City of Hermiston
2015 Goal Setting Report

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Background

In early January a survey was sent to the City’s elected leaders and to the City’s Management Team. This survey reflected the four requests below. Responses were gathered and placed together in a way that could foster discussion and be used in an input to the following process.

Management Team

On January 16, 2015, the City’s Management Team met for a ½ day goal setting session. All of the management team had submitted answers to the following four requests:

- Please list major accomplishments for the past two years.
- Please list specific issues, concerns that you have regarding future city services, policies or operations.
- Please list any initiative, program or policy that you think that the City should consider in the next two years.
- Please list the capital projects or equipment purchases that you think the City should consider over the next five years.

The group discussed the accomplishments and realized that much had been done in the past two years. They then discussed the many issues and concerns that are out there in the various city departments. Then the final two areas were reviewed and then prioritized using a simple voting procedure. The management team prioritized both the significant policies and the capital projects. These priorities were then brought forward to the council goal setting process.

Mayor and City Council

On February 21, 2015, the Mayor, City Council and the City’s Management Team met for a ¾ day goal setting session. The first portion of the session was the management team giving a report on accomplishments for the past year. Then in the afternoon, the Mayor, Council and City Manager went through a similar process as the Management Team. The elected official’s priorities in policy areas and in capital projects were established through a voting procedure.

Following are the results of this goal setting process:

*The Mayor and council identified the following programs and initiatives as the most urgent or important.*

**Top Priority**

- Proactive approach to code enforcement
- Add more skateboard parks
- Community Clean-up Events
Medium Priority

- Planning library expansion as a community hub/makerspace
- Study the benefits of rail line through the center of town
- Aesthetic Standards adoption for signs, water towers, archways, etc.
- Update & implement water master plan
- Park and Trail Developments

*The Mayor and City Council Identified the following capital projects as the most urgent or important.*

Top Priority

- Industrial Area Natural Gas Line Construction - $3.2 Million
- NE Park Development
- Pave remaining gravel or dirt streets (policies of this being paid for by adjacent property may make this not an option)
- Retrofit sidewalks/pathways on older streets
- A City/County Shooting Range

Medium Priority

- Existing Fairgrounds Redevelopment
- Public Transportation
- Aging infrastructure – collection system
- Equipment Replacement Fund
- Alora Heights Booster Station

The following items were given high priority rankings by the management team but did not receive the same level of ranking by the Mayor and City Council and so are here as secondary priorities.

Programs and Initiatives

- Develop and Implement a Capital Improvement Plan
- Develop a workable solution for increasing amounts of leave (sick and vacation) available to long-term employees.
- Implement GIS Mapping Program
Capital Projects

- Implement an Equipment Replacement Fund
- New City Hall
- Add backup generators to critical water supply sources
- Construct more water storage