

**SPECIAL MEETING  
LOCKHART CITY COUNCIL**

**FEBRUARY 13, 2018**

**6:30 P.M.**

**CLARK LIBRARY ANNEX-COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 217 SOUTH MAIN STREET, 3<sup>rd</sup> FLOOR,  
LOCKHART, TEXAS**

**Council present:**

Councilmember John Castillo  
Councilmember Kara McGregor  
Councilmember Brad Westmoreland

Mayor Lew White  
Councilmember Juan Mendoza  
Councilmember Jeffry Michelson

**Council absent:**

Mayor Pro-Tem Angie Gonzales-Sanchez

**Staff present:**

Vance Rodgers, City Manager  
Jeff Hinson, Finance Director

Connie Constancio, City Secretary  
Rob Tobias, Economic Development Director

**Citizens/Visitors Addressing the Council:** None.

**ITEM 1. CALL TO ORDER.**

Mayor Lew White called the goals workshop/special meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**ITEM 2. INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

Mayor White gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States and Texas flags.

**ITEM 3-A. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION REGARDING THE CITY COUNCIL GOALS FOR  
THE FISCAL YEAR 2018-2019 BUDGET AND POSSIBLY BEYOND.**

There was discussion regarding the following:

- Improvements to City Hall and city facilities. Elevator will not be able to be installed due to American with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements. Discussion regarding a possible five-year city facility plan in the near future.
- City Manager search.
- Increase code enforcement of nuisances, junk vehicles and unsafe structures. Discussion regarding the lien process which is to file at the County Clerk's office and regarding the possibility of pursuing old liens.
- Convention Center. A consideration would be to attempt to recruit a hotel that will manage a meeting facility, such as Embassy Suites.
- Improve downtown area to include additional lighting, pedestrian safety, sidewalk mosaics and sculptures.
- Economic development. Work on recruiting larger stores such as HEB Plus and work on how to get Lockhart publicized such as in the local news and newspapers.
- Employee pay increases.
- Employee wellness for employees to encourage annual physicals.
- Employee holidays and vacation time. Employee safety is of the utmost importance.

- Subdivision development is underway with new subdivisions and apartments to begin construction within the next few months.
- Infrastructure improvements. Streets are placed on the improvement list after obtaining a traffic study at which time a rated list is compiled of street improvements. The height of the street is another factor to the improvement phase. In some cases, the street needs to be lowered to enable a curb to be installed to allow the water to drain off of the property.
- Brighter lighting in neighborhoods.
- Park improvements. Most of the goals are addressed in the draft Parks Master Plan.
- Begin Lockhart 2040 plan.
- Police working to improve public safety, neighborhood watch, and drug enforcement.
- Consider public relations position to solicit Lockhart and deal with social media.
- Consider budgeting for repairs or new sidewalks.
- Wayfinding signage and community branding. Consider a new entrance sign on the north side of Lockhart after the new community branding is designed.
- Discussion regarding the ad-hoc committee's discussions regarding the intent to use the St. Paul Church property recently donated to the city.
- Tourism. Discussion regarding working with the Lockhart and Hispanic Chamber to increase tourism.
- Consider an oral history project to support a future walking tour application for Lockhart. Consider paying a monthly fee to enable visitors to select a building or structure and the application would provide an explanation of it.
- Create a Good Neighbor Program that would require a committee to be established that would determine who would receive the utility payment assistance. Councilmember Mendoza will work with Community Action on payment assistance.
- Access to Municipal Court for utility payments. A policy would be created to advertise that only utility payments can be made at the court. All other utility related business would be at City Hall. Staff plans to begin the utility payment option at Municipal Court in May 2018.
- Free wi-fi downtown. Mayor White announced that he spoke with Judge Schawe regarding the wi-fi and that Judge Schawe indicated that he would discuss it with the Commissioners Court.

Mayor White requested that Council review the category goals discussed tonight and prioritize at least five (5) and send to the City Manager by March 1 for additional discussion during the first meeting in March.

NOTE: The complete list of goals as discussed is attached as Exhibit A.

**ITEM 4. EXECUTIVE SESSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT CODE, TITLE 5, SUBCHAPTER D, SECTION 551.072 TO DELIBERATE THE PURCHASE, EXCHANGE, LEASE OR VALUE OF REAL PROPERTY IF DELIBERATION IN AN OPEN MEETING WOULD HAVE A DETRIMENTAL EFFECT ON THE POSITION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL BODY IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH A THIRD PERSON. Discussion regarding the possible purchase of property for future development.**

Mayor White announced that the Council would enter Executive Session at 8:30 p.m.

**ITEM 5. OPEN SESSION - Discussion and/or action regarding the possible purchase of property for future development.**


Mayor White announced that the Council would enter Open Session at 9:32 p.m. There was no action taken.

**ITEM 6. ADJOURNMENT.**


Councilmember Mendoza made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember McGregor seconded. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:33 p.m.

PASSED and APPROVED this the 6<sup>th</sup> day of March 2018.

**CITY OF LOCKHART**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lew White, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Connie Constancio, TRMC  
City Secretary

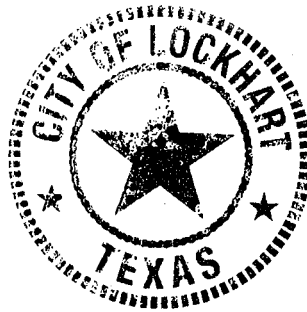


EXHIBIT A

| CM INITIALS | PRIORITY # | GOALS IDENTIFIED BY COUNCIL FOR FY 18-19: SORTED BY CATEGORY City Council Meeting on February 13, 2018  | SUGGESTED FUNDING SOURCE BY COUNCILMEMBER | SORTED BY CATEGORY |
|-------------|------------|---|---|--------------------|
| BIW         | 7          | Improve communication between City and Chamber of Commerce  | In-House                                  | Chamber            |
| IC          | 4          | City Facilities   | GF  | City Bldgs         |
| JEFF M      | 5          | Refurbish City Hall inside (making it more inviting)  | Gen Fund                                  | City Bldgs         |
| JEFF M      | 7          | Prepare Fire Station 3 (so we can have main station remodeled)  | Gen Fund                                  | City Bldgs         |
| AGS         | 1          | Hire A City Manager. Hire a City Manager that is Well Rounded and Experienced and Will Help our City to Continue to Grow for the right and positive reasons. To hire a City Manager that will allow our Department Heads to Grow and Improve Our Departments with their recommended suggestions not only from our department heads but from our employees. Working Smarter not Harder.  | GF  | City Manager       |
| BIW         | 1          | More code enforcement of codes directed at unsightly properties   | In-House                                  | Code Enforc        |
| LW          | 8          | Continue demo of unsafe structures and pursue liens aggressively  | GF  | Code Enforc        |
| AGS         | 11         | Convention Center. Our city is growing and there are too many events, programs and conferences that are going to other surrounding areas to have these events and those surrounding area businesses are benefitting and money is being spent in those areas instead on money being spent in our city. Granted, we do have meeting facilities in our city but these meeting facilities do not accommodate the number of people for the above events that have been mentioned.  | GF  | Convention Center  |
| LW          | 9          | Downtown improvements-lighting, pedestrian safety, south plaza idea? Sculpture? Sidewalk mosaics?   | GF  | Downtown           |
| LW          | 1          | Economic development, creating and retaining jobs, grocery campaign   | general fund, LEDC                        | Econo Devl         |
| IC          | 2          | Economic Development  | GF  | Econo Devl         |
| JEFF M      | 3          | Expand economic development (by helping to spread the word & being more involved)   | Gen Fund                                  | Econo Devl         |
| AGS         | 4          | Economic Development: Recruit more businesses especially retail and continue efforts; contact existing and vacant building owners to see if they are willing to work with the City of Lockhart to bring retail businesses and specialty shops, as well as industrial. Purchase buildings and land when on the market for possible new businesses for the city. Art Galleries and Music Venues have increased within our downtown area and though many may not appreciate these type of business and or venues, it is good for our downtown and its livelihood. Let's work on getting more of the specialty shops and boutiques in or around the square. | GF  | Econo Devl         |
| JUAN M      | 1          | Pay raise across the board  | GF  | Employees          |
| AGS         | 2          | All Department Heads to Budget Salary Increases for all City Employees.   | GF  | Employees          |
| IC          | 5          | Wellness for employees  | GF  | Employees          |
| AGS         | 9          | Employee: Possible additional Employee Holiday Time Off-Alternating System. Even though this has been discussed and the reasons for why it cannot be done, I would like to see a time off alternating system, especially during the holidays. I did appreciate that the city employees were allowed to stay home during our icy, sleet and snow days. The safety of our employees is very important.  | GF  | Employees          |
| AGS         | 6          | Subdivision development to attract more businesses to Lockhart. Increase the number of homes, apartments, housing. Our city is growing with new citizens wanting to make Lockhart their home but due to the number of housing available, they wait and or possibly lose interest.   | GF  | Housing            |
| IC          | 1          | Infrastructure  | GF  | Infrastructure     |
| LW          | 2          | Infrastructure improvement- uncurbed streets, street rehab  | GF  | Infrastructure     |
| BW          | 3          | Improve Streets (repairs)   | In-House                                  | Infrastructure     |

## EXHIBIT A

|        |    |   |                          |                   |
|--------|----|---|--------------------------|-------------------|
| AGS    | 3  | Infrastructure: Continue City Infrastructure: Drainage, Street Repairs, Completion of Curbing, Brighter Lighting in Neighborhoods   | GF                       | Infrastructure    |
| BW     | 4  | Angled parking for N Main and N Commerce Streets (change during downtown project)   | In-House                 | Parking Downtown  |
| AGS    | 10 | Parking around and surrounding the square. Issues with larger vehicles parked in areas that are narrow and that make it hard to see oncoming traffic. Our city is growing and we have been very fortunate with our parking however, it is a concern especially when you have the bigger and wider trucks that are parked in an area that is for a moderate size car. It becomes a hazard and a blind spot when trying to reverse out of the parking space and a blind spot for any and all pedestrians.   | GF                       | Parking Downtown  |
| JEFF M | 2  | Continue to work on City Park improvements  | Gen Fund                 | Parks             |
| BW     | 2  | Revive all City parks   | Grants                   | Parks             |
| KM     | 2  | Work with LISD to establish a community recreation center at Adams Gym, perhaps under Parks (PUBLIC HEALTH/PARKS)   | General Fund/Parks & Rec | Parks             |
| KM     | 3  | Add 3 positions to the Parks Department, to help facilitate other improvements (PARKS)  | General Fund/Parks & Rec | Parks             |
| LW     | 3  | Park improvements - consider medium to long range Town branch development   | GF                       | Parks             |
| KM     | 4  | Develop a dog park as part of the Stueve Lane Monte Vista Tract (PARKS/ANIMAL SHELTER/PUBLIC HEALTH)  | General Fund/Parks & Rec | Parks             |
| AGS    | 8  | Parks Improvements: Purchase and update the park equipment to provide safe and fun filled parks for all to use.   | GF                       | Parks             |
| JUAN M | 3  | Start Planning for 2040 plan  | GF                       | Planning          |
| IC     | 3  | Police  | GF                       | Police            |
| LW     | 4  | Continued Police Community committee involvement, neighborhood watch, gang awareness  | GF                       | Police            |
| JEFF M | 4  | Work with Police Department to bring back drug enforcement program  | Gen Fund                 | Police            |
| JUAN M | 5  | Get back to Neighborhood Townhall Meetings  | GF                       | Police            |
| AGS    | 5  | Police Task Force: Budget extra funds for a Police Task Force, a Narcotics Officer and a Mental Health Officer to address any drug and gang related problems and mental issues our city is being faced not only on the East side of our city but citywide. Budget for updated training for our police officers. There is a lot of training that is free but a lot of additional money for registration fees and course material. I am grateful that the Police Department did invest in our Drug Dog and is being utilized by the school as well. | GF                       | Police            |
| LW     | 10 | High School cadet programs for police, fire, EMS  | GF                       | Police/Fire       |
| LW     | 6  | Public relations position to deal with social media   | GF                       | Public Relations  |
| JEFF M | 6  | Get the word out about Lockhart (promoting, hiring a Public Relations person)   | Gen Fund                 | Public Relations  |
| LW     | 7  | Sidewalk repair and expansion   | GF                       | Sidewalks         |
| JEFF M | 1  | Signage in Lockhart (highway, downtown, and toll road)  | Gen Fund                 | Signage           |
| LW     | 5  | Wayfinding, branding - develop new entry sign and city property markers   | GF                       | Signage           |
| BW     | 5  | Move Forward with St Paul property project  | In-House                 | St Paul Gift      |
| KM     | 5  | Develop an oral history project to support a future "Walking Tour" app for Lockhart (ECONOMIC DEV/DOWNTOWN)   | General Fund/Fundraising | Tourism           |
| AGS    | 7  | More Events to Attract Tourism in Lockhart and Include Way Finding Signage (Hotels and Restaurants). Added events, especially the events that are free to the public do very well for the city as well as for the businesses and tourism. I welcome new events to the city but need to be selective in the events that we do host.  | GF                       | Tourism           |
| JUAN M | 4  | Create a Good Neighbor program (Lockhart Utility Customers can add an additional amount to utility bill to help others)   | GF                       | Utility Customers |
| BW     | 6  | Access to Municipal Court for Utility Payments  | In-House                 | Utility Customers |
| KM     | 1  | Free public Wi-Fi on the square as part of the redevelopment on the North side (ECONOMIC DEV/DOWNTOWN)  | CAPCOG Grant?            | Wi-Fi             |
| JUAN M | 2  | Free public Wi-Fi on the square as part of the redevelopment on the North side  | GF                       | Wi-Fi             |