

**RETREAT OF THE COMMON COUNCIL – APRIL 14, 2016  
SCHROCK PAVILION – SHANKLIN PARK  
W. PLYMOUTH AVE, GOSHEN, INDIANA**

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The Common Council of the City of Goshen, Indiana, met in the Schrock Pavilion for a Council Retreat on April 14, 2016 at 1:00 P.M. Presiding Officer was Mayor Stutsman with Philip Thomas as the retreat moderator. The members of the Council were present as follows:

PRESENT: COUNCILMAN AHLERSMEYER, MCKEE, ORGILL, SCHARF, WEDDELL  
COUNCILWOMAN GAUTSCHE, KING

ABSENT: NONE

**INTRODUCTION**

- Introduction – Overview of agenda and purpose of retreat
- Statements – Each elected official stated why they ran to be an Elected Official in the City of Goshen.

**STRATEGIC CONVERSATION: A DELIBERATION EXERCISE**  
**– GRAPPLING TOGETHER**

‘How can we continue to provide the quality services that keep the City of Goshen strong and vibrant while at the same time ensure its economic viability over the next 5-7 year period?’

- Framing the issue
  - a. Option 1 – Business as usual for as long as possible – tapping our rainy day savings to get by.
  - b. Option 2 – Increase revenues as needed to sustain quality services and infrastructure.
  - c. Option 3 – Anticipate and implement spending cuts as needed to avoid increases in revenue.
- Analysis of options

Discussion - How will we engage one another to achieve strong collective leadership?

- What I need from you?
- What I want you to expect from me?

**COUNCIL TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION**

1. Council structure and rules (e.g., committees/working groups, agenda and minute protocols, method of voting, etc.) and review of range of current practices and procedures
  - a. Protocols of agendas and minutes – last minute additions to agenda and implications for Council and public – Councilman Scharf
  - b. Committees and sub committees of the whole – Councilwoman King
  - c. Voting rules – Councilman Scharf

City Attorney Barkes – The Council would have to adopt a rule allowing a paper vote then any member could request a paper vote on any item. The Clerk-Treasurer would then have to read the votes and make sure to announce how everyone voted and everyone would have the ability to change their vote.

2. Council appointments to boards – comprehensive list on website (including purpose of each board/commission), publicizing vacancies, nominations/appointments, applications to serve, etc – Councilwoman King

### **INFORMATION**

1. Asset Program – The Council received information detailing each department’s equipment assets and total values.
2. TIF – Todd Samuelson of Umbaugh spoke to the group explaining the effects, values and effectiveness of TIF districts. Community Development Director Mark Brinson spoke to the group detailing current, planned and potential major projects in the City funded with TIF dollars.
3. Administration/Council – Executive/Legislative – Attorney Barkes provided the Council with a handout from the Indiana Code explaining ‘Executive and Legislative Powers’.
4. GIS – Councilman Scharf
5. Other Announcements/information

### **EVALUATION AND CLOSING**

The retreat adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, Jeremy Stutsman  
Goshen, Indiana

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tina M. Bontrager  
City Clerk-Treasurer