

CITY OF HELENA
REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING
April 21, 2014
6:00 P.M.

- Time & Place*** A regular City Commission meeting was held on Monday, April 21, 2014 at 6:00 p.m., in the Commission Chambers, 316 N. Park Avenue, Helena, Montana.
- Members Present*** Mayor Pro Tem Elsaesser indicated for the record that Commissioners Ellison, Haque-Hausrath and Haladay were present. Mayor Smith was excused. City Manager Ron Alles, City Attorney Jeff Hindoien and City Clerk Debbie Havens were present. Others present were John Forbes representing the Helena Citizens Council.
- Pledge of Allegiance*** Mayor Pro Tem Elsaesser asked those persons present to please stand and join him in the pledge of allegiance.
- Minutes*** The minutes of the regular City Commission meeting of April 7, 2014 were approved as submitted.
- Proclamation*** PROCLAMATION:
A. Arbor Day
- Mayor Pro-Tem Elsaesser read the Arbor Day proclamation and presented it to Parks & Recreation Director Amy Teegarden.
Director Teegarden noted the formal event will be held on Friday, April 26th at 12:00 noon at Pioneer Park where two trees will be planted. The two trees have been donated by a woman in memory of her loved ones. Director Teegarden extended the invitation to the Arbor Day event to the city commission.
Commissioner Ellison recognized the importance of trees in the city and the importance of recognizing Arbor Day.
- Board Appointments*** BOARD APPONTMENTS:
A. Tourism Business Improvement District
- Mayor Smith submitted his recommendation to appoint Lynn Svir to the TBID. First term to begin upon appointment and expire April 20, 2018.
- Public comment*** Mayor Pro Tem Elsaesser asked for public comment, none was received.
- Motion*** **Commissioner Haque-Hausrath moved approval of the appointment of Lynn Svir to the TIBD. First term to begin upon appointment and expire April 20, 2018.** Commissioner Haladay seconded the motion. All voted aye, motion carried.
- Consent Agenda*** CONSENT AGENDA:
A. Claims
B. Final passage of Ordinance 3190 amending the official zoning map, for a zone change form R-0 (Residential Office) District and R-3-T #25 (Residential) District to B-2 (General Commercial) District; for property legally described as Lots 3-11 in Block 8 of the Flower Garden

Addition and Lots 12-14 in Block 9 of the Flower Garden Addition.

Ordinance 3190

City Manager Ron Alles recommended approval of the claims and the consent agenda.

Commissioner Haque-Hausrath referenced Ordinance 3190 and noted this area is being rezoned for development. For the record, Commissioner Haque-Hausrath stated the property included in the zone change is over groundwater contaminated with tetrachloroethene and is part of the Helena Solvent Site. City staff and developers needs to be aware of the contamination, and any structure should be built with a radon mitigation system, which would also address the contamination.

Public comment Mayor Pro Tem Elsaesser asked for public comment, none was received.

Motion **Commissioner Haladay moved approval of items A and B on the consent agenda.** Commissioner Ellison seconded the motion. All voted aye, motion carried.

Communications

COMMUNICATIONS/PROPOSALS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Ellison recognized the Public Works Department for the preliminary work that has been completed to begin accepting plastics at the transfer station on Tuesday, April 22nd. He indicated he plans on participating in the program.

Mayor Pro Tem Elsaesser also commented on the city kicking off the acceptance of plastics on Earth Day. He noted he has visited the site and believes with some improvements it will be a great program.

Report of the City Attorney

REPORT OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

No report was given.

Mayor Pro Tem Elsaesser asked if there is any update on the easement for the Henderson Bridge from MRL. City Attorney Hindoiien stated there is nothing new to report.

Mayor Pro Tem Elsaesser spoke on the importance of getting the easement in order to move forward with the construction of Henderson Bridge.

Report of the City Manager

REPORT OF THE CITY MANAGER

A. City Manager Alles reported he sent a letter to MDT today to authorize the expenditure of \$5,000 in CTEP funding for the Bike/Walk Helena program.

B. Presentation of Fiscal Year 2015 Preliminary Budget

City Manager Alles recognized and thanked Administrative Services employees for their guidance and work on the preliminary budget. He also recognized all employees involved in the preparation of the preliminary budget. He then presented to the commission the FY15 Preliminary Budget. Items included in the presentation included the following:

- Constraint Budgeting
- Resource Challenges
- Within Constraints
- Graphs on where the money comes from and where the money goes for FY 2015

- Personnel
- Notable in Preliminary Budget Items
- Schedule of Budget Meetings
- Budget Hearing Monday, June 23rd

Commission discussion Mayor Pro Tem Elsaesser noted by accepting the budget, it does not obligate the commission to accept any and/or all recommendations.

Commissioner Ellison appreciates the overview of the budget and looks forward to the discussion during the budget work sessions. He specifically appreciated the overview of the notable preliminary budget items and the importance of a COLA and the cost savings on the health insurance.

Commissioner Haque-Hausrath concurred with Commissioner Ellison's comments. She particularly appreciates the goal of reinstating one firefighter position.

Mayor Pro Tem Elsaesser appreciates how transparent the budget process is and noted the citizens are welcome to attend the budget work sessions.

Public comment Mayor Pro Tem Elsaesser asked for public comment, none were received.

Motion ***Commissioner Ellison moved to accept the Fiscal Year 2015 Preliminary Budget and the CCIP as presented by City Manager Alles.*** Commissioner Haque-Hausrath seconded the motion. All voted aye, motion carried.

Report from the Helena Citizens Council

REPORT FROM THE HELENA CITIZENS COUNCIL

HCC member John Forbes reported the HCC has a dynamic group and invited the commission to come and meet the new members. The April meeting will include presentations from Community Gardens and the Police Department. The HCC will also have an open discussion on the recycling program.

Public Communications

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

No public communications were given.

Meetings of Interest

MEETINGS OF INTEREST

The next Administrative Meeting is April 30, 2014 and the next Commission Meeting is May 5, 2014.

Commission Budget Work Sessions – April 23 & 28, 2014 – 3:00 p.m. – City-County Bldg. - Room 326

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Mayor James E. Smith

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Commission