

Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee
April 21, 2021

A meeting of the City of Waxahachie Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee was held in the City Council Conference Room (meeting relocated to Council Chamber for safe distancing) at City Hall, 401 S. Rogers on Wednesday, April 21, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

Council Members Present: David Hill, Mayor, Council Member Place 1, Chairman
Mary Lou Shipley, Mayor Pro Tem
Chuck Beatty, Council Member
Melissa Olson, Council Member Place 3
Doug Barnes, Council Member Place 2

Planning & Zoning
Members Present: Rick Keeler
Bonney Ramsey
Jim Phillips
Erik Test

Planning & Zoning
Members Absent: Melissa Ballard
Betty Square Coleman
David Hudgins

Council Appointees Present: Kathleen Bowen, Vice Chairman
Tina Ensinia
Stacey Bailey
Bruce Zimmerman

Council Appointee Absent: Charles B. Beatty

Others Present: Michael Scott, City Manager
Tommy Ludwig, Assistant City Manager
Amber Villarreal, Assistant City Secretary
James Gaertner, Director of Public Works and Engineering
Shon Brooks, Director of Planning
Colby Collins, Senior Planner

1. Call to Order by Mayor David Hill

Mayor David Hill called the meeting to order.

2. Introduction of Comprehensive Plan Committee Members

Planning Director Shon Brooks introduced city staff noting they are available to assist committee members as needed. Members present introduced themselves.

3. Organize the Committee

Action:

*Rick Keeler moved David Hill be appointed as Chairman. Melissa Olson seconded, **All Ayes.***

Mary Lou Shipley moved Kathleen Bowen be appointed as Vice Chairman. Stacey Bailey seconded, All Ayes.

4. Discussion of roles and responsibilities of Comprehensive Plan Committee

Mr. Kevin Shepherd, Verdunity, reported his consultant firm has served cities since 2011 to provide planning and solutions to progressive cities. He explained the purpose of the committee is to serve as champions of the Comprehensive Plan process and encourage the community to get involved in planning and implementation efforts. He noted the committee will serve as a sounding board to get input on issues, draft documents, disseminate information to the community, facilitate discussions in neighborhoods and peer groups, and to participate in meetings, review progress, and offer input on upcoming tasks. Mr. Shepherd reviewed the following:

- Lack of alignment between vision, plans, policies, and investments
- Funding gap between needs and available revenue
- Culture of apathy
- Options to close the resource gap
- Fiscal informed planning
- Community context and key issues: Thoroughfare Plan and Implementation Strategy
- Project Timeline (approximately 12-18 months)

Mr. Shepherd explained the desired outcomes from the Comprehensive Plan:

- Fiscally sustainable development
- Encourage self-sustaining local economy and workforce
- Culture of trust and collaboration
- Vibrant, affordable, and resilient neighborhoods

Mr. Brooks encouraged members to reach out to community groups and organizations for participation and feedback to improve the development of the Comprehensive Plan.

5. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amber Villarreal
Assistant City Secretary