WORK SESSION - Tuesday July 9, 2025

Minutes of the Huntsville Town Council Work Session held at the Huntsville Town Hall 7474 E. 200 S., 6:00 p.m.

The work session was scheduled to discuss economic development strategies for Huntsville Town.

Attending: Mayor Richard Sorensen, TCM Sandy Hunter, TCM Bruce Ahlstrom, TCM Artie Powell, Jim Truett, Jeff Keeney, Kaitlyn Poulter, Grant Stanley, Ron Gault, Mikelle Weil, John S. Henderson, Sherry Crandall, Kevin Anderson, and Representative Jason Kyle, Nikki Wolthuis- Deputy Clerk

Tommy Christie, Huntsville Town's Economic Planning Committee Chair, began the meeting with a review of the financial performance of the town over the past two years. He spoke about the positive impact of the implemented taxation strategies, the rising costs across all Gov't departments, and the challenges of the water utility.

The committee discussed how a solid commercial core could enhance the community and generate commerce. They discussed the fact that many residents in Huntsville would like Huntsville to be a "bedroom community", but that it did not align with Huntsville's history, its current economic realities or its vision to be a resilient, independent town.

The committee reviewed the new name, purpose, vision, and objectives of the VISION Committee Charter. Mr. Christie stated that it was not a formal charter, but an internal guiding document to keep them aligned.

Finally, the committee had a brainstorming session on raising revenue and cutting costs. They discussed taxation, fees and fines, overhead, special events, commercial development opportunities, liquor laws, and their stake in Cemetery Point. Some ideas that came out of the session are listed below.

- A Powder Mountain Partnership
- Development of the 2 Lots North of Compass Rose
- A Commercial Opportunity: Form a group to create a mixed-use ordinance for review and consideration.
- Small Business Advocates: Small group to create a plan to partner with Local Businesses to support mutual success and economic vitality.
- Cemetery Point: Have Huntsville Town manage Cemetery Point.
- General Plan Update: Create a small group to engage in updating the General Plan (and, include the new Vision Statement)
- Liquor Laws: Work on amending proximity rules for small UT Towns
- Huntsville Town 501c3: Establish a non-profit to accept donations and endowments
- Financial Transparency and Education: Create a Financial Facts section of the Town Newsletter. Discussion on elevating the newsletter (and have print and digital versions)

- Overflow Parking Lot: Decide on the highest and best use of the property that runs adjacent to Compass Rose and the 2 North Commercial Lots.
- Snowbasin Partnership: Establish a strong partnership with Snowbasin in lead up to Olympics
- Olympic Committee: Form a relationship/partnership with Olympic Committee
- New City Partnership: Strategic partnership with the new city, especially District 5 City Councilmember
- Greenwaste: Review fees and yearly losses
- Special Events: Prioritize a new special event.
- Grants: Explore grant opportunities

*Minutes created from notes written by Tommy Christie

Meeting ended at 8:10 PM

Nikki Wolthuis, Deputy Clerk