



**City of Helena
City Commission Meeting
August 7, 2023 – 6:00 PM
Zoom Online Meeting; <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84842307812>
City County Building Commission Chambers, Room 330**

Time & Place

A regular City Commission meeting was held on Monday, August 7, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom Online Meeting ID: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84842307812> and physically in the City County Building Commission Chambers, Room 330.

Call to Order and Roll Call

(00:00:11) The following responded present, either via zoom or in person:

City Attorney Dockter
City Manager Burton
Commissioner Dean
Commissioner Shirtliff
Commissioner Logan
Commissioner Reed
Mayor Collins

Pledge of Allegiance

(00:01:07) Mayor Collins asked attendees to please stand and join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

- A. 7-19-23 Admin Meeting
- B. 7-24-23 Commission Meeting
- C. 8-2-23 Admin Meeting

(00:01:45) There being no comments or questions from the Commission, Mayor Collins accepted Minutes A, B, and C.

Consent Agenda

- A. Claims



B. Approval of a resolution declaring various vehicles owned by the City of Helena to be surplus property and authorizing the City Manager to dispose of that property.

(00:02:45) Manager Burton and Finance Director Danielson recommended approval of Claims.

(00:03:25) **Commissioner Dean made a motion to approve Consent Agenda Items A and B. Commissioner Logan seconded the motion.**

(00:03:44) Mayor Collins called for a vote.

Commissioner Dean voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Logan voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Reed voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**

Mayor Collins voted: **Aye**

The motion carried 5:0.

Bid Award

A. Bid Award for Groundwater Test Wells Phase II Project #19-38

B. Bid Award for City of Helena New Public Water Supply Wells Project #19-38

(00:04:32) Engineer Clarke presented Items A and B.

(00:05:17) Commissioner Dean asked Engineer Clarke about the typical number of bids for a drilling project.

(00:06:01) Commissioner Dean asked Engineer Clarke about the significance of establishing groundwater rights before 2025.

(00:07:28) **Commissioner Dean made a motion to approve a Bid Award for Groundwater Test Wells Phase II Project #19-38 to the lowest responsible bidder, O'Keefe Drilling Company Inc. in the amount of \$706,500 base bid for ten test wells and additional established non bid costs of \$11,750. This results in a total contract/bid amount of \$718,250. Commissioner Shirliff seconded the motion.**

(00:08:02) Mayor Collins called for a vote.

Commissioner Dean voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Logan voted: **Aye**



Commissioner Reed voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**

Mayor Collins voted: **Aye**

The motion carried 5:0.

(00:08:53) Commissioner Dean made a motion to award the City of Helena New Public Water Supply Wells Project #19-38 to the lowest responsive bidder O’Keefe Drilling Company, Inc. in the amount of \$599,600 base bid for ten test wells and additional established non bid costs of \$2,230.50. This results in a total contract/bid amount of \$ 601,830.50. Commissioner Shirliff seconded the motion.

(00:09:30) Mayor Collins called for a vote.

Commissioner 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. Bid Award to Repair the Historic Fire Tower Restoration Project #23-0923

(00:09:56) Parks Superintendent Marr presented Item C.

(00:10:48) Commissioner Logan made a motion to award the Repair of the Historic Fire Tower Project #23-0923 to the lowest responsible bidder Porter and Associates in the amount of \$255,033. Commissioner Reed seconded the motion.

(00:11:13) Mayor Collins called for a vote.

Commissioner 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



- (00:11:30) Commissioner Reed discussed allocating \$100,000 to addressing emergency shelter needs.

Report of the City Attorney

- (00:14:20) Mayor Collins acknowledged Attorney Dockter and Manager Burton for their work regarding a recent court case.
- (00:14:32) City Attorney Dockter had nothing to report.

Report of the City Manager

- (00:14:40) City Manager Burton had nothing to report.

Communications from the Helena Citizens Council

- (00:14:51) HCC Representative John R Andrew discussed recent and upcoming meeting agenda items.

Regular Items

A. Consider a resolution for the Eric Feaver Trail Dedication

- (00:16:08) Open Lands Manager Langsather presented Item A.
- (00:17:37) Commissioner Reed thanked Staff for their work.
- (00:18:10) **Commissioner Shirliff made a motion to approve the relocation of the northernmost portion of the Mike Cormier Trail off privately owned property and onto public right-of-way platted as an unconstructed portion of Mauldin Street. Furthermore, move to approve the naming of the relocated trail as the "Eric Feaver Trail" from its northern intersection with the Le Grande Cannon Walking Path, southward to its eventual union with the Ambrose and Quarry Trails. Commissioner Dean seconded the motion.**
- (00:18:44) Mayor Collins called for a vote.
- | | |
|------------------------------|------------|
| Commissioner Dean voted: | Aye |
| Commissioner Logan voted: | Aye |
| Commissioner Reed voted: | Aye |
| Commissioner Shirliff voted: | Aye |
| Mayor Collins voted: | Aye |



The motion carried 5:0.

B. 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.

- (00:19:17) Director Danielson presented Item B.
- (00:21:02) Commissioner Dean asked Manager Burton and Director Danielson about the next conversation regarding allocation.
- (00:22:51) Commissioner Reed asked Manager Burton and Attorney Dockter about the process and timeline for accountability following allocation.
- (00:25:45) Commissioner Reed sought updated information from Family Promise regarding their application and proposed project. Executive Director Bauer addressed Commissioner Reed's question.
- (00:26:47) Director Danielson addressed Commissioner Reed's question about the timeline.
- (00:27:39) Commissioner Logan, Director Danielson, and Commissioner Reed discussed concerns regarding Item 7 within the Resolution.
- (00:31:08) Business Improvement District Director Dendy addressed questions raised by Commissioner Logan.
- (00:33:13) Commissioner Shirliff asked Director Dendy about the comparisons of portable restrooms rather than the proposed solution.
- (00:35:43) **Commissioner Reed made a motion to amend 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 distributing an additional \$920,600 and adding an additional \$100,000 to identifying solutions for emergency shelter for unhoused members of our community. Commissioner Dean seconded the motion.**
- (00:36:33) Commissioner Dean asked Commissioner Reed about existing applications addressing concerns, next steps, and considerations regarding Lewis and Clark County.



- (00:39:18) Commissioner Logan asked Commissioner Reed about how the \$100,000 will be spent.
- (00:40:14) Commissioner Shirliff thanked Commissioner Reed for her work with the unhoused population in question.
- (00:40:48) Commissioner Dean asked Manager Burton about the next steps should the amendment pass.
- (00:41:41) Mayor Collins expressed support and the need for urgency.
- (00:42:15) Commissioner Logan asked Attorney Dockter about the motion language and specifics.
- (00:43:28) Commissioner Shirliff asked Director Danielson about the remaining amount of funding.
- (00:44:12) Mayor Collins called for a vote.
Commissioner Dean voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Logan voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Reed voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**
Mayor Collins voted: **Aye**
The motion carried 5:0.
- (00:44:33) SK Reier provided public comment, advocating for solutions for unhoused populations in Helena.

C. Consider a Resolution Expanding the Boundaries of the Open Space Maintenance District No. 1 for Fiscal Year 2024

- (00:46:12) Director Danielson presented Item C.
- (00:47:30) **Commissioner Dean made a motion to approve a Resolution Expanding the Boundaries of the Open Space Maintenance District No. 1 for Fiscal Year 2024. Commissioner Logan seconded the motion.**
- (00:47:42) Mayor Collins called for a vote.
Commissioner 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 a Resolution Expanding the Boundaries of the Street Maintenance and Improvement District No. 1 for Fiscal Year 2024

(00:48:00) Director Danielson presented Item D.

(00:48:35) **Commissioner Logan made a motion to approve a Resolution Expanding the Boundaries of the Street Maintenance and Improvement District No. 1 for Fiscal Year 2024. Commissioner Dean seconded the motion.**

(00:49:02) Mayor Collins called for a vote.

Commissioner 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 First Passage of an Ordinance adopting the 2021 International Fire Code

(00:49:28) Fire Chief Campbell presented Item E.

(00:50:19) **Commissioner Reed made a motion to approve First Passage of an Ordinance adopting the 2021 International Fire Code. Commissioner Logan seconded the motion.**

(00:50:30) Mayor Collins called for a vote.

Commissioner Dean voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Logan voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Reed voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**

Mayor Collins voted: **Aye**

The motion carried 5:0.

Public Hearings

A. Consider a Resolution to set fees charged by the Transportation Systems Department



- (00:50:50) Transportation Systems Deputy Director Couey presented Item A.
- (00:52:15) Commissioner Reed asked Deputy Director Couey for clarification regarding parklet fees.
- (00:54:35) Mayor Collins asked Deputy Director Couey and Dire about the number of businesses utilizing the parklet program currently and additional applications received.
- (00:54:54) Mayor Collins asked Deputy Director Couey and Director Knoepke about how the original fee compares to the proposed fee changes.
- (00:55:50) Mayor Collins, Director Knoepke, Commissioner Reed, and Commissioner Dean discussed fee changes regarding the Blackfoot River Brewing Company's parklet usage.
- (00:57:08) Commissioner Dean asked Director Knoepke about capping Option 1 (proposed during a previous meeting) at \$2,500.
- (00:59:20) Commissioner Shirliff asked Director Knoepke about the possibility of keeping transit rates for seniors and disabled populations at \$1.
- (01:01:05) Commissioner Reed asked Attorney Dockter about only voting on a portion of the resolution.
- (01:02:35) Director Knoepke discussed the timeline for fees taking affect.
- (01:02:58) **Commissioner Reed made a motion to approve a Resolution to set fees charged by the Helena Transportation Systems Department with the exception of the parklet fee, which is to be discussed further at the next Administrative Meeting.**
- (01:03:20) Commissioner Logan, Attorney Dockter, and Commissioner Reed discussed the procedure of amending motions.
- (01:07:35) **Commissioner Reed withdrew the original motion.**
- (01:07:46) **Commissioner Logan made a motion to approve a Resolution to set fees charged by the Helena Transportation Systems Department. Commissioner Dean seconded the motion.**
- (01:08:00) **Commissioner Dean made a motion to amend the previous motion to exclude parklet fees from the resolution. Commissioner Shirliff seconded the motion to amend.**



- (01:08:35)** Commissioner Reed discussed communications and concerns from local businesses considering utilizing the parklet program.
- (01:09:30)** Commissioner Dean discussed contextual considerations and proposed Option 1 with a \$2,500 cap up to five spaces.
- (01:13:02)** Commissioner Logan discussed revenue loss considerations and expressed support for Option 1.
- (01:13:31)** Mayor Collins discussed revenue loss considerations and expressed support for Option 1.
- (01:14:22)** Commissioner Logan asked Commissioner Reed for clarification of the motion and amendment language.
- (01:15:15)** Attorney Dockter clarified the procedure.
- (01:16:00)** Director Dendy provided public comment, requesting a decision on parklet fees be delayed.
- (01:17:40)** Mayor Collins called for a vote.
- Commissioner Dean voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Logan voted: **No**
Commissioner Reed voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**
Mayor Collins voted: **No**
- The motion to amend carried 3:2.**
- (01:18:40)** Mayor Collins called for a vote on the original motion as amended.
- Commissioner Dean voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Logan voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Reed voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**
Mayor Collins voted: **Aye**
- The motion carried 5:0.**

Public Communications

- (01:19:10)** Rad (last name unknown) provided public comment, advocating for resources for unhoused populations in Helena.
- (01:22:56)** Alton Tally provided public comment, advocating for resources for unhoused populations in Helena.



- (01:26:06) Emily McVey provided public comment, advocating for resources for unhoused populations in Helena.
- (01:28:10) Theresa Ortega provided public comment, advocating for resources for unhoused populations in Helena.
- (01:30:04) Dr. Gregory Thomas provided public comment, advocating for resources for unhoused populations in Helena.
- (01:30:55) Commissioner Dean asked Manager Burton for updates about emergency bed availability and funding mechanisms going forward.

Adjournment

- (01:34:37) There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 7:35pm.



CLERK OF THE CITY COMMISSION

MAYOR