

CITY OF MILFORD
MINUTES OF MEETING
November 27, 2017

A Strategic Plan Community Conversation meeting was held at Milford City Hall on Monday, November 27, 2017 at 2:00 p.m.

Presiding: City Manager Eric Norenberg

In Attendance: Mike Ashton, Dean Walston, Keith Johnson

Also: Recording Secretary Evan Miller Local Government Management Fellow

Attendees were asked to use colored dots provided to them and indicate their responses to the questions on the large sheets of paper on the walls. The summary of those answers is attached.

Upon completion of the dot exercise, the group engaged in discussions based upon a handout provided. A summary of the discussion is as follows and any written responses received are attached.

Safety: public safety, personal security and welfare, emergency preparedness

1. How could the City of Milford improve the overall feeling of safety in the coming 5 years?
 - Going in the wrong direction, but not for a lack of trying. The increasing need for safety continues to put pressure on the City's services, fighting an uphill battle
 - Different socioeconomic factors are challenging safety officials
 - There isn't a detrimental safety issue, but not familiar with all pockets of the City
 - Bayhealth would love to be able to partner to help in any way possible
 - Concern regarding how prepared the Milford Police Department is for an active shooter or similar situation. How quick can we respond and coordinate?
 - Don't have a level of comfort with training at the facility level if a scenario occurs that the facility is not used to
 - Experience with a slow ambulance response to medical issues, could be improved
2. How can greater "emergency preparedness" be achieved?
 - City hold briefings with large employers in order for these stakeholders to better understand the current climate and "hot spots"
 - Consider partnership with local agencies and have leadership to guide organizations through emergency situations
 - Need to be careful with what we call things (understand facility terms, locations, etc.), need to know chemistry of how an organization works
 - Consider annual walkthrough and training for emergency events with Milford Police Department and Fire Company)
3. Do you have any other thought related to safety?
 - Pedestrian safety with lighting and sidewalks, especially for employees who get off their shifts at night and may walk home.
 - Weather response for snow at large employment facilities like Perdue and Baltimore Aircoil
 - Sometimes employers have to plow streets or rescue employees during winter weather events so employees can get to work

Economic Health & Vitality: maintenance of a diverse economy (downtown, cost of living, employment)

1. What aspects of economic health are most important to you?
 - Reduce barriers to entry for businesses
 - More incentives for business versus in surrounding cities (Milton, Magnolia, etc.)