



HCC Full Board Meeting

AGENDA
August 28th 7:00-9:00PM

Zoom:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82453265404>

or in person Room 326

7:00PM Call to Order

1. Attendance – Quorum established
2. Approval of July Full Board Minutes
3. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items
4. City Commission Update
5. Welcome new District #5 member Katie Ryan
6. Approve new applicants for District #5 -

7:10 PM Officer Reports

Chair – Ben Kuiper

Vice Chair- Sonda Gaub

Secretary – Diana Hammer

Treasurer – Lori FitzGerald

PM Unfinished Business - none

7:30 PM New Business

Speaker Ellie Ray – City of Helena Planning Department

8:00 PM Commission Attendees' Reports –

8/7 Susan Steffens - Dust abatement proposal was presented and discussed. Commission taking it under advisement. Big Sky Railway is still asking for support, but Sean Logan (commissioner) was not ready to voice support- feels it was a county issue. The passenger rail committee is asking for a 4000 dollar stake from the city in the project- no decision yet. Federal government wants city partnership and if not the route could bypass Helena as the route has been approved by the Federal Government. Stop signs addressed at the downtown intersection. This is technically an MDT route and they are unable to fix the light electrical boxes. The city has said that in a survey people liked the stop signs but pedestrians were concerned about crossing the street there. Some alternative ways to help pedestrians cross such as blinking/flashing lights are being looked at. There has been no new update on the restroom facility downtown, yet. ARC - regional sports facility has done a feasibility study and it looks like there would be major economic benefits to Helena if the sports facility came here. They are moving forward and looking for funding. Non profits presented that had received grants from the city. Tri- county fire is working on outreach to inform the public. Exploration works is enclosing the deck on top of their building into an additional classroom. Good Samaritan is collaborating with other facilities to help enlarge facilities to provide shelter for more women. Transportation systems presented their capital plan - still getting feedback from the public. CMS feasibility study was presented on how to retain workers in the city. Continue with accelerating wage growth in order to retain workers.

8/12 Sydney Ausen –

Arborist Outstanding Service Award: Missoula had a storm on July 24th with winds up to 100mph. Two City of Helena staff volunteered to go to Missoula and assist in cleaning up the damage: Jerry Parker and Gabe King. Both employees went to Missoula on Friday, July 26th through Tuesday July 30th, working everyday to help the city of Missoula rebound. Gabe and Jerry were presented with outstanding service awards.

FY24 Budget Carry Overs to FY25: Most of the carry overs are capital projects related. Most of the capital projects are run over a span of 1-5 years, so it's typical to see these long range capital projects come before the City for carry over. Proposed carry over for this year is approximately \$44million and most of it is related to water and wastewater funds. This figure is inline with what they had last year, but this is an unusually big number.

HCC Appointment: Katie Ryan's appointment for District 5 passed.

Consent Agenda: Commission granted a non-exclusive 10 ft wide utility easement across City owned property known as the Centennial Trail to Montana Internet Corporation to install underground fiber optic infrastructure.

No report from the City Attorney or City Manager.

Regular Items: There were a series of resolutions that the Commission approved regarding the intention to levy assessments. Many of these assessment rates are standard and aren't a change from previous years (assessments for snow removal on public rights of way, assessment for water and wastewater, assessments for street lighting, etc.). However, there is one assessment increase: the Solid Waste Collection assessment. There will be a Public Hearing on August 24th regarding this assessment increase.

Zoning change item postponed because notice didn't include zoning map.

Item on Capitol complex traffic plan postponed until more outreach can be done. Open house Aug. 14th 4-6pm.

Public Hearings: The Commission had 2 public hearings at their meeting. The first was on a Resolution to set fees to be charged for various land use and subdivision review applications within the Planning Division of the Department of Community Development. There was little discussion or public comment and the resolution passed.

The second hearing was regarding the revision of the ordinance regulating signage in Helena. The board of adjustments was there to present why the changes were needed to standardize the process and regulating for approving/ disapproving signage because as currently written the regulations are both cumbersome and open to speculation. There was robust opposition to some of the revisions from single companies (YESCO, Lamar, etc.) around the fee structure for signage. Ultimately the resolution was tabled for final consideration at the next Commission meeting to allow for the business community to work with the City to find a solution to the fee structure.

8/21 John Andrew

8/26 Ryan Schwochert –

8:15PM Coordinator Report – Peggy Benkelman

8:20PM Outreach Committee Report – Emily Mowers

HCC Volunteers to attend these advisory boards/committees and give written updates

City-County Planning Board – John Andrew
Helena Public Arts Committee – Paige R. Myers
Non-Motorized Travel Advisory Council – Open
Citizen Conservation Board – Sydney Ausen
Solid Waste Master Plan Meetings – Denise R. Barber
City-County Library Board – Anna Kratz
Golf Advisory Board – Bob Schlack
City-County Consolidated Parks Board – Pat Bik
Affordable Housing Trust Fund- Pat Bik
MPO -

9:00PM Meeting Adjourned