

A Strategic Planning Session of **City Council** is held this day commencing at 4:00 o'clock p.m., at the Hiram Walker and Sons Ltd., Wisser's Reception Centre, 2072 Riverside Drive East.

Members Present:

Mayor Francis
Councillor Dilkens
Councillor Gignac
Councillor Halberstadt
Councillor Hatfield
Councillor Jones
Councillor Maghnieh
Councillor Marra
Councillor Payne
Councillor Sleiman
Councillor Valentinis

Members Absent:

None.

CALL TO ORDER

The Chair calls the session to order at 4:30 o'clock p.m.

DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None disclosed.

OPENING REMARKS

Mayor Francis opens the Strategic Planning Session by reviewing the 6 pillars that were confirmed at the December 13, 2010 Strategic Planning Session of Windsor City Council. Mayor Francis states that each pillar needs to be discussed individually, and the blueprints for action plans will be developed for these pillars.

Mayor Francis reminds Council that as a cohesive group, Council must develop an agenda that is deliverable. Council as a whole will deliver on the pillars that have been outlined. Mayor Francis further reminds Council that a common theme throughout all election campaigns was the importance of being a team player.

DISCUSSION

Mayor Francis commences with a roundtable discussion and asks members of Council to outline why they ran for Council, and what each Council member wishes to achieve. Responses are summarized as follows:

Mayor Francis ran for re-election to get the job done, having already re-positioned Windsor during the worst recession, for growth and new opportunities. The last Council made many difficult decisions and this term is the time to see all the benefits. Mayor Francis' single priority is jobs and economic diversification and his desire is to continue to work with this Council and the community to attract jobs and diversify the economy.

Councillor Payne indicates he ran for Council as he feels his previous experience would be beneficial in assisting with the revitalization of the City of Windsor, and his main priority is job creation. He indicates that success can be measured by:

- Unemployment statistics
- Number of businesses attracted to Windsor
- Downtown revitalization

Councillor Sleiman indicates that he ran for Council to focus on issues surrounding jobs and economic diversification, infrastructure, water rates and concludes by stating that it is imperative to have regional cooperation.

Councillor Marra indicates that he ran for Council to complete what was started with the previous Council in order to feel a sense of accomplishment. He wishes to play a meaningful and productive role on Council. He feels that labour relations are a key part in order to achieve success. His number one issue focuses around jobs and the economy.

Councillor Halberstadt indicates that he ran for Council to move forward with what was started with the previous Council, and he would like to see a decrease in utility costs, a city that is affordable and attractive, a 5% decrease in the vacancy rate, envisions the CIP assisting the small business owner, a business friendly community, an environmentally friendly community (eg: deal with Zalev's) jobs and economic diversification.

Councillor Maghnieh indicates that he ran for Council to ensure that there is a legacy for the community and that there must be a focus on prosperity initiatives, jobs and economic diversification, and to once and for all deal with the Zalev Scrapyard.

Councillor Dilkens indicates that he ran for Council in order to develop a strategy and focus on the creation of jobs and economic diversification, regional cooperation, corporate opportunities, and downtown revitalization, and to deliver on these.

Councillor Hatfield indicates that he ran for Council to move forward with what was created with the previous Council, and develop a strategy focused on jobs, regional cooperation and to create an environment-friendly community, tackle the issue of sewers and flooded basements, cultural capital, and to make the City of Windsor an affordable and attractive city.

Councillor Valentinis indicates that he ran for Council to focus on streetscaping as an important first step in making Windsor an attractive city, and to also focus on job creation, downtown revitalization, infrastructure and capital culture.

Councillor Gignac indicates that she ran for Council to move forward with what was created with the previous Council, indicating support for all six pillars, but that each one must be looked at very carefully in terms of the financial framework.

Councillor Jones indicates that he ran for Council as he brings to the table experience and honesty, and that we need to continue to embrace and celebrate our heritage, which has a major focus in the west end and concludes by stating that some of the difficult decisions made by the last Council, will serve as building blocks for the future.

Mayor Francis asks Councillors to identify the pillars that Council members would like to discuss, and to create action plans for each. Council members collectively agree that as a starting point, action plans be created for pillar No. 1. Jobs and Economic Diversification, and No. 5. Downtown Revitalization, and the action plans are summarized as follows:

Action items as outlined by Council for the “Jobs and Economic Diversification” Pillar:

1. Airport (project “MRO”)
2. Cargo Village (Lufthansa)
3. Commercial Airlines
4. Jobs Fund
5. Tour- (more airlines)
6. Market the City
7. Marina
8. Life Sciences (Advisory Council)
9. Aquarium
10. Events (1812, International Childrens Games)

Council recesses at 5:50 o’clock p.m.

Council reconvenes at 6:15 o’clock p.m.

Action items as outlined by Council for “Downtown Revitalization” Pillar:

1. Marina
2. Development of the Western Super Anchor - (RFP, EOI, Mixed Use)
3. Children’s Park
4. Post Secondary Institutions Downtown
 - Armouries
 - Bus Terminal
 - Capitol Theatre
5. Development of the Farmers Market
6. Cafe Village
7. Downtown Development Corporation
 - Theme
 - Branding
 - Street Cars

By-law

Moved by Councillor Sleiman, seconded by Councillor Gignac,

That the following By-law No. 9-2011, be introduced and read a first and second time:

9-2011 “A BY-LAW TO CONFIRM THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF WINDSOR AT ITS MEETING HELD ON THE ELEVENTH DAY OF JANUARY, 2011”

Carried.

Third Reading of By-laws

Moved by Councillor Valentinis, seconded by Councillor Payne,

That the following By-law No. 9, having been read a first and second time be now read a third time and finally passed and that the Mayor and Clerk **BE AUTHORIZED** to sign and seal the same notwithstanding any contrary provision of the Council.

Carried.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Maghnieh, seconded by Councillor Sleiman,

That this Council meeting stand adjourned until the next regular meeting of Council or at the call of the Mayor.

Carried.

Accordingly, the meeting is adjourned at 7:22 o'clock p.m.

MAYOR

CITY CLERK

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DEPUTY CITY CLERK/SENIOR MANAGER OF COUNCIL SERVICES

SUPERVISOR OF COUNCIL SERVICES