 Review and update list of historic properties and/or sites

6.2 Determine status of proposed Western section historic district

7. Refuse/Recycling

7.1. Estimate cost of increased leaf and brush pickup.

7.2. Study need for increased recycling capacity in CBD

8. Miscellaneous

- 8.1. Draft underage drinking ordinance for Council consideration
- 8.2. Prepare cost estimate and plan to convert all interior and exterior lighting to LEDs
- 8.3. Seek ways to constrain legal costs
- 8.4. Obtain estimate of tree loss resulting from Irene, Sandy and other storms. Prepare and estimate cost of tree replacement plan
- 8.5. Issue RFP and select contractor for River Rd solar farm
- 8.6. Develop Bicycle Path Plan as an element of the Master Plan.

9. Finance/Finance Committee

9.1 Prepare plan for Council approval to begin movement of recurring capital expenses to current (2015) budget

- 9.2 Begin 2015 budget planning with goal of flat budget and/or no municipal property tax increase
- 9.3 Review "fair share" payments by Princeton Theological Seminary, Rider, IAS and other non-profit/tax exempt institutions. Develop plan for Council action that rationalizes payments in comparison to Princeton University agreement
- 9.4 . Review and possibly reset long term capital spending targets, taking into account all prioritized projects. (The review last year did not take into account the big ticket public works project, which was pushed out to year 7 of the 6 year plan.)

10. Organizational Development

- 10.1. Complete and implement PD strategic plan including review of organization structure and staffing
- 10.2. Implement customer service training for all staff who have direct contact with residents
- 10.3. Review procedures and best practices for Council meetings with goal of more effective and efficient meetings
- 10.4. Conduct periodic review of public safety statistics with goal of identifying problem areas that require increased policing attention
- 10.5. Conduct study of community wide human services needs with goal of identifying unmet or under met needs
- 10.6. Develop and implement plan to maximize use of "See-Click-Fix" --
- 10.7. Implement use of GIS system across all departments
- 10.8. Look for "best practices" to involve all staff in budget/cost savings.
- 10.9. Support Health Dept. accreditation and development of strategic plan
- 10.10. Explore the feasibility of succession planning for larger operating departments
- 10.11. Fine tune the process of circulating the agendas and supporting documents ahead of meetings. Specifically, provide the opportunity for all of council to review meeting agendas, and possibly request changes, one day before those meeting agendas are posted to the public
- 10.12. Make the technology changes necessary to facilitate remote participation in council meetings

10.13 Succession process.

11. Communication

- 11.1. Improve web site for appearance and accessibility
- 11.2. Develop style guide for all communications, emails, signs, letterhead etc.
- 11.3. Develop municipal calendar containing all Council, PB, BCC and Task Force meetings
- 11.4. Weekly Council authored Op Ed or letter to editor on matters of community interest. Rotate authorship weekly amongst Council members.

12. Infrastructure

- 12.1. Review results of study of FD space and equipment needs. Prepare plan for Council review and approval to implement results of study, including possible consolidation and possible surplusing of one or two fire stations.
- 12.2. Establish working group with PFARS to establish schedule to formalize plans for new PFARS facility
- 12.3. Implement approved "cold storage" equipment facility
- 12.4. Mary Moss Park -- get neighborhood input, design, put out to bid. Look for opportunities for partnerships for development of park
- 12.5. Establish a Council driven system of identifying, prioritizing, funding and reviewing progress on capital projects
- 12.6. Establish a capital asset maintenance replacement plan for all capital assets
- 12.7. Review and possibly reset long term capital spending targets, taking into account all prioritized projects

FOR DISCUSSION MAYOR AND COUNCIL

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2015

1. Provide Financial Sustainability Community

- 1.1. Financial sustainability -- including easing some recurring expenses to operating from capital budget, reviewing capital budget
- 1.2. Ensure financial sustainability
- 1.3. Hoping to maintain a viable debt reduction plan for Princeton/Ensure financial sustainability

2. Provide a Safe and Inclusive Community

- 2.1. Provide effective and sustainable health and public safety.
- 2.2. Maintain the positive direction of the police dept.ie (community policing, immigration sensitivity, hiring a diverse police force).
- 2.3. Provide a safe and inclusive community
- 2.4. Provide a safe, clean and well maintained Princeton community.

3. Provide a Well Run Community

- 3.1. Provide a government that runs well and connects with the community
- 3.2. Provide excellent services to our residents, maximizing efficiency and effectiveness. (This includes fostering communication and encouraging public participation.)
- 3.3. improving communications (both ways citizen / government)
- 3.4. Succession Planning
- 3.5. Manage municipal facilities and Capital Assets

4. Provide a Vibrant and Sustainable Community

- 4.1. Maintain the character of the town, including the history, the vibrant downtown, and the neighborhoods.
- 4.2. Become a more sustainable community by investing in new biking and walking infrastructure, becoming more energy efficient, reducing waste, and making appropriate investments in the maintenance of our existing open space lands, municipal facilities, roads, and other infrastructure.
- 4.3. Maintain and enhance Princeton's ethnic and economic diversity and be a welcoming community for all.
- 4.4. improve aesthetic of town - trees, sidewalks, signs, garbage

5. Manage Land Use Planning

- 5.1. land use planning - consolidating and updating land use ordinances
- 5.2. Incorporate financial impact analysis into the process for council and the planning board when considering changes to the master plan and zoning
- 5.3. Plan and implement the technology changes necessary to make all planning and zoning documents accessible to the public via online access and other electronic media distribution.

6. Encourage Economic Development