

**FAYETTEVILLE CITY COUNCIL  
STRATEGIC PLANNING RETREAT MINUTES  
DOROTHY GILMORE THERAPEUTIC RECREATION CENTER  
PURDUE DRIVE, FAYETTEVILLE  
JANUARY 30, 2024  
10:00 A.M.**

Present: Mayor Mitch Colvin

Council Members Katherine K. Jensen (District 1); Shakeyla Ingram (District 2); Mario Benavente (District 3); D. J. Haire (District 4); Johnny Dawkins (District 5); Derrick Thompson (District 6); Brenda McNair (District 7); Courtney Banks-McLaughlin (District 8); Deno Hondros (District 9)

Others Present: Douglas Hewett, City Manager  
Lachelle Pulliam, Interim City Attorney  
Adam Lindsay, Assistant City Manager  
Kelly Olivera, Assistant City Manager  
Jeffrey Yates, Assistant City Manager  
Jodi Phelps, Chief of Staff  
Kemberle Braden, Police Chief  
Moisbiell Alvarez, Interim Fire Chief  
Gerald Newton, Development Services Director  
Chris Cauley, Economic and Community Development Director  
Sheila Thomas-Ambat, Public Services Director  
Jerry Clipp, Human Resource Development Director  
Michael Gibson, Parks, Recreation and Maintenance Director  
Tyffany Neal, Transit Director  
Rose Rasmussen, Internal Audit Director  
Willie Johnson, Interim Chief Information Officer  
Robert Van Geons, FCEDC President/CEO  
Pamela Megill, City Clerk  
Members of the Press

**1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Colvin called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance.

**2.0 INVOCATION**

Council Member Thompson offered the invocation.

**3.0 ITEMS OF BUSINESS – FY 2023 STRATEGIC PLANNING RETREAT**

Mr. Robert Van Geons, FCEDC President/CEO, presented an Economic Update, and asked the City Council where they would like the FCEDC to focus our efforts on in 2024. Mr. Van Geons stated Fayetteville's centralized location on I-95 gives you easy and cost-effective access to your customers and supply. Mr. Van Geons provided a handout on statistics for Fayetteville that capture why it is a great place to live, work, and recreate, to open businesses, enter the workforce, and enroll in higher education.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Jeffrey Yates, Assistant City Manager, gave a presentation on the FY 23-24 Budget challenges and opportunities.

Discussion ensued.

The retreat continued and the following items were discussed and addressed: review of strategic priorities, consideration of roles identified, sort and prioritize strategic priorities, explore how to measure success, create decision filters for emerging priorities.

#### **4.0    ADJOURNMENT**

      There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at  
3:01 p.m.