

City Council  
April 4, 2019

A City of Waxahachie City Council Retreat was held at the Waxahachie Police Department, 630 Farley Street, Waxahachie, Texas on Thursday, April 4, 2019 at 8:00 a.m.

Council Members Present: Kevin Strength, Mayor  
David Hill, Mayor Pro Tem  
Chuck Beatty, Councilmember  
Mary Lou Shipley, Councilmember  
Melissa Olson, Councilmember

Others Present: Michael Scott, City Manager  
Albert Lawrence, Assistant City Manager  
Tommy Ludwig, Assistant City Manager  
Amber Villarreal, Assistant City Secretary

## 1. Call to Order

Mayor Kevin Strength called the meeting to order.

## 2. Presentations and Discussion:

- Introduction - City Manager Michael Scott thanked everyone for their attendance and explained the purpose of the retreat is to give department updates to City Council and discuss future projects and requests for City Council.
- City Attorney Update - City Attorney Robert Brown reviewed the Open Meetings Act and frequently asked questions.
- Human Resources Update - Human Resources Director Jamie Holbert reviewed the different responsibilities of the department and 2018 highlights including NEOGOV implementation, the development of city values and update of employee benefits.
- Communications/Marketing Update – Director of Communications and Marketing Amy Borders reviewed the new city website, social media presence, and the A Place in Your Heart campaign efforts.
- Downtown Development Update – Downtown Development Director Anita Brown presented a department overview, downtown change in recent years, growth, Downtown Farmers Market, beautification projects, and future projects.
- Finance Update – Finance Director Charlie Harris presented the city’s budget including the various funds, present revenues, future planning, funding sources, and future challengers and uncertainties.
- Police Department Update – Police Chief Wade Goolsby presented the department overview including staffing and recruiting efforts, operations, and community outreach efforts. City Manager Scott discussed creating an Emergency Management Department to house at the Police Department. This department would be strictly dedicated to Emergency Management.
- Fire Department Update – Fire Chief Ricky Boyd presented the department overview, staffing, budget, growth plans including the addition of Station 4 and relocation of Station 1, and ambulance service update.
- Citizen Survey – Assistant to the City Manager Chelsey Gordon reviewed the possibility of engaging the community in a citizen survey to measure satisfaction with city services, communicate resident priorities, assess broad community

support or opposition to potential changes in programs or policies, and assist in setting priorities for council and creating budget decisions.

- Civic Center Update – Assistant City Manager Albert Lawrence presented a department overview, budget, past replacement program, future replacement program, facility usage, and projects at the center.
- Parks Update – Parks and Recreation Director John Smith presented an update of the Parks Department, Sports Complex, Community Beautification, and Senior Center. Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Gumaro Martinez presented an update on the city parks, including improvements at Lake Waxahachie, Little Creek Trail, Chautauqua Auditorium, Lee Penn Park, Oak Lawn Park, current Capital Improvement Projects, and future Capital Improvement Projects.

### **3. Adjourn**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amber Villarreal  
Assistant City Secretary