

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Tuesday, March 2, 2021 – 5:30 p.m.

via Zoom

Present: Members: Chairman Crawford, Vice Chairman Gonzalez, Alderman Witte, and Alderman Robinson. Others: Alderman Panus; Alderman Anastasia; Mayor William Aiello; Lens Martial, City Clerk; Fred Saradin, City Auditor; Gregg Piechota, City Assessor; Keri Kerper, Community Development Program Coordinator; Kris Shewairy, Youth and Recreation Director; Tim Richardson, Fire Chief; Jerry Volz, Information Technology, and Tiffany Taylor, Managerial Confidential Administrative Secretary.

1. Roll Call

Alderman Crawford called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and asked that the record show that all committee members were present.

2. Approval of Minutes of the Previous Committee Meetings (Tuesday, February 16, 2021)

A motion to approve the minutes of the February 16, 2021 meeting was made by Alderman Crawford, seconded by Alderman Witte. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried.

3. Unfinished Business

None

4. New Referrals for Consideration

a. Discussion – Memorial Benches

Mayor Aiello explained that he received a request for a memorial bench at Franchot Park, and he felt that he should have a discussion with the Council to try and put together some specifications and rules for people who wish to put memorial benches in our parks. He explained that he knows that they have been discussed before and the Council has to approve them, but he wants to get some thought process out there. He questions if we should have Mr. Ring draw up some specifications so there are not different kinds and sizes everywhere. He suggests putting some standards together for people who want to put benches in parks.

Alderman Robinson explained that he feels that if a bench is placed in a park that it should be low maintenance and unified across the board. It should not be something that has to constantly be repainted, and it should be cost effective and require the least amount of maintenance.

Alderman Crawford explained that he imagines that we are talking about something heavy-duty. He asked if there has been any issues with the theft of benches. Mayor Aiello explained that there has been some issue with benches being taken from the triangle park on Buffalo Street. He explained that he thinks that the benches should be standardized, even down to the working on the benches, so there is a standard set of rules followed for everybody.

Alderman Crawford explained that he feels that this is a good idea. Mayor Aiello explained that this would be a policy that the Council sets, and that he will have Mr. Ring put together some ideas for specifications. He asked that if the Council have any ideas to get them to himself or Mr. Ring so that they can put together sample specifications for the Council to review.

5. Approval of Committee Reports

None

6. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Crawford, seconded by Alderman Witte. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at approximately 5:40 p.m.