



HCC Full Board Meeting
AGENDA
March 27th, 2024
Room 326 or via Zoom
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84335916863>

7:00PM Call to Order

1. Attendance – Quorum established
2. Approval of February Full Board Minutes
3. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items
4. City Commission Update

7:10PM – City Attorney Rebecca Dockter speaks about protocol for HCC members regarding outreach on ballot issues, levies and the Local Government Review.

7:20PM Police Chief Petty (Police) and Chief Campbell (Fire) speak about Public Safety and what Helena needs.

7:50PM Officer Reports

Chair – Ben Kuiper

Vice Chair- Lowell Chandler MPO update

Secretary – Diana Hammer

Treasurer – Lori FitzGerald Budget updates

8:00PM Unfinished Business

1. More Details about Budget Process with dates
 - a) Prioritize/Discuss previous budget recommendation that were not acted upon

8:15PM New Business

1. Future Recommendations
 - HACF (Helena Area Community Foundation) needs more monetary input from City

8:25 PM Commission Attendees' Reports –

3/6– Janet Zimmerman – I attended this meeting by zoom. I reported the 25 of the 28 positions on the HCC council were filled, the council had reviewed and passed the 2025 budget, and the league of women voters had given us a presentation on the review. The meeting began with the discussion of a pending proposed fair market housing study, Cost to be shared by the city of Helena, Lewis and Clark county and Helena Housing Authority. Completion of the study will allow Helena Housing Authority to apply for low income housing Grant several million dollars. City Managers' report with update on the pending education and public safety plan. There is a potential mill levy and bond proposed after the June 4 election. It was suggested to contract a consulting firm to review and advise on a proposed public information campaign. Focused on importance of keeping education and advocacy issues separate per legal guidelines. Lengthy discussion of selecting artwork for walking trail tunnels at Centennial and on Lyndale .Over 20 proposals submitted and reviewed. Slides were presented and criteria for selection discussed. Discussion of lack of Montana artists represented. Final selection postponed.

The strategic plan review continues. Content is being added and adopted. No public comment was submitted.

General fund savings projects updates, discussion of family promise building purchase, public restroom construction at Constitution park and need for women's shelter in Helena. Engineers positive report on status of city water storage and treatment facilities. Included discussion of Ten-mile watershed, Eureka well, and the Missouri river treatment plant. The conclusion was Helena has plenty of good quality water with excellent potential for the future and infrastructure is sound. Short discussion of sidewalk construction policies and frequency of requested variances. One public comment regarding a specific recent case.

3/11 – Anna Kratz - Everything they voted on passed 5-0. Consider approval of Community Aid Grant Agreements – Commission approved funding for the Business Improvement District, Exploration Works, Helena Regional Sports Association, and the Friendship Center. Considered two sidewalk variance requests. Both were approved. Consider a Resolution modifying the distribution of Helena Affordable Housing Trust Funds to United Housing Partners, LLC, for new multi-family housing construction. Approved, term loan change. SLIPP programs considered and approved - bioreactor replacement at the Wastewater Treatment plant and ADA ramp replacements around town - both approved. Right of way ordinance last updated in 2013, revised and updated. Approved. Consider a Resolution to Establish Fees to be Charged for the Last Chance Splash Waterpark & Pool and Repealing Resolution No. 20820 – fee increase passed 5-0, commission asked the city to consider how to reduce fees for city residents (proving residency) and WIC and SNAP recipients in the future. Consider a Resolution to Establish Fees to be Charged for the Bill Roberts Municipal Golf Course. Passed, an impassioned senior citizen made a comment about how the fees for seniors were being raised, but not greens fees and punch cards. Golf Advisory Board did not realize this but said \$50 didn't seem inappropriate due to rising staff costs and golf cart costs. Fee increase approved 5-0.

One public comment made about recycling bins abutting houses on McHugh, city manager Burton will look into that with the county commission.

3/20 – Pat Bik -

3/25 – Chase Eaton

8:40PM **Coordinator Report** – Peggy Benkelman

Answers Zoom Webinar Questions – panelists vs attendees

8:42PM **Outreach Committee Report** – Emily Mowers

8:45PM **Boards & Standing Committees – How to handle receiving Board Meeting Info.**

HCC Volunteers to attend these advisory boards/committees and give written updates

City-County Planning Board – John Andrew – no February meeting

Helena Public Arts Committee – Paige R. Myers

Non-Motorized Travel Advisory Council – Lowell Chandler

Citizen Conservation Board – Sydney Ausen

Solid Waste Master Plan Meetings – Denise R. Barber

City-County Library Board – Anna Kratz

Golf Advisory Board – Bob Schlack

City-County Consolidated Parks Board – Pat Bik & Samuel Brown

Affordable Housing Trust Fund- Pat Bik & Brenda Valerio

Water Quality Protection Board – Diana Hammer

MPO – when meetings begin

9:00PM **Meeting Adjourned**