

Mayor Charles "Skip" Lee called a meeting of the Sterling City Council to order at 5:00 pm on Sunday, August 23, 2015. Roll call. Present: Aldermen Bob Conklin, Retha Elston, Joe Martin, Chris Schuchard, John Stauter, and Chris Wilen. Absent: None.

Also present were City Attorney Ron Coplan, City Manager Scott Shumard, Superintendent of Building and Zoning Amanda Schmidt, Superintendent of Public Works Brad Schrader, Librarian Jennifer Slaney, Fire Chief Gary Cook, Police Chief Ron Potthoff, and City Clerk Marie Rombouts.

Peter Burchard led the discussion on Strategic Planning. Burchard reported something he had recently acquired at a seminar. "Love your Community".

Topics for consideration following the Governance Discussion:

- Set rules and procedures for the Council.
- Determine when Manager should render recommendation. Role of staff versus manager. Shumard felt Council could approach staff for questions but should run it by the City Manager if it is a request for change.
- Public comment – when should record be corrected. Suggest follow-up reported at next meeting
- Priorities are different for staff versus Council. Comprehensive Management System could be implemented to keep everyone up-to-date.

Communication and flow of information:

- Follow up on request/project
- Council rules or responsibilities – rules not necessary part of City Code (manage complaints)

Burchard explained the differences between a lackluster strategic plan and a brilliant strategic plan. Main differences lie between the definition of the plan, honesty versus too much positive spin, and same old procedures versus making different decisions.

Burchard defined the strategic plan on two levels. Sky level to see the difficult and high stakes challenges; show insight, and a mix of policy and action. At ground level to diagnose, approach, and coherent action.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Marie Rombouts, City Clerk