

In compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, the news media and the public was notified of the time, date, and place along with a copy of the agenda of this meeting and a notice was posted on the outdoor bulletin board at the Batesburg-Leesville Town Hall and the Town's website no later than twenty-four hours prior to the meeting.

STRATEGIC PLAN WORK SESSION

JUNE 5, 2017

The Work Session for the Town of Batesburg-Leesville, held in Building B of the Town Hall Complex, was called to order at 6:05 P. M. by Mayor Crapps. Members present were Mayor Crapps, Council Members Taylor, O'Dell, Simpkins, Penick, Spradley and Ricard. Council Member Cain arrived at 6:27 P. M. and Council Member Wiszowaty was absent. Department heads present were Tim Schumpert, Wallace Oswald, David Padgett, Jeremy Driggers and Jay Hendrix along with Gregory Sprouse from Central Midlands and Jeff Shacker from the Municipal Association.

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by Council Member Simpkins.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was held.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Council Member Simpkins with a second by Council Member Penick to approve. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 7 Approved 0 Denied

WORK SESSION

A. Strategic Plan Draft Update - Gregory Sprouse, Central Midlands COG

Mr. Sprouse was present to update Council on the Strategic Plan for the Town of Batesburg-Leesville. He began his presentation by an overview of:

- ✓ What is Strategic Planning?
- ✓ What are the Benefits to strategic planning?
- ✓ The Strategic Planning Process
- ✓ Themes, Goals and Objectives

Strategic Plan Draft Update Cont'd.

Based on the priorities, needs, and concerns voiced by Council, staff and the public, three overarching focus areas were identified - Community, Economy and Government. After lengthy discussion, Council asked for projects under each of the focus areas to be prioritized to include target dates.

B. Hospitality Tax Presentation - Town Manager Luckadoo

Manager Luckadoo gave a power point presentation on the local Hospitality Tax by explaining:

- ✓ The purpose of a hospitality tax
- ✓ What is a hospitality tax
- ✓ Those required to collect the H-tax
- ✓ Examples of items subject to the H-tax and exempt from the H-tax
- ✓ How the H-tax is collected and remitted
- ✓ Cost of the H-tax (up to 2 cents per \$1)
- ✓ Municipalities that have H-tax
- ✓ Financial facts
- ✓ General Fund/H-tax related expenses
- ✓ Reality
- ✓ Strategic priority connections
- ✓ Many areas to focus on
- ✓ Early focus improvements - Family, Revitalization
- ✓ Implementation - State law requires a "positive majority" vote by Council or, in other words, a majority of members present when considered. Ordinance should be passed with a roll-out phase and community involvement essential to process.
- ✓ H-tax timeline
- ✓ Summary:
 - * H-tax spurs community/economic growth & development
 - * Optional sales tax applied to prepared food & beverages
 - * Funds used to improve & enhance tourism related activities, facilities, and infrastructure
 - * Has had a positive/transformational effect on communities & directly ties into

Strategic Plan Work Session

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B. Hospitality Tax Presentation Cont'd.

Strategic Plan priorities

- * H-tax is paid by all visitors coming into our community to eat
- * Relieves all financial burden from being directly on our Town taxpayers & businesses

There will be a separate budget from the General Fun for the H-tax and a time line has been tentatively established.


C. FY 2017/2018 Budget Discussion

Manager Luckadoo presented the changes to the 2017/2018 Budget for Council's consideration. He stated the General Fund and the Enterprise Fund are both balanced. A lengthy discussion was held on the budget after Manager Luckadoo's presentation.

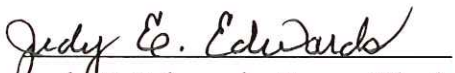
ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Council Member Spradley with a second by Council Member Penick to adjourn at 8:58 P. M. All members were in favor.

Approved this 12th day of June 2017.


Charles Simpkins, Mayor/Pro Tem

ATTEST:


Judy E. Edwards, Town Clerk