

NOTES FROM MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY JUNE 24 2008 AT 7PM AT CITY HALL ONE PARK CENTER COURT, MANASSAS PARK, VIRGINIA

Governing Body Members in Attendance: Mayor Frank Jones
Vice Mayor Bryan Polk
Councilmember Fran Kassinger

Staff Present: Mercury Payton, City Manager
Lana A. Conner, City of Manassas Park

This is a dinner meeting between City Manager/Governing Body.

The City Manager reviewed Fiscal Year 2008 Departmental performance for

- Building and Code Enforcement: This department will be two different departments. Code Enforcement will be located at police department. Building will get back to doing their job which they are very good at. Bob Stenger is now the Deputy Building Official.
- Finance: Very strong department. They do an excellent job.
- Fire: Chief O'Neal is running this department very smoothly.
- Human Resources: The City Manager stated he does not know how the city ever got along without this department.
- IT: The department head is more hands on than previous department head. She is working to get new website up and running. She is constantly working to get more information out to the public.
- Parks & Recreation: Very citizen oriented.
- Planning: Looking to hire an administrative aide to help with this department. There is a lot going on right now.
- Police: Core employees are staying. Very little turnover. Code enforcement will now be under police department which will make it run smoother.
- Public Works
- Social Services: This department is improving daily. Ms. Whitaker is working to ensure the department is run according to state policies and procedures.

City Manager Priorities: The Mayor stated this is priorities that Governing Body members give to City Manager as goals.

The Mayor presented the following outline of what he expects for FY09:

Citizens)	Outside	People	Inside	(City Staff
Citizens)	Taxes	Dollars	Budget	(City Staff
Citizens)	Land	Places	Infrastructure	(City Staff

We must show the citizens what they are getting as far as "Bang for the Buck" both in budget and taxes.

There are five issues:

- 1) Communications
- 2) Strategic Planning – what, where, when, why: Governing Body are city leaders. They need to take the lead in the planning process to identify the city vision. This is why the Strategic Plan is so important.
- 3) Technical Implementation: How, Departments
- 4) See-Act-Follow-up:
Employees out patrolling streets need to report incidents such as street lights out, potholes, graffiti and when employees are out and about if they see trash & garbage in the street stop and pick it up. Pick up and take yard sale signs off poles. Keep the city clean.
- 5) Citizen Action/Interaction: City needs to be proactive rather than reactive.

Change: quantity/quality. They are both relevant.

Councilmember Kassinger stated citizens can't identify with the city. They live and work here but they come and go. Visualize the city as you as leaders want to see it and take action to make the plans materialize. Find out who we are and come up with an identity. We have no central theme.

Councilmember Polk stated you should ask the unanswered question. Don't just answer their question.

The Governing Body should market the city in everything it does.

The Governing Body wanted the City Manager to ask department heads how they identify the city to the outside.

How can we make the city visually different? How can we hide unsightly issues? Can the city plant trees along Manassas Drive to make it more appealing. Could the city have brick crosswalks at Rte 28? These types of things.

The city needs a good landscaping architect. City should look at hiring a graduate as city planner to come up with a cohesive plan for the city. Bob Moje, VMDO, had told the Mayor he would work with the city to look at hiring a graduate student to work with coming up with future vision for the city.

The City Manager will look into space availability for Northern Virginia Community College. Look at the railroad building. It has the necessary space. .

Francis C. Jones, Jr., Mayor

Lana A. Conner, City Clerk