Sheldon, Iowa City Council December 11, 2019

The Sheldon City Council met in goal setting session on Wednesday, December 11, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. at the Crossroads Pavilion Event Center conference room. Mayor Greg Geels called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken. Present: Shawn Broesder, Pete Hamill, Tom Eggers, Wayne Barahona, and Brad Hindt arriving at 4:35 p.m.. Also present: Todd Uhl, Sam Kooiker, Curt Strouth, Katricia Meendering, Nicole Morgan, David Dykstra, April Schaefer, and Angela Beckman.

Eric Christensen and Julie Robison from Iowa State Extension introduced themselves. The last goal setting session was held in 2017 and they reviewed the on-going commitments, major accomplishments, issues, concerns, trends, and opportunities.

They then went onto the significant new initiatives that they received from elected officials and staff. Some of them include: develop a unified vision for downtown, reduce debt, explore IT managed services, revitalize Old 60 (2nd Avenue), Clean-up nuisance properties, assistance to daycares, long term solution for funding of emergency services, affordable housing, establish mechanism to help Airport save up funding for grant matches, and explore getting a police dog. After the list was compiled the Mayor and Council were given 5 dots to place by the initiatives, they felt warrant the most need. The top three were long term solution for funding emergency services, IT managed services and affordable housing.

Julie then reviewed public comments strategies for City Council meetings. The City has had a longstanding practice to allow for public comments at the beginning for the meeting for items not on the agenda. The recommendation from Iowa State Extension is to continue to encourage comments on items not on the agenda, and to expand it. The recommendation is to expand this public comment period to include the non-public hearing items. ISU Extension recommends a 3 to 5-minute limit per speaker. The draft resolution in your packets includes a 5-minute limit. Final action is not intended at this meeting. A public hearing on these important changes is not legally required but is recommended.

A motion was made by Hindt and seconded by Hamill to adjourn at 7:00 p.m. Roll call was taken. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

 Angela Beckman, City Clerk