

**MINUTES OF THE
KAUFMAN CITY COUNCIL RETREAT WORK SESSION
SATURDAY, JULY 8, 2006 — 8:00 A.M.
STAR BRAND RANCH
1182 STAR BRAND DRIVE
KAUFMAN, TEXAS**

CITY COUNCILMEMBERS

MAYOR	PAULA BACON
MAYOR PRO-TEM	LONNIE BOUNDS
COUNCILMEMBER	GIL ALTOM JR.
COUNCILMEMBER	FLOYD CHOYCE
COUNCILMEMBER	JEFF COUNCIL
COUNCILMEMBER	WILLIAM FORTNER
COUNCILMEMBER	BARRY RATCLIFFE

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: Mayor Bacon called the Meeting to order at 9:20 a.m. Councilmembers present were Mayor Bacon, Mayor Pro-Tem Bounds, Councilmember Altom, Councilmember Choyce, Councilmember Council, Councilmember Fortner and Councilmember Ratcliffe. Mayor Bacon declared a quorum present. Also present were City Manager Curtis Snow and ACM/City Secretary Jo Ann Talbot.

1. The Kaufman City Council will hold a Strategic Planning Work Session for the City of Kaufman.

City Manager Curtis Snow discussed property tax rates and sales tax collections and explained how the property effective tax rate works.

He also introduced the idea of the City getting into Wi-Five Internet business. He explained that Cable service is becoming obsolete and that the City's franchise for cable would eventually be little revenue to the City. The City of Farmers Branch currently has Wi-Five Internet Service for their citizens. Mr. Snow reported to Council that he would research the Wi-Five project.

The City Council reviewed their goal list. Some of the items that were discussed were as follows: Quality growth; curbs, streets, drainage and sidewalks; to offer tax abatement for the Washington Street Corridor; Farmers Market by using the City's vacant lot beside City Hall; keeping the court system downtown to remain viable; develop a streetscape from downtown square through Washington Street.

City Manager Curtis Snow introduced an idea to the Council regarding Kaufman Economic Development sales tax collection. He only suggested

the idea to see if the Council would be interested. He reported that the Council had talked a lot about the city's streets and their condition. To help improve the City's appearance, new streets, curb and drainage would have a major impact on the community and help promote growth. He suggested rescinding the Kaufman Economic Development Corporation (KEDC) 4A sales tax collection and shifting it to street improvements. This would require a proposition on the ballot to consider eliminating 4A sales tax and shift the sales tax funds for street improvements. The 4A sales tax generates approximately \$300,000.00 a year. A great deal of discussion was held on this subject.

City Manager Curtis Snow asked the City Council to form in groups and prioritize their goals and develop goal statements that are most important to them.

The Council goals are as follows:

- * To investigate the Wi-Five Internet business for the near future.
- * Develop a 10-year Plan for streets, curbs and storm drainage and sidewalks, including a financial plan over the 10 years. (Staff report to City Council August 2006).
- * To address the Police Department's appearance overall (improve performance and the way they represent the City). Start discussion with the County Sheriff regarding the use of the Kaufman County Jail for prisoners. Investigate County rates; report on how many prisoners are transferred to the County yearly and report on how many prisoners does the City hold in the City's jail facility yearly.
- * Highway 34 Realignment starting at Highway 175 (erect overpass bridge) and extend to Highway 34 and Highway 243 within the next three years. This would decrease traffic congestion, reduce potentially hazardous trucks and/or oversized loads in the Central Business District and would improve school safety. (Obtain information at the next meeting).
- * Develop a Policy for Tax Abatement specifically for Washington Street Corridor. Identify number of properties and have 30% completed in five (5) years, with an option to extend abatement. Tax abatement for retail businesses and residential if allowed by law. (Report by October 2006)
- * Expand Medical Industry – Trinity Valley Community College Nursing School, expansion of program and expand student population by 30% over a seven-year period.

- * Farmers Market – look at City’s property next to City Hall. (within 18 months)
- * Sports Complex – consider fees for tournaments, annual vehicle stickers and/or parking fees and that the city contracts the concession stand.

City Manager Curtis Snow suggested the KEDC to hire a Consultant for a Professional Market Study in order to receive data to know what approach the City needs to take in order to acquire commercial and retail businesses to Kaufman.

City Manager Curtis Snow explained to the Council the difference of a Quint fire truck and a Pumper truck.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM CITY MANAGER.

No announcements were made by the City Manager.

REQUEST/COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL.

No comments were made from members of the City Council.

ADJOURNMENT.

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

PAULA BACON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

JO ANN TALBOT, CITY SECRETARY

A TAPE RECORDING OF THIS MEETING IS ON FILE AT CITY HALL. THESE MINUTES ARE CONDENSED THEREFORM.