



City of Harrisonburg

409 S. Main Street
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Meeting Minutes - Draft City Council

Friday, March 7, 2025

8:30 AM

Hyatt Place Harrisonburg, 1884

Special Meeting: City Council Retreat

1. Call Meeting to Order

At 8:31 a.m. the meeting was called to order

Mayor Deanna Reed, Vice Mayor Dany Fleming, Council Member Laura Dent, Council Member Nasser Alsaadun, and Council Member Monica Robinson were present. Also present were Ande Banks, city manager; Amy Snider, deputy city manager; Chris Brown, city attorney; Michael Parks, director of Communications; Brian Vandenberg, assistant to the city manager, and Pamela Ulmer, city clerk.

2. Welcome / Session Overview

Tyler StClair, facilitator, reviewed the objectives, roles and local elected leadership model for the retreat.

3. Team Building

Each Council Member shared their early life stories that shaped them into who they are today.

4. Council Collaboration

Ms. StClair and Council discussed Council's role in the community based on the team building exercise, their commonalities and how their experiences strengthen the community.

5. Environmental Assessment

Council went into break from Noon to 1:13 pm.

Ms. StClair reviewed the characteristics of an effective vision;

Council Members and staff worked in two groups to review what goals, strategies, assets, projects, relationships, and behaviors they wanted to keep or change in order to lead the City toward the desired future.

Council and staff reviewed the keeps and changes discussed in both groups, there were quite a few similarities between the groups in both categories.

6. Review / Realign Vision and Strategic Focus Area

Council Members worked on Council's core vision for 2045, making slight changes to the 2043 Vision.

7. Clarify Communication / Roles / Strategy

No discussion took place on this matter

8. Adjournment

At 4:58 p.m. the meeting recessed

CITY CLERK

MAYOR