

Kindred City Council Special Meeting

Friday, May 3, 2019 @ 1:00pm

Kindred City Hall

Members present: Mayor DuBord, CMs Spelhaug, Amerman, Peraza.

Luncheon meeting was held at Morning Glory Café from 11:30am-12:30pm. Then boarded Kindred Vikings booster bus for tour of the City. Public meeting at Kindred City Hall opened at 1:15pm.

Kindred MSI visit notes – 5/3/19

- 80-90% of population commutes to Fargo for work
- Being close to Fargo is a blessing & a curse
- Off the interstate – destination town
- Thinking of branding as the “work from home community”

Assets:

- Blue Ribbon school system with stellar sports teams & music program
- Sidewalks throughout city – looking to revamp soon
- New water tower – 100k (twice as much as before)
- Little to no crime
- Sheyenne Grasslands in backyard
- Sheyenne river benefits
- Sales tax
- Community pool and memorial building – great sense of community volunteerism

Quality of Life:

- Figure out how to encourage residents to spend more of their money in the town versus on their way home from work in Fargo (shop local!)
- Create awareness of Wildlife Club (only \$35 a year to be a member)
- Would like to find a way to utilize the river as a community space (boat dock, parking, trails)
- Downtown buildings being used for car storage – want to rezone & reacquire buildings to be used to activate downtown
- Would like to add amenities to town
- Desire a new community rec center & possibly new city hall (connected?)
- Bring health care services to town

Workforce:

- Desire to bring more dining/food experiences to town (brewery, restaurant, true coffee shop)
- Provide opportunities to be employed in Kindred and people may not rely on Fargo jobs as heavily
- Desire to be known as a “work from home community” – potential for co-working space
- Need community spaces (i.e. coffee shop) where remote workers can work or spend time

Infrastructure:

- Update sidewalks, street lighting, streets, sewer system, community parking lots (will be paved soon)
- Want to beautify downtown, then businesses will want to be a part of it

- Need for affordable rental housing
- Great partnership with landowners around town for housing development
- Potential to implement a Renaissance Zone (partnership with Lake Agassiz Regional Council)
- Have a TIF district
- No natural gas; see this as a challenge to attracting certain types of businesses

Other:

- Potential to greatly increase community marketing through Instagram and Facebook
- Potential to participate in NDSU Extension Community Impressions program (would be a great match for Thompson!)
- Plan to establish Economic Development entity (structure under consideration) to lead community and economic development efforts.

Top Priorities:

- New community rec center (bigger & with air conditioning)
- Prepare for population growth by adding & growing amenities now
- Building renaissance zone to activate downtown area
- Marketing community (internally and externally)
- Affordable housing (rental and single family)

Mayor DuBord read a proclamation declaring the City of Kindred a Main Street ND Community.

Meeting adjourned at 2:48pm

Tabitha Arnaud, City Auditor

Jason DuBord, Mayor

Date approved