



City of Helena
City Commission Meeting
April 8, 2024 – 6:00 PM
Zoom Online Meeting; <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88341379793>
City County Building Commission Chambers, Room 330

Time & Place

A regular City Commission meeting was held on Monday, April 8, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom Online Meeting ID: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88341379793> and physically in the City County Building Commission Chambers, Room 330.

Call to Order and Roll Call

(00:00:48) The following responded present, either via zoom or in person:

Acting City Attorney Hawkaluk
City Manager Burton
Commissioner Dean
Commissioner Shirtliff
Commissioner Reed
Mayor Collins

The following were absent:

Commissioner Logan

Pledge of Allegiance

(00:01:32) Mayor Collins asked attendees to please stand and join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

- A. 2-21-24 Admin Meeting
- B. 2-26-24 Commission Meeting
- C. 3-6-24 Admin Meeting
- D. 3-11-24 Commission Meeting
- E. 3-20-24 Admin Meeting
- F. 3-25-24 Commission Meeting



(00:02:18) There being no comments or questions from the Commission, Mayor Collins accepted Minutes A, B, C, D, E, and F.

Presentations

A. Confirmation of Officer Justin Gibson and Officer Seth Montgomery

(00:03:00) Police Chief Petty presented Officer Justin Gibson and Officer Seth Montgomery.

(00:08:07) **Commissioner Dean made a motion to approve the confirmation of Officer Justin Gibson and Officer Seth Montgomery. Commissioner Shirliff seconded the motion.**

(00:08:17) Commissioner Dean, Commissioner Shirliff, Commissioner Reed, and Mayor Collins welcomed and congratulated the Officers

(00:09:41) Mayor Collins called for a vote.

Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Logan voted: **Absent**

Commissioner Reed voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Dean voted: **Aye**

Mayor Collins voted: **Aye**

The motion carried 4:0.

Consent Agenda

A. Claims

(00:10:40) Controller/Treasurer Kruzich presented Item A.

(00:11:19) **Commissioner Reed made a motion to approve Consent Agenda Items A. Commissioner Dean seconded the motion.**

(00:11:27) Mayor Collins called for a vote.

Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Logan voted: **Absent**

Commissioner Reed voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Dean voted: **Aye**

Mayor Collins voted: **Aye**



The motion carried 4:0.

Communications/Proposals from Commissioners

(00:11:37) There were no communications or proposals from the Commissioners.

Report of the City Attorney

(00:11:41) Acting City Attorney Hawkaluk had nothing to report.

Report of the City Manager

A. Leukemia Lymphoma Society Annual Stair Climb Event Results

(00:11:47) Fire Chief Campbell presented Item A.

(00:14:18) Commissioner Reed thanked and congratulated the Firefighters.

(00:14:56) Firefighters Gustafson and Reather addressed the Commission.

(00:17:12) Commissioner Shirliff thanked and congratulated the Firefighters.

(00:17:43) Commissioner Dean thanked and congratulated the Firefighters.

Communications from the Helena Citizens Council

(00:18:50) HCC Representative Anna Kratz discussed recent and upcoming meeting agenda items.

Regular Items

A. Reconsideration of a Sidewalk Variance Request for Twin Creek Apartments, Lot 5A, Block 4 of the Sleeping Giant Addition Subdivision, previously considered as item 9A on the March 11, 2024 Regular Commission meeting agenda

(00:19:30) Transportation Systems Director Knoepke presented Item A.

(00:22:37) Commissioner Reed asked Director Leland about stormwater routing considerations and if an alternative is possible.

(00:24:30) Ben Tintinger of Mosaic Architecture provided public comment, advocating for approval.

(00:30:25) Commissioner Shirliff asked Mr. Tintinger about additional costs related to alternative sidewalk options, and about accessibility considerations.



- (00:33:00) Developer Seth O’Connell provided public comment, advocating for approval.
- (00:35:12) Commissioner Reed asked Developer O’Connell about the plan for snow removal and storage.
- (00:36:33) Bryson Busca of Golden Eagle Construction provided public comment, advocating for approval.
- (00:38:00) Sean Higley of WMC Engineering provided public comment, advocating for approval.
- (00:40:03) Commissioner Dean asked Mr. Higley about pedestrian safety.
- (00:42:07) Commissioner Reed explained her voting rationale.
- (00:43:20) **Commissioner Reed made a motion to approve a sidewalk placement variance allowing curbside placement along the Dorothy and Alice Street rights-of-way adjacent to Lot 5A, Block 4 of the Sleeping Giant Addition Subdivision. Commissioner Shirliff seconded the motion.**
- (00:44:00) Commissioner Dean explained her voting rationale.
- (00:46:57) Commissioner Shirliff explained his voting rationale.
- (00:48:50) Commissioner Reed asked Mr. Tintinger about additional safety considerations.
- (00:52:43) Mayor Collins called for a vote.
- Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**
- Commissioner Logan voted: **Absent**
- Commissioner Reed voted: **Aye**
- Commissioner Dean voted: **No**
- Mayor Collins voted: **Aye**
- The motion carried 3:1.**

B. Consider Authorization for staff to void stale dated checks

- (00:53:10) Controller/Treasurer Kruzich presented Item B.
- (00:53:38) Commissioner Reed asked Controller/Treasurer Kruzich for clarification of a dollar amount.
- (00:54:30) Manager Burton recommended tabling Item B in response to informational discrepancies.



- (00:54:39) **Commissioner Dean made a motion to table authorization of staff to void the fourteen stale dated checks listed on Exhibit A for a total amount of two hundred thirty-two dollars and fifty seven cents (\$232.57). Commissioner Shirliff seconded the motion.**
- (00:54:50) Mayor Collins called for a vote.
Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Logan voted: **Absent**
Commissioner Reed voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Dean voted: **Aye**
Mayor Collins voted: **Aye**
The motion to table carried 4:0.

Public Hearings

- A. Previously Tabled - Consider a variance to increase the maximum building height from 60 to 92, related to a cellular tower, for a property in a CLM zoning district with the address of 1414 Orange Avenue**
- (00:55:30) Planner Holland presented Item A.
- (00:55:47) Commissioner Shirliff asked Community Development Director Brink about the memo presented to the Commission.
- (00:57:06) Commissioner Dean asked Director Brink about the FAA's position on this Item.
- (00:58:03) A member of the community provided public comment, expressing opposition.
- (01:02:52) Anne Hogley provided public comment, expressing opposition.
- (01:06:08) Commissioner Dean thanked Staff for their work and acknowledged public comments.
- (01:08:35) **Commissioner Dean made a motion to approve a variance from Section 11-4-2 (Table 2) (CLM) to increase the maximum building height from 60' to 92' for a property in a CLM zoning district with a legal description of lot 2a of doc. No 3305614: located in the NE1/4 of section 20, township 10 north, range 3 west, p.m. Montana, Lewis & Clark County. Commissioner Shirliff seconded the motion.**
- (01:09:18) Mayor Collins called for a vote.



(01:09:30) Commissioner Shirliff thanked Staff for their work and acknowledged public comments.

Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Logan voted: **Absent**
Commissioner Reed voted: **No**
Commissioner Dean voted: **Aye**
Mayor Collins voted: **Aye**

The motion carried 3:1.

(01:11:00) Mayor Collins asked Attorney Hawkaluk about what would happen had the Item failed.


Public Communications

(01:11:55) There were no further comments or questions from the Commission and/or public.

Adjournment

(01:12:02) There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 7:13pm.




MAYOR



CLERK OF THE CITY COMMISSION