

CITY OF HELENA
City Commission Meeting
April 11, 2022 - 6:00 PM
Zoom Online Meeting; <https://zoom.us/j/94500054039>
& Commission Chambers, City-County Building, Room 330

Time & Place

A regular City Commission meeting was held on Monday, April 11, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom Online Meeting ID: <https://zoom.us/j/94500054039> and in the City Commission Chambers, Room 330.

Call to Order and Roll Call

Mayor Collins requested City Clerk Clayborn call roll call: Interim City Attorney Coate, Interim City Manager Burton, Commissioner Dean, Commissioner Feaver, Commissioner Logan, Commissioner Reed and Mayor Collins all responded present and participated in person, with exception of Commissioner Reed who participated virtually.

Pledge of Allegiance

(00:00:25) Mayor Collins asked those persons present to please stand and join him in the pledge of allegiance.

Minutes

(00:00:50)

- A. March 23, 2022 – City Commission Administrative Meeting
- B. March 23, 2022 – City Commission Special Meeting
- C. March 28, 2022 – Regular City Commission Meeting

With no objections, the minutes were entered into the record as written.

Presentations

- A. Approve Confirmation of Officer Jose Guerrero

(00:01:35) Interim Police Chief Petty presented Item A to the City Commission.

(00:04:03) Officer Guerrero addressed the Commission.

(00:04:54) Commissioner Dean moved to approve confirmation of Officer Jose Guerrero. Commissioner Feaver seconded the motion. The motion carried 5:0.

(00:05:30) Members of the Commission expressed their support for the officer and welcomed him to the City of Helena Police Department.

Consent Agenda

(00:06:15)

A. Claims

(00:07:00) Commissioner Dean made a motion to accept Consent Agenda Items A. Commissioner Feaver seconded the motion. The motion carried 5:0.

B. Approve Grant Funding from State of Montana Board of Crime Control for the High-Risk Team for the Helena Police Department.

(00:08:13) Interim Police Chief Petty gave a brief report on Consent Agenda Item B.

(00:10:00) Commissioner Reed congratulated the Police Department for receiving the grant and thanked them for their work on this.

(00:10:30) Commissioner Dean expressed support for this program.

(00:11:15) There were no public comments.

(00:11:23) Commissioner Logan made a motion to approve Grant Funding from State of Montana Board of Crime Control for the High-Risk Team for the Helena Police Department. Commissioner Dean seconded the motion. The motion carried 5:0.

Communications/Proposals from the Commissioners

(00:11:58) Mayor Collins recognized April 10th through the 16th as 911 Dispatcher week and thanked staff for their efforts to assist the Helena community.

(00:12:40) Interim Police Chief Petty updated the Commission that three (3) additional dispatchers were geared up to be added to the existing seven (7) dispatchers.

(00:13:35) Commissioner Logan encouraged the rest of the Commission to review the dispatch center PDF he shared on his Commissioner Facebook page.

(00:17:03) Commissioner Feaver thanked Interim City Manager Burton and staff for putting together their report on what the city might anticipate receiving from the recreational marijuana tax. In conclusion, Commissioner Feaver expressed his personal support to have both medical and recreational marijuana taxed.

Report of the City Attorney

(00:14:36) Interim City Attorney Coate had nothing to report.

Report of the City Manager

(00:14:42) Interim City Manager Burton informed the Commission that he has been spending most of his time reviewing the budget, specifically the Community Development Department, Fire Department, the Civic Center, Human Resources Department and the Bill Roberts Golf Course. Mr. Burton confirmed he would complete his agency review this week and his goal was to have a draft schedule for the Commission before the end of the week.

(00:15:41) In addition, Interim City Manager Burton informed the Commission that the city would be adding two new significant hires to the team: 1) the City Attorney, and 2) the Community Development Director. This announcement will come in the next few days.

Communications from the Helena Citizens Council

(00:16:25) HCC representative, Emily Mowers gave a report.

Regular Items

A. Move to Approve Final Passage of an Ordinance Amending City of Helena Ordinance No. 3097 and Amending the Official Zoning Map for the City of Helena for a Zone Change from CLM (Commercial Light Manufacturing) District to R-O (Residential Office) District for Lots 33 through 40 of Block 5, Lots 6 through 12A of Block 4, Lots 13A through 15 of Block 4, and Lots 33 through 40 of Block 4; and from B-2 (General Commercial) District to R-O (Residential Office) District for Lots 29 through 32 of Block 4, in the Woodlawn Park Addition to the City of Helena, Montana.

(00:19:34) Planner II, Michael Alvarez addressed the Commission and gave a report on Regular Item A.

(00:24:43) Discussion was had between Commissioner Reed and Planner Alvarez regarding why a zone change was opted for rather than a Conditional Use Permit (CUP).

(00:27:06) Commissioner Logan asked Planner Alvarez if seven of the eight lots were already developed with the eighth lot's owner planning to build a single-family home on it. Planner Alvarez confirmed that was correct.

(00:27:37) There were no further comments or questions from the Commission.

(00:27:40) There were no public comments.

(00:28:03) Mayor Collins expressed appreciation to staff for their due diligence in notifying the public of this proposed zoning change.

(00:28:33) Commissioner Logan made a motion to Approve Final Passage of an Ordinance Amending City of Helena Ordinance No. 3097 and Amending the Official Zoning Map for the City of Helena for a Zone Change from CLM.

(Commercial Light Manufacturing) District to R-O (Residential Office) District for Lots 33 through 40 of Block 5, Lots 6 through 12A of Block 4, Lots 13A through 15 of Block 4, and Lots 33 through 40 of Block 4; and from B-2 (General Commercial) District to R-O (Residential Office) District for Lots 29 through 32 of Block 4, all of which properties are in the Woodlawn Park Addition to the City of Helena, Montana. Commissioner Dean seconded the motion. The motion carried 5:0.

(00:29:51) Commissioner Feaver expressed appreciation to staff for their due diligence in notifying the public of this proposed zoning change.

- B.** Consider a Resolution Establishing an Operating Cash Loan from the General Fund to the Streets Fund for the Purpose of Funding the Completion of Phase II of the Rodney Street Improvement Project.

(00:30:29) Finance Director, Sheila Danielson addressed the Commission and gave a report on Regular Item B.

(00:31:27) There were no comments or questions from the Commission.

(00:31:38) There were no public comments.

(00:31:51) Commissioner Dean stated she was supportive of this motion and thanked Director Danielson for her work on this project.

(00:32:20) Commissioner Feaver concurred with Commissioner Deans comments and spoke in support of the project.

(00:32:44) Commissioner Dean made a motion to Approve a Resolution establishing an Operating Cash Loan from the General Fund to the Streets Fund for the purpose of funding the completion of Phase II of the Rodney Street Improvements Project. Commissioner Feaver seconded the motion. The motion carried 5:0.

- C.** Consider the enlargement of sanitary sewer service boundary for a new single-family dwelling located at 215 Alfalfa Road.

(00:33:32) Public Works Director, Ryan Leland addressed the Commission and gave a report on Regular Item C.

(00:32:27) Discussion was had between Commissioner Feaver and Director Leland regarding the surrounding properties previously connected to city services and their endorsement for the proposed property.

(00:39:24) Commissioner Dean asked Director Leland if the proposed property was within the Urban Standards Boundary. Director Leland confirmed it was just outside of the Urban Standards Boundary. Discussion was had regarding the number of properties in the vicinity that were approved or denied for annexation into the city.

(00:42:54) Commissioner Feaver spoke in support of the proposal stating he was familiar with the area and was sympathetic for the property owners and the issues stemming from the water table in that area. However, the Commissioner expressed the need for further discussion on offering city services to properties outside of the city.

(00:44:34) Interim City Manager Burton concurred with Commissioner Feaver's comments and briefly described the history of these city service connections. Mr. Burton spoke in support of having a more in-depth conversation with the governing body about pending annexations and the potential issues surrounding them.

(00:46:25) Commissioner Dean asked staff for further clarification regarding the plans for Tract 33-A since it was currently only Tract 33-B that was being proposed the hook up to city services. Director Leland explained that at this time, only Tract 33-B was being proposed to connect to city services and if the property owners wished to connect Tract 33-A in the future, then they would need to return to the Commission and complete the same process.

(00:48:09) In conclusion, Commissioner Dean stated she would not be supporting this item explaining there were potentially hundreds of properties within the Urban Standards Boundary that the city will need to annex within the next decade. Due to the expense and the proposed property not currently being within the Urban Standards Boundary, Commissioner Dean was not in favor of approving this item. Commissioner Dean sympathized with the property owners and stated that she wished there were more records to refer to from when this line was originally put in.

(00:49:39) Commissioner Logan highlighted the point that when the line originally went in, the property owner at the time allowed the City and the Fort to access a portion of their private property with the understanding that the property would be allowed to connect into the line should they choose to develop the property. Commissioner Logan concluded by stating he would be supporting this item.

(00:51:00) The property owner, Christine Goodhue addressed the Commission and spoke in favor of an enlargement of sanitary sewer service boundary with conditions for a new single-family dwelling located at 215 Alfalfa Road.

(00:56:17) The previous property owner, Bill Abney addressed the Commission and spoke in support of this item as well as outlined the history of the verbal agreement between him, the City, and Fort Harrison.

(01:01:53) There were no further public comments.

(01:02:00) Commissioner Logan made a motion to Approve with conditions the enlargement of the sanitary sewer service boundary to include the Goodhue property located at 215 Alfalfa Road. If approved, the property owner must sign the attached development agreement, and purchase sewer capacity in the Stone Meadows pump station in the amount of \$112.56 for the proposed residence. Commissioner Feaver seconded the motion. The motion carried 4:1.

- D. Resolution to Amend Resolution No. 19818 that created Special Improvement Lighting District No. 222 to alter the boundaries by adding Twenty-two streetlights and to add property in SILD No. 222 in the City of Helena, Montana.

(01:03:09) Interim City Attorney, Erik Coate apologized to the Commission and stated he noticed a mistake in one of the legal documents he drafted for Finance Director Danielson after this item was submitted for the meeting's agenda. In conclusion, Mr. Coate asked recommended the Commission table the item and allow him time to fix the error before bringing it back at a later date.

(01:03:51) Commissioner Dean move to table a resolution to Amend Resolution No. 19818 that created Special Improvement Lighting District No. 222 to alter the boundaries by adding Twenty-two streetlights and to add property in SILD No. 222 in the City of Helena, Montana. Commissioner Feaver seconded the motion. The motion carried 5:0.

- E. Move to Approve of Temporary Pay Matrix Ex Post Facto for Temporary Employees for Fiscal Year 2022 and Fiscal Year 2023.

(01:05:00) Interim City Manager, Tim Burton addressed the Commission and gave a report on Regular Item E.

(01:07:06) Discussion was had between Commissioner Reed and Mr. Burton regarding what the standard process would look like.

(01:09:56) Commissioner Feaver thanked Interim City Manager Burton and staff for bring the item forward. The Commissioner spoke in favor of the item.

(01:11:09) Discussion was had between Commissioner Dean and Interim City Manager Burton on how the Departments planned to fund the expected salary increases within the constraints of their budget authority and what aspects the Commission should take into consideration.

(01:13:07) There were no further comments or questions from the Commission.

(01:13:15) There were no public comments.

(01:13:27) Commissioner Feaver made a motion to Approve a Temporary Pay Matrix Ex Post Facto for Temporary Employees for Fiscal Year 2022 and Fiscal Year 2023. Commissioner Dean seconded the motion. The motion carried 5:0.

Public Hearings

- A. Resolution amending the Revised Final Budgets, Budget Authorities, and Appropriations for Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022, for the City of Helena, Montana, by Amending Resolution No. 20705 to increase Appropriations by \$8,326,112.

(01:14:20) Finance Director, Sheila Danielson addressed the Commission and gave a report on Public Hearings Item A.

(01:17:25) There were no comments or questions from the Commission.

(01:17:30) There were no public comments.

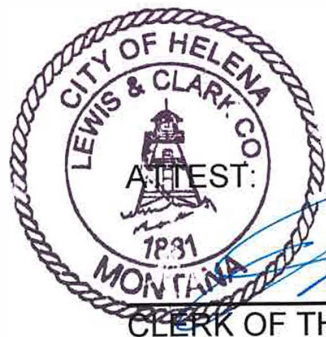
(01:17:57) Commissioner Logan made a motion to Approve a Resolution amending the Revised Final Budgets, Budget Authorities, and Appropriations for Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022 for the City of Helena, Montana by Amending Resolution No. 20705 to increase Appropriations by \$8,326,112. Commissioner Feaver seconded the motion. The motion carried 5:0.

Public Communications


(01:18:45) There were no public comments.

Adjournment

(01:19:05) There being no further business to come before the City Commission, the meeting adjourned at 7:19 p.m.



CLERK OF THE CITY COMMISSION


MAYOR

