

City of St. Anthony
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
Minutes
January 27, 2026

Present:

Mayor & Council:

Mayor Wendy Webster, Councilmembers Lona Doolan, Jan Jenson, and Nadia Elnagdy (arrived at 5:54 p.m.)

Absent:

Councilmember Thomas Randle

Staff:

City Manager Charlie Yunker and Assistant City Manager Ashley Morello

Call to Order:

Mayor Webster called the Work Session to order at 5:49 p.m.

1. Approval of CC WS Meeting Minutes

A. January 13, 2026, Council Work Session Meeting Minutes

Motion by Councilmember Jenson, seconded by Councilmember Doolan, to approve the City Council Work Session Meeting Minutes of January 13, 2026, as presented.

Motion carried 3-0.

2. Work Session Topics

A. 2026 Goals Draft

Assistant City Manager Morello began the discussion with the Strategic Plan, providing a brief overview of the pyramid structure of the Plan and how often different items within are updated. She reviewed the draft goals that arose from the goal-setting sessions that occurred earlier this month.

Councilmember Elnagdy arrived.

Councilmember Jenson commented that the brochure was well done and walked through the process they worked through in the goal-setting sessions. He supported the brochure as presented.

Councilmember Doolan commented that she struggles with the difference between the thriving village goal and an informed and engaged community and found the definitions helpful to frame those distinctions. She saw the continuity between the goal-setting discussions and the pyramid. She appreciated seeing the ability for the City to be the bridge for information within the three center goals. She asked if there would be a similar opportunity within the environmental goal, as she also believed that would require dedicated outreach. She referenced the Anticipate 2026 document and asked how a resident or the Council would find the more robust actions for the bulleted items. She referenced fiscal and organizational strength and noted the new software capabilities. She suggested that an additional item be added to state, "maximizing the investment to expand or improve the financial oversight and management". She wondered if there would be an opportunity connection with regional engagement under informed and engaged. Mr. Morello provided additional information on how the Council and

residents would be informed of the progress on the various actions within the Plan. She noted that once adopted, staff would begin to map out how the bullet points link to the action steps.

Councilmember Jenson referenced the areas of communication under multiple goals and recognized that while they mainly communicate information out, it is also their job to listen. He appreciated how the Strategic Plan has been able to evolve over time and the additional engagement and input that was involved this year.

Councilmember Elnagdy commented that during the goal setting, she made a comment about the vague language used in the previous pyramid and stated that while the language has remained, it seems much more concrete as it has been tailored to smaller goals. Ms. Morello stated that the bullet points attempt to consolidate the bullet points into half a page and encompass a number of actions that will be completed throughout the year.

Mayor Webster stated that for a number of years, they have used the pyramid to explain the process and how they got there, and appreciated the brochure, which is a more accessible document for some. She recognized that while some goals are connected, when you review the details, you can also see how they are different.

Councilmember Doolan referenced an item about contractor selection for the Comprehensive Plan update and wondered if it was listed under the appropriate goal. Ms. Morello explained why she believes that fits under informed and engaged as presented. She explained the actions that would take place in 2026 to prepare for the Comprehensive Plan update that will have additional work in 2027. Mr. Yunker provided additional information on the technical information within the Comprehensive Plan that can easily be done by staff, and explained the broader community planning items that would involve this type of consultant.

Councilmember Doolan commented that after the listening session, she believes that more can be done to hear all the voices in the community.

Ms. Morello stated that this discussion was for informational purposes and this item will move forward to a regular Council meeting within the coming weeks.

3. Future Work Session Dates, Times, and Agenda Items

A. Future Agenda Items

Councilmember Jenson commented that the activity within the metro area will require deeper conversations to be had by the Council to determine what the City's role would be.

Councilmember Elnagdy referenced a memorandum received today related to potential ordinance amendments the City could take to limit the activity of ICE in the community and believed that those items should be further discussed. Councilmember Doolan stated that perhaps an agenda item could be added to a future worksession for additional discussion on that topic. She stated that she has received input from City Council members in other communities that they should perhaps discuss.

Mayor Webster stated that perhaps an additional worksession should be scheduled for that topic alone, where legal counsel could be present. Councilmember Jenson suggested that they hold that meeting sooner and not wait an additional two weeks.

Mayor Webster asked staff to find a meeting date that would work for that worksession. Mr. Yunker confirmed that staff could determine a date based on staff and consultant availability.

4. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda Staple
TimeSaver Off-Site Secretarial, Inc.