



**VISION STATEMENT:**  
"The Magic City: A diverse,  
welcoming community  
where people prosper and  
business succeeds."

## WORK SESSION SUMMARY

**Council Chambers**

**October 7, 2024**

**5:30 P.M.**

**220 N. 27<sup>th</sup> St.**

**CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Cole**

Present: Councilmember Kendra Shaw, Ward I  
Councilmember Gulick, Ward I  
Councilmember Neese, Ward II  
Councilmember Jennifer Owen, Ward II  
Councilmember Denise Joy, Ward III  
Councilmember Bill Kennedy, Ward III  
Councilmember Scott Aspenlieder, Ward IV  
Councilmember Mike Boyett, Ward V  
Councilmember Tom Rupsis, Ward V  
Mayor William Cole

Absent/  
Excused: Councilmember Daniel Tidswell, Ward IV

Staff  
Present: Chris Kukulski, City Administrator  
Kevin Iffland, Assistant City Administrator  
Gina Dahl, City Attorney  
Jason Banfield, Assistant Fire Chief of EMS  
Mike Pigg, Parks and Recreation Director  
Dan McKinney, Parks Recreation Specialist  
Ben Halvorson, Domestic Violence Prosecutor

CA Kukulski gave brief update on Public Works utility billing. PW had additional people taking calls and potential audit group interviews.

-Public Comment:

None

### **1. Substance Abuse Connect / Crisis Response Unit (CRU)**

Zach Terakedis, Substance Abuse Connect, gave an overview of CRU, Mobile Crisis Response models, and considerations. He gave an overview of the timeline and CRU responses since inception.

Jason Banfield, Assistant Fire Chief of EMS, gave an overview of the current model and ways CRU was working. He spoke of creating an ordinance to require separate entities to work together for people receiving services.

General questions from Councilmembers: how to get to scale, payment concerns, partnerships, different modeling options and the Crisis Center.

Mr. Terakedis indicated he would bring back various potential modeling types for CRU moving forward.

Mayor Cole suggested tracking time for billable and unbillable services.

-Public Comment:

None

## **2. Parks and Recreation Update**

Mike Pigg, Parks and Recreation Director, gave an overview of the presentation.

Dan McKinney, Parks Recreation Specialist, gave an overview of Recreation staff, summer 2024 Recreation Division accomplishments, hiring and training, Rec2U, summer full day camps, sports and specialty camps, pool attendance and the Dogs Days annual event. He spoke of the Back to School Kickoff in the fall, back to school projects, New Years Plans, events from January through June and future plans. before summer.

General questions from Councilmembers: underserved kids needs being met, additional programming, parking issues at Amend Park, ways to inform the public of activities.

Mr. McKinney indicated various parks offered opportunities for underserved kids but there were issues with staffing and finances.

Kory Thomson, Parks and Recreation Superintendent, indicated Parks could work with Yellowstone Youth Soccer about parking concerns.

-Public Comment:

None

## **3. DRAFT Strategic Plan**

Chris Kukulski, City Administrator, highlighted the changes to the Draft Strategic Plan.

General questions from Councilmembers: length of time for the proposed current strategic plan and housing strategies.

Motion: bring strategic plan to next available business meeting for adoption.

Moved by CM Aspenlieder

Seconded by CM Shaw

CM Owen - addressing juvenile justice and mental health through Legislative action too narrow. Recommend focusing on Legislative action and continuing partnerships. Also Goal 3 - continues to narrow Skyway Drive and Bypass too much.

Ben Halvorson, Domestic Violence Prosecutor, explained the timeline process for their progress.

CM Neese – hire outside source for records management? CA Kukulski – incredibly expensive.

CM Kennedy – spoke of adding more Law Enforcement and creating an Airport Authority and increasing trail network with private partnerships. CA Kukulski - Actions of how to accomplish objectives, added resources to make it happen. Airport authority as objective – already listed as increase passengers and cargo included. Suggested Council amendment.

CM Rupsis – spoke for the following amendments: optimize transportation efficiency seems ambiguous, affordable housing should target low/workforce community, and private partnerships for Amend Park development.

CM Neese – spoke of finding the specific amount for Reserves. CA Kukulski – suggested percentage instead of exact amount.

CM Aspenlieder – move forward with vote, amendments can take place at regular Business meeting.

CM Neese and Rupsis – won't support motion. Business meeting not the time to go over amendments.

APPROVED 10-0, CM's Neese, Joy and Rupsis opposed

-Public Comment:

None

#### **HIGHLIGHT UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS OF COUNCIL INTEREST.**

#### **COUNCIL DISCUSSION:**

CM Boyett – 10/17 Boards and Commissions Volunteer Appreciation Dinner.

**PUBLIC COMMENT on "NON-AGENDA ITEMS". Speaker Sign-in required.** (Restricted to ONLY items not on this printed agenda. Comments are limited to 3 minutes or as set by the Mayor. Please sign the roster at the cart located at the back of the Council chambers or at the podium.)

None

**ADJOURN: 7:56 P.M.**