



WORKSHOP MINUTES

Mayor Robinson called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM

Roll call was taken:

Present: Mayor Robinson, City Clerk Ii, Aldermen Dell, Killey, Kreinbrink, Surratt & Whitecotton

Alderman Littlebrant arrived at 8:11 PM

Also present: Engineer Horak, Chief Bianchi & Economic Director Jim Teckenbrock

Absent: Alderman Kelleher & Chamber of Commerce Director Geri Benning

Audience Comments: None

Workshop on Strategic Planning: The workshop was conducted by NIU Center for Governmental Studies staff Mel Henricksen, Assistant Director, Public Management & Training and Jeanne Ballard, Senior Research Associate. Attendees introduced themselves by providing background information and their vision for the future of the community.

Economic and community demographic information was provided that had been obtained in 2017. Highlights included:

- Median age is 37.6
- Number of households is 2,700 and has remained flat since 2010
- 70% households own their homes and 30% are renters
- 90% of the City's population has a high school degree or higher
- Median household income is estimated to be \$61,700
- Poverty level is estimated at 9%
- Median list price for a single-family home is \$149,500.00
- 21% of employment in Sandwich is manufacturing
- 85% of Sandwich residents commute out for work

Interviewed focus groups consisting of a cross-section of residents named economics and infrastructure on their main concerns.

Attendees were divided into small groups to assess obstacles, challenges, and priorities that the City is either currently experiencing or will affect the future of the community. All three groups agreed that finances, infrastructure, and capital improvements are the City's priorities.

The second workshop meeting will be held on Thursday, September 24, 2020.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the Council, at 8:30 PM, **motion was made by Alderman Robinson and seconded by Alderman Surratt to continue the Workshop Meeting until Thursday, September 24, 2020 at 5:00 PM. Motion carried unanimously by viva voce vote.**

/s/ Denise Li – City Clerk