

City of Jackson MN

Strategic Planning

Quarterly Review



June 12, 2023 from 530pm to 730pm
Jackson City Hall – Council Chambers

Participants:

Marcus Polz, Mayor
Nathan Peterson, Mayor Pro-Tem, Council Member Ward II
Brandon Finck, Council Member Ward I
Chris Naumann, Council Member Ward I
Mark Titus, Council Member Ward I
Joe Pell, Council Member Ward II
Sara Mix, Council Member Ward II
Brad Anderson, City Attorney
Matt Skaret, City Administrator
Dave Maschoff, City Clerk
Deb Mitchell, Office Manager
Tony Oxborough, Public Works Director
Tony Nitchals, Electric Supervisor
Dave Schmidt, Economic Development Coordinator
Michelle Bratrud, Liquor Store Manager
Chris Burban, Ambulance Director
Dave Bond, Fire Chief
Louise Koppen, Chamber of Commerce
Mike Brinkman, EDA
Robert Redman, JBDC
Shawn Foster, JEDC

Jackson Strategic Planning Quarterly Review

Redefining Our Community Culture

March – June 2023

Accomplishments

- Quarterly meeting including other organizations
- Passed animal control ordinance
- Changed organization structure – Public Works Director
- More proactive on communication to community
- App is getting more exposure
- Agendas are posted on Facebook
- Two gathering events have been held

Victories

- Public Works Director
- Business Owners loved the personal notices when working on a project
- Newsletter
- Some blight control getting done
- Senior advisory committee formed

Challenges

- How much communication is too much and how much is too little
- Some still will hear what they want to hear (or don't want to hear)
- Misconstrued information on Facebook
- Lack of civility

Learnings & Recommendations

- Face to face with customers works great when communicating on a project
- How important tech terms are and making sure everyone actually understands
- Focused meetings on one topic

Next Steps

- Code enforcement update
- Get animal shelter in place
- Continue to improve relationships
- Chamber of Commerce being our event coordinator

Jackson Strategic Planning Quarterly Review

Prioritizing Infrastructure

March – June 2023

Accomplishments

- Secured housing developer
- Started the Emily Street project for utilities
- Analysis for USDA loan
- College electric underground project started
- Cleaned up parks – setting the example
- Accepted bid on water plant
- PFA funding application
- Approved airport bid
- Alley project
- New fire truck
- New ambulance

Victories

- Housing developer
- State law on local sales tax approved
- Last year projects halted by winter are getting done now
- Cleaned up the parks – setting the example
- Cabin area cleaned up
- Fields look great and inviting
- Departments working together
- Excited street department – improved culture

Challenges

- Streets in need of repair and funding needed
- Pool – collaboration school and city
- Need housing study updated
- Sales tax – bonding wasn't approved
- Lift station #4 is in litigation

Learnings & Recommendations

- This is a marathon not a sprint
- Face to face meetings with customers on projects

Next Steps

- Mediation dates set for lift station litigation
- Find out what needs to be done to update housing study
- Council needs to develop a plan for the sales tax proposal

Jackson Strategic Planning Quarterly Review

Enhancing Amenities and Appearance

March – June 2023

Accomplishments

- Channel 71 is running
- Frisbee golf
- Acquired some of the blight properties
- City hall improvement plan approved
- Parks and ballfields cleaned up
- Movement on code enforcement
- Scheduled events – car club, Tri4Health
- Successful Rebuilding Together Day
- Community garden
- Approved location for dog park
- Splash pad done early
- Off-road mountain bike single track at Belmont County Park
- More food trucks

Victories

- Channel 71 is running!
- Community garden
- Removal of dilapidated building downtown
- Rebuilding Together Day
- Alberta’s Field
- Splash pad done

Challenges

- The blight properties we have obtained
- Accepting outside vendors by existing businesses
- Coast to coast building
- Prairie Winds hotel property
- Econolodge
- Pool

Learnings & Recommendations

- Patience – legal process takes time
- Need plan for park infrastructure with utilities
- Parts for Channel 71 are difficult to find

Next Steps

- 90-day window for blight properties
- Long-term plan for Erickson lot
- Better shelter house than Lakefield
- Amenity task force/committee
- Amenity Plan
- Meeting with major employers
- Advertise multi-tenant building more

Jackson Strategic Planning Quarterly Review

Empowering Development

March – June 2023

Accomplishments

- Representation and collaboration at planning meetings
- Channel 71 is running
- Revolving Loan Fund for projects
- GIS of infrastructure has started

Victories

- Channel 71
- Getting everyone together for planning meeting
- Housing developer
- School working on CTE
- Removal of dilapidated building downtown

Challenges

- Revolving Loan Fund - scoping
- Overlap of work of different organizations
- Major layoff in our region could have trickle impact

Learnings & Recommendations

- We can use technology to enhance our communication and efficiency
- Working together – collaboration
- More communication between organizations and include utilities in those development conversations, they need to know as early as possible
- Quarterly update from each group

Next Steps

- Deeper collaboration between all groups
- Meeting with finance committee and JEDC
- City finances and project listing
- Housing grant application
- Get pricing to add electric to GIS
- Each group needs to develop their list of ideas, projects and proposals prior to next quarterly meeting