

VILLAGE OF NORTH UTICA
801 South Clark Street
North Utica, IL 61373
Meeting of the Village Board of Trustees
And the Planning Commission
For a Joint Meeting
September 10, 2015
www.utica-il.gov

AGENDA

- I. 6:00 p.m. Call to Order
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Roll Call
 - 1.) Village Board of Trustees
 - 2.) Planning Commission
- IV. Public Community Open House Meeting for the discussion of updating the Comprehensive Plan
- V. Public Comment
- VI. Recommendations from the Planning Commission and Village Board
- VII. Adjournment

POSTED 9-5-15

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At 6:07 p.m. the meeting was called to Order by Village President Matt Jereb who then led the Pledge of Allegiance. Present at the meeting was as follows: Mayor Jereb, Village Clerk Laurie Gbur and Trustees John Schweickert, Dave Stewart, Ron Pawlak, Joe Bernardoni, John Pappas and Kevin Stewart. Also present at the meeting was Planning Commission Chairman Tom Guttilla and Members Doug Gift, Bill Fry and Roy Chapman. Members Matt Cetwinski, Warren Munson and Dennis Hamilton were absent from the meeting.

Mayor Jereb welcomed Teska and Associates and the members of the Community that were in attendance. Teska and Associates spent the day at the Village Office meeting with several people from Utica Organizations and Businesses as well as some of the Village Trustees and Mayor Jereb. Everyone provided thoughts on the future growth of the Village.

Mr. Mike Hoffman, Teska & Associates, then addressed the group. He engaged the group in an activity to write their idea of the #1 Utica 'priority' and post them on the wall. The notes were then categorized and it was determined that many people thought that the I & M Canal, Parks & Recreation and the future development of the Business District were top priorities in the Village.

Mr. Hoffman then presented a Power Point outlining several areas that would be addressed in the new Comprehensive Plan; a Guide to Utica's Future. He stated that a comprehensive plan will answer questions such as future land use, facilities planning, tourism growth and the impact of future traffic on the community.

He also provided numbers for both Utica and LaSalle County that indicated the approx. population, median age and income, housing and education criteria. He also shared information regarding traffic counts and current employment statistics.

He also stated that the plan should focus on the I-80 corridor and the Historic Core of the Village.

Everyone was then separated into 3 groups. Each group shared their ideas about Economic Development, Environmental issues and Business/Downtown development and issues with a member of Teska. Following the exercise, Mr. Hoffman shared the outcome with the group. The top priorities included restoration of the I & M Canal, flood control, housing growth and future development in the business community.

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Everyone was then given \$15,000 in paper money to place, as they wished, in envelopes marked with several issues in the Village. The #1 priority that people would like addressed was the I & M Canal restoration; followed by flood control as #2 and the future of Waltham Schools as #3.

Mr. Hoffman spoke about the information that was collected throughout the day and stated that Teska will take the information and utilize it to begin the updating of the Comprehensive Plan. Another meeting will take place on October 19th following the weekend visit of Zeitgeist who will be conducting a destination assessment to collect information on tourism. He also urged people to visit the website: www.PlanUtica.com for updates.

With no additional questions from the Village Board or the Planning Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Motion was made by Planning Commission Member Chapman, seconded by Member Fry.

Motion was made by Village Trustee Dave Stewart, seconded by Trustee Schweickert.

All in Favor

Motions Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie A. Gbur
Village Clerk
Village of North Utica