Call to Order

Janet Godwin called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

Welcome and Introductions

Godwin welcomed everyone and asked for introductions. Elected Officials introduced themselves as follows:

Iowa City City Council Members: Mayor Jim Throgmorton, Susan Mims, Rockne Cole, Pauline Taylor, John Thomas
North Liberty City Council Members: Mayor Terry Donahue, Chris Hoffman
Coralville City Council Members: Mayor John Lundell, Laurie Goodrich
Iowa City Community School District: Janet Godwin, Shawn Eyestone, Phil Hemingway, Paul Roesler
Johnson County Board of Supervisors: Janet Godwin, Shawn Eyestone, Phil Hemingway, Paul Roesler
Hills: Mayor Tim Kemp,
Tiffin: Mayor Steve Berner
University Heights: Mayor Louise From

Staff members from the school districts and local governments were in attendance as well as members of the public.

Update on FMP (ICCSD)

Superintendent Murley provided an update on the Facilities Master Plan (FMP). The FMP calls for projects to be complete by 2024. The District has been looking at opportunities to accelerate the projects to finish by 2021, which would amount to about a $10,000,000 savings. The Board has had several meetings to discuss acceleration and will have a work session on April 24 with the hope of taking action by the end of May. Godwin stated that a student potential analysis shows growth in the district and this would be an opportunity to accelerate building capacity where needed.

Solarized Johnson County (Board of Supervisors)

Becky Soglin, Johnson County Sustainability Coordinator, reported on a group purchasing program for residential solar. The program is offered by Johnson County, six partner cities (Iowa City, Coralville, North Liberty, Solon Shueyville, and West Branch), and the Midwest Renewable Energy Association and allows homeowners throughout Johnson County and West Branch to participate in a program to pool their buying power and secure significant discounts that make installing solar more affordable. Solar Power Hours are information sessions on the basics of solar, its financial implications for your household, and how the Solarize program works. Solar Power Hours will be held on various dates through August 2, 2018. Moxie Solar, installers, will provide free on-site (no obligation) assessments. Those interested have until August 31, 2018 to decide whether to get solar through the program. The program is offered to homeowners or businesses and it does not matter which power company provides you service.
Update on Attendance Area Work (ICCSD)

Godwin reported on an initiative to balance elementary schools with no more than 50% FRL. Research suggests balanced schools perform better and there are strong positives for moving in that direction. A process is being planned to engage the community yet this school year about the vision we are trying to accomplish, why it is so important, and to solicit input from the community. Proposals will be developed from that input and brought back to the community for further input in the fall. Any solutions will be voted on by December to allow time to communicate, understand, and implement change. The Board will potentially be looking at sister schools and magnet schools and boundaries will be part of the discussions as well. The Board recognizes there will be implications, such as transportation, and will be looking for partners in the community to help solve and work through those impacts. The Board recognizes the benefits to all stakeholders long term by going this direction and appreciates the support in the process. The Board is very committed to better equity for elementary schools. Eyestone added it is a multi-tier process. The work now is to communicate the why: to improve the equity piece in schools. People really need to understand and buy into it. The why comes first, then the how. Godwin stated there will be holistic supports to help people through the change and the change needs to be sustainable. Cole stated this process was tried 3-4 years ago and inquired what lessons learned from that process. Godwin stated intestinal fortitude, long-term urban planning, and being very clear on goals, benefits, and vision of what is to be accomplished. Transportation is a huge expense and we need to work together for ways to provide transportation to students in a fair and safe way. Carberry stated that it is an entire community problem, not just a school problem. Concentrated affordable housing does not help, there is a need to mixed housing as we move forward. Hoffman encouraged Godwin to continue to reach out the municipalities for support and help.

I-380 (City of Iowa City)

Mayor Throgmorton reported that the Department of Transportation (DOT) is soliciting views regarding the widening of I-380 from Forevergreen Road north. The City Council directed Throgmorton to write a letter to the DOT expressing their views concerning the widening. The Council has a strong desire to collaborate effectively and would like to convene a working group of elected officials go through concerns to see if they can modify them or improve them in a way we know would work on a regional scale and be mutually satisfactory. Green-Douglass inquired if it was a little late for this as the plan is already in progress. It is too late for the third lane but not for a fourth lane. North Liberty, Johnson County, and Coralville expressed interest to work with Iowa City. There are implications for schools if ICCD would like to be involved too. Fruin will help organize the group and will invite Cedar Rapids, Swisher, and Shueyville to participate. Sullivan encouraged them to include Marc Moen as well.

Gateway/summer/fall road project update (City of Iowa City)

Ron Knoche reported on construction projects for the 2018 calendar year including Gateway project (North Dubuque Street), Pedestrian Mall project, Clinton Street and Burlington Street intersection, HMA overlay (Governor Street, Burlington Street, South Johnson Street), and HMA overlay Highway 6/Riverside Drive.

Other Business

Rettig reported that May is Older American’s Month and provided a hand out of five May events Livable Community is holding.

Hoffman reported on today’s Chamber of Commerce luncheon that included a presentation by Jennifer Daly President and CEO of ICR Iowa, introducing the new name and brand of the Joint Venture between ICAD and the Cedar Rapids Metro Economic Alliance. He encouraged anyone who did not attend to research it.

Kelly Hayworth reported that temporary signals are in place for the closure of a portion of HWY 965 that will last approximately 2.5 months.
Geoff Fruin reported that at 10:00 am tomorrow Iowa City would unveil their RAGBRAI theme. They are looking at City Park for the main campsite and downtown will hold the entertainment. They will have more specifics after May 1. Rettig stated she is the co-chair of the housing committee and they are looking for homes to host riders. Mayor Kemp reported that Hills is looking forward to being a pass through town for RAGBRAI.

Mayor Donohue reported that the UI North Liberty health care clinic is phasing down to one doctor.

Next Meeting

North Liberty will host the next meeting on July 16, 2018.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:19 pm.