



**City of Helena
City Commission Meeting
October 16, 2023 – 6:00 PM
Zoom Online Meeting; <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84566218474>
City County Building Commission Chambers, Room 330**

Time & Place

A regular City Commission meeting was held on Monday, October 16, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom Online Meeting ID: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84566218474> and physically in the City County Building Commission Chambers, Room 330.

Call to Order and Roll Call

(00:00:55) The following responded present, either via zoom or in person:

City Attorney Dockter
City Manager Burton
Mayor Pro Tem Dean
Commissioner Shirtliff
Commissioner Logan
Commissioner Reed

The following were absent:

Mayor Collins

Pledge of Allegiance

(00:02:00) Mayor Pro Tem Dean asked attendees to please stand and join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

A. 9-25-23 Commission Meeting

(00:02:24) **There being no comments or questions from the Commission, Mayor Collins accepted Minutes A.**

Consent Agenda

A. Claims

(00:02:49) Finance Director Danielson presented Item A.



(00:03:32) Commissioner Logan made a motion to approve Consent Agenda Item A. Commissioner Shirliff seconded the motion.

(00:03:48) Mayor Pro Tem Dean called for a vote.

Mayor Pro Tem Dean voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Logan voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Reed voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**
Mayor Collins voted: **Absent**

The motion carried 4:0.

Bid Award

A. Community Facilities – Bid Award for the Law and Justice Center Pillar Building Re-Roof Project #CF-3916

(00:04:17) Facilities Superintendent Sampson presented Item A.

(00:06:35) Commissioner Logan asked Superintendent Sampson about the project timeline pending approval.

(00:07:10) Mayor Pro Tem Dean asked Superintendent Sampson about the lifespan of the new roof system.

(00:07:48) Commissioner Shirliff made a motion to approve Bid Award for the Law and Justice Center Re-Roof Project #CF-3916 to the lowest responsive bidder, Baker & Sons Roofing, Inc in the amount of \$145,646. Commissioner Logan seconded the motion.

(00:08:10) Mayor Pro Tem Dean called for a vote.

Mayor Pro Tem Dean voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Logan voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Reed voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**
Mayor Collins voted: **Aye**

The motion carried 5:0.

Communications/Proposals from Commissioners

(00:08:39) Commissioner Reed discussed utilizing a facilitator for the Emergency Housing Working Group.



(00:09:40) Mayor Pro Tem Dean asked Manager Burton for an update from the Working Group at a later meeting.

Report of the City Attorney

(00:10:37) City Attorney Dockter discussed a recent court decision regarding House Bill 359.

Report of the City Manager

(00:13:44) City Manager Burton discussed the City Court's Fines for Food Program and the recent Montana League of Cities and Towns Conference held in Helena, thanking Staff.

(00:15:43) Mayor Pro Tem Dean thanked City Staff.

(00:16:02) Commissioner Reed asked Manager Burton about the economic impact of the Conference.

Communications from the Helena Citizens Council

(00:16:52) HCC Representative Susan Steffens discussed recent and upcoming meeting agenda items.

(00:18:12) Mayor Pro Tem Dean requested a written report from the HCC regarding recommendations.

Regular Items

A. Consider a Resolution allocating additional General Fund Savings created from accepting United States Treasury State and Local Recovery Grant Funds and declaring all Grant Funds as Revenue Loss used for General Government services.

(00:20:18) Director Danielson presented Item A.

(00:21:36) Commissioner Reed asked Director Danielson about the status for the funds allocated previously and requested an overview.

(00:23:34) Mayor Collins asked Director Danielson about the process for fund dispersal.

(00:25:16) Manager Burton discussed the process for dispersal and intention to provide an update at a subsequent meeting.



(00:26:17) **Commissioner Shirliff made a motion to approve a Resolution allocating additional General Fund Savings created from accepting United States Treasury State and Local Recovery Grant Funds and declaring all Grant Funds as Revenue Loss used for General Government services and to distribute and additional \$47,500. Commissioner Reed seconded the motion.**

(00:26:46) Mayor Pro Tem Dean called for a vote.

Mayor Pro Tem Dean voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Logan voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Reed voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**

Mayor Collins voted: **Aye**

The motion carried 5:0.

(00:27:10) Mayor Pro Tem Dean explained why Mayor Collins is not the Chairperson for this meeting.

B. Consider the acceptance of the Montana DES State Homeland Security Program Grant to Enhance the Physical Security of the Helena-Lewis and Clark County 911 Communication Center

(00:27:42) Police Chief Petty presented Item B.

(00:29:44) **Commissioner Logan made a motion to approve the acceptance of the Montana DES State Homeland Security Program Grant funding. Commissioner Shirliff seconded the motion.**

(00:30:00) Mayor Pro Tem Dean called for a vote.

Mayor Pro Tem Dean voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Logan voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Reed voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**

Mayor Collins voted: **Aye**

The motion carried 5:0.

C. Consider Curb & Gutter Variance Request for 2211 Hauser Blvd

(00:30:28) Transportation Systems Director Knoepke presented Item C.



(00:31:30) Mayor Pro Tem Dean asked Director Knoepke about the timeline for Special Improvement Districts given the condition of waived rights to protest.

(00:33:22) **Commissioner Logan made a motion to approve Curb & Gutter Variance allowing a waiver of protest for any future SID to be signed in lieu of installation of curb and gutter along Elizabeth Street excluding that portion of curb and gutter along the ADA curb ramp sidewalk extensions. Mayor Collins seconded the motion.**

(00:33:57) Mayor Pro Tem Dean called for a vote.

Mayor Pro Tem Dean voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Logan voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Reed voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**

Mayor Collins voted: **Aye**

The motion carried 5:0.

D. Consider Curb & Gutter Variance Request for 1918 Wilder Avenue

(00:34:26) Director Knoepke presented Item D.

(00:35:35) Commissioner Reed discussed concerns about variances.

(00:36:36) Commissioner Shirliff discussed concerns about variances.

(00:37:43) Mayor Pro Tem Dean asked Director Knoepke for clarification about the type of variance for this Item.

(00:38:04) Mayor Collins discussed looking at variance requests more closely in context.

(00:39:20) Brian Coplan provided public comment, requesting an update from the ADA Advisory Committee regarding previous, related projects.

(00:40:33) **Commissioner Logan made a motion to approve Curb and Gutter Variance allowing a waiver of protest for any future SID to be signed in lieu of installation of curb and gutter along Wilder Avenue. Commissioner Shirliff seconded the motion.**

(00:40:50) Mayor Pro Tem Dean called for a vote.

Mayor Pro Tem Dean voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Logan voted: **Aye**



Commissioner Reed voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**

Mayor Collins voted: **Aye**

The motion carried 5:0.

E. Consider Sidewalk Variance Request for 1527 Jerome

(00:41:16) Director Knoepke presented Item E.

(00:43:42) Commissioner Logan discussed his reasoning for support.

(00:44:05) Commissioner Reed discussed her reasoning for support with additional concerns.

(00:45:07) Mayor Pro Tem Dean asked Director Knoepke about the possibilities for snow storage in this area and if a small boulevard is viable.

(00:48:40) Commissioner Shirliff asked Director Knoepke about eligibility for a sidewalk loan.

(00:49:53) Brittany Garcia provided public comment, advocating for approval.

(00:51:42) Commissioner Reed asked Attorney Dockter and Director Knoepke about procedure and boulevard addition.

(00:54:20) **Commissioner Logan made a motion to approve Sidewalk Variance allowing curbside sidewalk along Jerome Place and Harris Street. Commissioner Mayor Collins seconded the motion.**

(00:54:43) Mayor Pro Tem Dean called for a vote.

Mayor Pro Tem Dean voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Logan voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Reed voted: **No**

Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**

Mayor Collins voted: **Aye**

The motion carried 4:1.

Public Hearings

A. Consider a Resolution to include parklet fees and adopt the schedule in its entirety to be charged by the Helena Transportation Systems Department



- (00:55:25) Transportation Systems Deputy Director Couey presented Item A.
- (00:59:18) Commissioner Reed asked Deputy Director Couey about fee specifics for four spaces.
- (01:00:08) Mayor Pro Tem Dean asked Deputy Director Couey about difficulty making determinations due to common parking kiosk codes.
- (01:01:12) John Dendy provided public comment, thanking City Staff and the Commission for their work.
- (01:02:04) Mayor Pro Tem Dean thanked Staff for their work.
- (01:02:29) **Commissioner Reed made a motion to approve a Resolution to include parklet fees and adopt the schedule in its entirety to be charged by the Helena Transportation Systems Department. Commissioner Shirliff seconded the motion.**
- (01:02:48) Mayor Pro Tem Dean called for a vote.
- Mayor Pro Tem Dean voted: **Aye**
- Commissioner Logan voted: **Aye**
- Commissioner Reed voted: **Aye**
- Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**
- Mayor Collins voted: **Absent**
- The motion carried 4:0.**

Public Communications

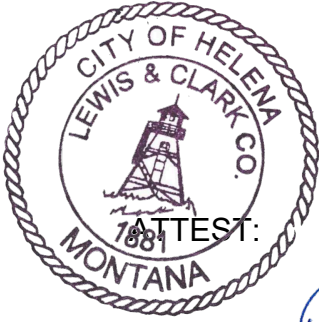
- (01:03:25) Brian Coplin provided public comment, requesting the addition of presenter information for each agenda item, advocating for hybrid board meeting structures in the interest of accessibility, proposing a black mold task force, and advocating for Access to Communication Programs for vulnerable populations in the community.
- (01:13:06) Mayor Pro Tem Dean addressed public comment.

Adjournment

- (01:14:16) There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 7:15pm.



City of
Helena



MAYOR

CLERK OF THE CITY COMMISSION