

**CITY OF CASTROVILLE CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL CALLED COUNCIL MEETING
Retreat and Work Session
St. Louis Braden Keller Community Center
610 Madrid Street
TUESDAY
June 15, 2021
1:00 P.M.
MINUTES**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:19 p.m. by Mayor Darrin Schroeder

II. ROLL CALL

Present:

Mayor Darrin Schroeder

Scott Dixon, City Administrator

Councilmember Sheena Martinez

Debra Howe, City Secretary

Councilmember Paul Carey

Leroy Vidales, City Finance Director

Councilmember Phil King

Councilmember Todd Tschirhart

Councilmember Herb Dyer

III. CITIZEN COMMENTS

The public will be permitted to offer public comments telephonically as provided by the agenda and as permitted by the presiding officer during the meeting. Written questions or comments may be submitted up to two hours before the meeting. A recording of the telephonic meeting will be made and will be available to the public in accordance with the Texas Public Information Act upon request.

No one requested to speak.

City Administrator Scott Dixon continued the discussion from the June 14th meeting by summarizing the previous day's discussion. Councilmembers like the City of Rowlett's mission statement. They felt it was well rounded and reflected what they thought Castroville was to them. Each councilmember read their vision of the city. Mayor Schroeder felt everything the council did was to serve the citizens and they cared about the community and others. Councilmember Dyer felt they would limit themselves if they kept Alsatian Community as the focal point when promoting the city. He said there were other cultures in the city and felt historical community was broader and would reach more people.

City Administrator Dixon asked what other cultural influence was shown in the town. Castroville was influenced by the Alsatian culture and known for that. Mayor Schroeder wanted to honor the Alsatian heritage, as it was the backbone of the community. Councilmember King said the town was unique and the mid 19 century architecture was reflected in the buildings. He felt they needed to support and promote the Alsatian heritage of the city. Councilmembers worked on a draft mission statement liking "Preserve Castroville's rich culture, historic architecture, and natural environment to enjoy." They also liked "A true community steeped in a pioneering spirit and camaraderie."

Mayor Schroeder recessed the meeting for a break at 2:00 p.m.

Mayor Schroeder reconvened into open session at 2:17 p.m.

(Cont.)

Councilmember King returned to the meeting at 2:33 p.m.

Mayor Schroeder spoke on what his take on values:

Serve

Stewards – stewards of the community.

Empowering – voice of the future.

Responsible – responsible to the citizens.

Visionary – pioneering spirit.

Endurance - excellent

Councilmember Dyer had several listed.

Leadership

Selflessness

Commitment

Fairness and Transparency

Respect and Compassion

Mayor Schroeder recessed the meeting at 3:05 p.m.

Mayor Schroeder reconvened into open session at 3:20 p.m.

IV. Discussion on 2020-21 Budget Review

City Administrator Scott Dixon provided a presentation with a historic tax rate breakdown. Mayor Schroeder asked what was healthy for the M & O and tax rate. Mr. Dixon discussed the debt service and how low it was and said they needed to look at the value, the asset, the need and the length payout. Mr. Dixon gave the breakout and scoring provided by the City Council on their individual priorities. The top priorities shown were Police, Utilities, Streets, Parks Animal Control Services, Library and Swimming Pool. Additional services included Internet, Community (Youth/Senior) Center, Regional Sports Complex, Enhance Street Program and Beautification/Revitalization.

Mr. Dixon said that in the next budget he was looking to take charge a percentage of the City Administrator, City Secretary and City Finance Salaries to the Enterprise Fund. In doing so, it would help reduce the transfer to the general fund and those funds could be used to support issued debt. Mr. Dixon said he would be bringing a draft mission, vision, values summary to a future council meeting for further discussion. He requested the councilmembers to send their vision statements to him.

V. Discussion on 2020-21 Budget Planning

Discussed briefly during review.

VI. Capital Planning and Funding Overview

Discussed briefly during review.

VII. Adjourn

Mayor Schroeder adjourned the meeting at 4:58 p.m.

Darrin Schroeder
Mayor

ATTEST:

Debra Howe
City Secretary

*Signatures are on file