

**City Council of the City of Carbondale, Illinois**  
**Retreat**  
**January 6, 2016**

The City Council of the City of Carbondale, Illinois, held a Retreat on Wednesday, January 6, 2016, at the Dayemi Community Center, 218 N. Illinois Avenue. Mayor Henry called the Retreat to order at 12:08 pm with the following-named members of the City Council present/absent:

**1. Roll Call**

Present: Councilwoman Jessica Bradshaw, Councilwoman Carolin Harvey, Councilman Lee Fronabarger, Councilman Tom Grant, Councilman Adam Loos, Councilman Navreet Kang, and Mayor John M. Henry

Absent: None

Also present were Deputy City Clerk Clinette Hayes, Interim City Manager Gary Williams, Assistant to the City Manager Alicia Burtley, and Retreat Facilitator John Washburn.

Mr. Washburn introduced himself to the City Council and outlined the goals of the Retreat.

**2. Background: Setting the Context**

- Understanding plans for the future (for both City staff and citizens)
- Addressing/understanding the Council's priorities
- Drafting a vision statement

Mr. Washburn briefly touched on the major points of each item below:

- Comprehensive Plan
- 2013 City Council Retreat
- Comprehensive Plan adopted in 2010
- Mayor Henry's State of the City Address from December 16, 2015
- Downtown Advisory

Mr. Washburn pulled information from each of these, as well as information obtained from surveys completed by the Council and City Staff, to develop a draft Vision statement and a collective listing of challenges and priorities.

Challenges and Priorities identified from the surveys completed by City Council and City Staff:

**Challenges**

- |                                      |                                  |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| • Video gaming                       | • Improve City finances          |
| • Elementary school dist.            | • Downtown                       |
| • Lack of growth at SIU              | • Community policing/outreach    |
| • Welcoming visitors                 | • Technology for law enforcement |
| • Public safety                      | • Income inequality              |
| • Police and fire pension            | • Lack of jobs                   |
| • Business friendly                  | • Stabilizing economy            |
| • Percentage of residential property | • No State budget                |
| • Water & sewer infrastructure       |                                  |

**Priorities**

- Property tax increase
- Economic growth and development (diversity)
- Partner with SIU in recruitment
- Technology funding
- Downtown development
- Focus on quality of life
- Police/community relations
- Can-do atmosphere
- Gigabit City designation
- Management/operations study
- Single family home construction/rehab
- Annex adjacent areas
- Pension costs
- Neighborhood clean-up
- Designated FOIA position

**3. Discussion of Vision Statement / Goals**

Based on the lists of challenges and priorities, Mr. Washburn drafted a Vision statement. Members of the Council gave input with ways to adjust it to better fit the vision of the City.

*A break was observed at 1:30 pm; reconvened at 1:35 pm*

7 goals were developed from the list of challenges and priorities. A draft listing of goals based on the surveys was developed by Mr. Washburn. The Council reviewed the draft and provided modifications to better suit the City.

Out of the 7 goals drafted, the Council was asked to rank their top 5 in order of importance.

*A break was observed at 3:00 pm; reconvened at 3:10 pm*

**4. Agreement on Vision Statement / Goals**

The Council agreed on the Vision statement and the goals.

**5. Citizens' Comments and Questions**

Rebel Pinkston shared several comments and concerns primarily focusing on the City budget.

**6. Adjournment**

The City Council Retreat adjourned at 3:54 p.m.

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Clinette C. Hayes, Deputy City Clerk

Approved by the City Council on

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