

STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKSHOP – CAIRO MAYOR & COUNCIL – JANUARY 28, 2010

The Strategic Planning Workshop was held immediately following the January 28, 2010 Regular Meeting in the conference room at City Hall. Present were Mayor Richard VanLandingham, Mayor Pro Tem Lannis Thornton, Council Members Ernest W. Cloud, Jr., James H. Douglas, Kermit V. Gilliard, Jr., and Robert L. Gwaltney. Staff members in attendance were City Manager Chris Addleton, City Attorney Thomas L. Lehman, City Clerk Carolyn B. Lee, Finance Director Miriam Faircloth, and Interim Exec. Asst. Judith Pinon. Cairo Messenger Editor Randy Wind was also in attendance.

City Manager Addleton presented a Mission Statement and Goals for the City. Mayor VanLandingham requested that the Council consider this information and decide if they were in agreement with it or wanted to make any changes. The Mission Statement was: To Enhance the Quality of Life for Our Citizens, Provide Cost-Effective Municipal Services with Excellence in Customer Service, and Preserve the Cultural, Historical, and Natural Resources of our City. Goals were: 1.) To improve the financial condition of the City of Cairo, 2.) To improve and maintain the City of Cairo infrastructure, 3.) To improve the overall appearance of the City of Cairo, 4.) To develop a growth plan for the City of Cairo, and 5.) To improve the quality of life in the City of Cairo.

Mayor VanLandingham presented and reviewed with the Council a strategic plan outline, expounding on the various items that were a part of the plan. The plan broadly addressed Financial Planning; Organizational Structure; Development of Positive Impact Criteria for Internal and External Industrial, Commercial, and Residential Expansion; Commercial Development Plan; City Asset Maintenance Plan; and Additional or Improved City Ordinances. He explained that the handout was an example, and if developed, City Manager Addleton would return with specific things and how to accomplish them. He added that all possible criteria should be considered when making decisions, and that lessons could be learned from previous mistakes. Councilman Douglas noted that even the best-made decisions were sometimes affected by things out of the City's control, such as the present economy.

During review and discussion, Attorney Lehman suggested adding "traffic control" as a part of the strategy. In discussing a plan to develop and encourage teamwork, Councilman Cloud noted that Thomasville had formed a group called "Team Thomasville."

In a limited discussion regarding priorities, the payoff of the Joint Development Authority loan on the Higdon building was briefly discussed. It was the consensus to identify all capital priorities at the Feb. 8th Budget Workshop and then possibly consider the matter at a later date.

After discussion was completed, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED:

**RICHARD VANLANDINGHAM
MAYOR**

ATTEST:

**CAROLYN B. LEE
CITY CLERK**