



**City of Helena  
Administrative Meeting  
March 8, 2023 – 4:00 PM  
Zoom Online Meeting; <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83064142623>  
City County Building, Room 326**

**Time & Place**

A City Commission Administrative meeting was held on Wednesday, March 8, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. via Zoom Online Meeting ID: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83064142623> and physically in the City County Building, Room 326.

**Call to Work Session, Introductions**

**(00:00:04)** The following responded present, either via zoom or in person:

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

**Commission Comments, Questions**

**(00:01:04)** Commissioner Dean acknowledged International Women’s Day and recognized the passing of Journalist Chuck Johnson.

**(00:01:50)** Mayor Collins introduced the public comment timer.

**Recommendations from the Helena Citizens Council**

**(00:02:20)** HCC Representative Nancy Perry thanked the Commission, welcomed City Manager Tim Burton, and discussed recent and upcoming meeting agenda items.

**(00:04:42)** Mayor Collins asked Ms. Perry how many requests were regarding sports facilities.

**(00:05:35)** Commissioner Dean recommended the HCC be given the list following this meeting.



## City Manager's Report

- (00:06:04)** City Manager Burton discussed a recent article in the Independent Record regarding engineering staff.
- (00:07:38)** Public Works Director Leland discussed interest in engineering vacancies.
- (00:08:35)** Commissioner Reed asked Manager Burton about options for short term employment or via long term contract services.
- (00:10:20)** Director Leland discussed an additional notice to the public regarding disinfection byproduct contaminants.

## Presentations

### A. ARPA and General Fund Savings Update

- (00:11:43)** Manager Burton discussed the timeline of ARPA Funding decisions thus far and introduced City Grants Administrator Opitz.
- (00:12:40)** Grants Administrator Opitz presented Item A.
- (00:16:12)** Mayor Collins asked Administrator Opitz, Manager Burton, and Facilities Superintendent Sampson about the Law and Justice Center Project.
- (00:21:27)** Commissioner Reed asked Administrator Opitz for the amount for the Wildland Firetruck.
- (00:22:18)** Commissioner Reed asked Mayor Collins about the process of the discussion and decision points.
- (00:23:48)** Commissioner Logan explained his funding priority project considerations and explained addition of aid to the Rodney Street Tree Replacement project.
- (00:32:40)** Commissioner Reed explained her funding priority project considerations.
- (00:35:54)** Commissioner Dean explained her funding priority project considerations.
- (00:48:50)** Commissioner Shirliff thanked Administrator Opitz, Finance Director Danielson and staff, and explained his funding priority project considerations.
- (00:58:00)** Director Danielson asked Commissioner Shirliff for clarification of the allocation amount of one of his specified items.



- (00:58:18)** Mayor Collins, Commissioner Logan, and Commissioner Dean discussed the need for more information regarding the Rodney Street Tree Replacement project before proceeding.
- (00:59:26)** Mayor Collins explained his funding priority project considerations.
- (01:03:35)** Director Danielson asked Mayor Collins for clarification of amounts for Kay's Kids and the Solar Loan project.
- (01:04:23)** Manager Burton suggested processing this information for review at the next administrative meeting.
- (01:05:20)** Commissioner Reed requested the Commission decide on common priority projects now and continue the rest of the allocation discussion at another meeting.
- (01:06:24)** Commissioner Dean suggested posting the list of proposed allocations to the website.
- (01:06:56)** Commissioner Logan and Commissioner Shirtliff asked Commissioner Reed which common priority projects she was referring to.
- (01:08:20)** Grants Administrator Opitz discussed the timeline for allocations and specifics.
- (01:09:40)** John Gross provided public comment, advocating for the Our Redeemer project.
- (01:11:12)** Nathan Kosted provided public comment, advocating the Our Redeemer project.
- (01:13:10)** Teal Young provided public comment, advocating for the Our Redeemer project.
- (01:15:26)** Kim Gardner provided public comment, advocating for the Our Redeemer project.
- (01:17:46)** Jen Gursky provided public comment, advocating for the Our Redeemer project.
- (01:20:16)** Amy Teegarden provided public comment, advocating for the Tri-County Firesafe Working Group project.
- (01:21:34)** Charlie Gross provided public comment, advocating for the Carroll College project.
- (01:22:54)** Jacob Kunts provided public comment via zoom, advocating for the Our Redeemer project.
- (01:25:14)** Renee Bower provided public comment via zoom, advocating for the Family Promise project.



- (01:27:00)** Mayor Collins, Commissioner Logan, Commissioner Shirliff, and Commissioner Dean discussed funding the Tri-County Firesafe Working Group project.
- (01:28:00)** Mayor Collins, Commissioner Logan, Commissioner Shirliff, and Commissioner Dean discussed funding the Helena Food Share project.
- (01:28:33)** Mayor Collins, Commissioner Logan, Commissioner Shirliff, and Commissioner Dean discussed funding the Our Redeemer project.
- (01:29:57)** Commissioner Dean summarized the allocation amounts for each agreed upon project.
- (01:30:29)** Mayor Collins suggested the average proposed amount be allocated to the Our Redeemer project.
- (01:31:06)** Commissioner Dean explained her reasoning for funding the Our Redeemer project.
- (01:32:40)** Director Danielson confirmed the average to be \$1.58 million.
- (01:33:40)** Mayor Collins confirmed consensus for the average amount allocation to Our Redeemers.
- (01:33:35)** Director Danielson confirmed consensus for the Wildland Firetruck.
- (01:34:09)** Commissioner Logan asked Director Danielson for the total amount committed.
- (01:34:47)** Manager Burton explained the next steps for distributing allocation.
- (01:35:21)** Director Danielson confirmed the amount of remaining funds.

## **Adjournment**

- (01:35:26)** There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 5:34pm.