



City of Athol City Council Special Meeting
Held in the Council Room in City Hall

Friday, March 16, 2017
1:00pm Council Workshop

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Wachter called meeting to order: 1:03 P.M

ROLL CALL: *Visitors please sign in by the door-* None in attendance.

Present: Mayor Wachter; Councilwoman Zichko; Councilman McDaniel; Councilman Spencer; Councilman Hill; Clerk/Treasurer, Lori Yarbrough; and Public Works, Stephen Williams; City Planner, Rand Wichman.

WORKSHOP:

- 1. Discussion of Community Review Written Report** – City Planner Rand began review of the recommendations made for each of the topic areas in the Community Review written report: first Economic development, then Infrastructure/Transportation and then Land Use. In Economic Development, it was discussed that with the birth of the ABC Farmers Market and the Athol Chamber of Commerce, many of the recommendations in this area will be looked at further with the Chamber rather than the city. We are naturally seeing an interest that will spur this topic for the city. Some minor conversation about “place-making”, “themes” and corridor planning. In Infrastructure/Transportations, some discussion about “community spaces” and how it can be address when we update the comp plan. Also about trains and quite zones. Finally, Land Use, which really was discussing how this plays out with the updating of our comp plan. What the process looks like, how much the public participation process will be needed and the importance of a Vision or plan for things such as a main street or corridor plan will all mix together.
- 2. Discussion of Comprehensive Plan Updates-** A Brief discussion on meaningful elements that should be included in the updating of the city’s comprehensive plan. Rand will make a list of the elements and bring to next council meeting. Once the city can decide on which elements and criteria it wants in the comprehensive plan then we can move forward with and RFQ to select a contractor and begin the process. This may very well now extend the funding between this and next year’s budgets. Lori will see if she can get a sample RFQ from another city to begin adapting.

ADJOURNMENT: at 3:10pm

ATTEST:

Bob Wachter, Mayor

Lori Yarbrough, City Clerk/Treasurer

Approved at Council on

***NOTE:** The City will make reasonable accommodations for anyone attending this meeting who require special assistance for hearing, physical or other impairments. Please contact the City Clerk at (208) 683-2101 at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting date and time.*