

City Council Meeting Minutes

**January 9, 2024
Library Meeting Room
951 Spruce Street
6:00 PM**

Call to Order – Mayor Leh called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. **Roll Call** was taken and the following members were present:

City Council: *Mayor Chris Leh
Mayor Pro Tem Caleb Dickinson
Councilmember Deborah Fahey
Councilmember Barbara Hamlington
Councilmember Dietrich Hoefner
Councilmember Judi Kern (arrived 6:08 pm)*

Staff Present: *Samma Fox, Deputy City Manager
Kurt Kowar, Public Works Director
Rob Zuccaro, Community Development Director
Ember Brignull, Open Space Superintendent
Abby McNeal, Parks Superintendent
Kathy Martin, Recreation Superintendent
Meredyth Muth, City Clerk*

2024 CITY COUNCIL WORK PLAN

Councilmember Leh stated the 2024 work plan was formally adopted last fall, but now with this new council in place it makes sense for the group to review the work plan and make sure everyone is still comfortable with the items on the list and the priorities.

Acting City Manager Fox stated that the annual Work Plan is for Council to set its policy priorities for the year. She noted Council's role is to set purpose/vision and implement strategic goals. That high level of direction is then implemented by staff doing the day-to day work. She noted last year the process timeline was changed so the work plan could inform the annual budget process.

She reviewed the items that were approved on the plan last year. She stated that if Council would like to make changes they should take into consideration staff and council capacity, understanding there will be emergent issues that come unexpectedly; and how the resident survey fits in to the plan.

City of Louisville

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Staff will incorporate council direction from this meeting and revise the advanced agenda as appropriate. Council will begin working on the 2025-26 Work Plan in May.

Public Comments – None.

Members reviewed the list starting with the high priority items.

Fahey would like to include regulating ebikes and scooters in the traffic safety section and also link affordable housing discussions with transportation needs. Members were in agreement to make these changes.

Members want to clarify what items Traffic Safety includes and prioritize pedestrian and bicycle safety. They reworded the item as Transportation Safety.

Councilmember Hamlington asked that evacuation plans be included in the work plan in whichever section it makes sense.

Members discussed how staff capacity is affected by these items, what scheduling looks like for some topics, and how that all will have to fit together.

Mayor Leh asked if amendments to the commercial building code should be included in some section, either Economic Vitality or as an ongoing item. Members agreed to that change.

Councilmember Kern would like Resiliency/Fire Hardening moved to the high priority category. Members decided to make it high priority and add Emergency Preparedness in the document.

Members moved Open Space Management to medium priority only because most of this work is already approved and being implemented so Council does not need to dedicate much meeting time for it. The item was rewritten to include a discussion of the implementation of the new sales tax and budget discussion.

Members discussed the timing of a possible discussion of a proposed Main Street closure and made it a medium priority.

Members discussed what they think interaction with the advisory boards should look like. They added a medium priority item for Board and Commission Engagement.

Members reviewed and discussed the remaining items.

DISCUSSION/DIRECTION – CITY COUNCIL EXPECTATION SETTING

Given the late hour members moved this item to the January 22 Special Meeting.

ADJOURN

Members adjourned at 8:46 pm.

Christopher M. Leh, Mayor

Meredyth Muth, City Clerk