

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL
Rapid City, South Dakota

October 22, 2009

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a special meeting of the City Council of the City of Rapid City was held at the City/School Administration Center in Rapid City, South Dakota on Thursday, October 22, 2009 at 5:00 P.M.

The following members were present: Mayor Alan Hanks and the following Alderpersons: Patti Martinson, Sam Kooiker, Lloyd LaCroix, Malcom Chapman, Karen Gundersen Olson and Ron Weifenbach; and the following Alderpersons arrived during the course of the meeting: Deb Hadcock; and the following were absent: Bill Waugh, Aaron Costello and Ron Kroeger.

Staff members present included Finance Officer Jim Preston and Administrative Secretary Heidi Weaver.

The Mayor introduced Ginny Nelson, Training and Consultation Specialist, who is working with the City to create a long term strategy for Rapid City. She presented two questions to the Council: "How do you envision Rapid City looking in the year 2020?" and "What would you like Rapid City to be in the year 2020?" The Council answered these questions and reviewed their answers. These questions have been given to City staff and will be given to the public for their input as well. Citizens will have the option of answering the questions in writing or online. Chapman asked if the online participant will be validated in order to ensure they are a fair representation of the population, and Ms. Nelson confirmed that is part of the online process. After answers from citizens and employees are received, they will be compiled and reviewed. The goal is to have four to six statements, specifically addressing where the City will be in 2020. Kooiker asked what the City was spending on the study so far. Ms. Nelson explained that she is being paid for her time, but there are no other fees at this time. She said the goal was to create specific statements so the City would know if they have attained their goal. If the statements are too generic, they lose their meaning. All of the Council members were on board with the plan. Kooiker wanted to ensure this study does not just get put "on the shelf," and Ms. Nelson said it will be up to the citizens and Council to ensure the plan is implemented. For the next 30 to 45 days, input will be gathered to start this process of creating a long-term strategy for Rapid City. Ms. Nelson had some handouts with answers that stakeholders had come up with already. Responding to Weifenbach, Mayor Hanks said a variety of business people were selected as the stakeholders and said a list could be obtained from his office. Olson thought this process was a good idea and also wanted to ensure it would not just get put on the shelf when it was completed.

As there was no further business to come before Council, the meeting adjourned at 6:00 P.M.

CITY OF RAPID CITY

ATTEST:

Mayor

Finance Officer

(SEAL)