



**CITY OF HELENA
Zoning Commission
October 10, 2023 – 6:00 PM
Meeting Minutes
Recording Available**

Members Present:

Rebecca Harbage (Chair), Kim Wilson (Vice-Chair), Alyssa Sorenson, Betsy Story,
Nicole Anderson

Staff Present:

Christopher Brink, Stephen Shirley, April Sparks

(0:01:42) Call to Order and Roll Call – It was noted that a quorum was present with five members in attendance.

(0:03:16) Minutes – Minutes from the September 12, 2023 meeting were approved.

Regular Items

Item 1

Staff Presentation and Questions for Staff

(0:04:05) Stephen Shirley, Planner I, gave a brief presentation on making amendments to Title 11 Chapter 4 of Helena City Code, to comply with recent state legislation. It was noted part of the needed update was overlooked and staff is recommending tabling this item until the next meeting.

(0:08:10) There were some questions about the recommendation to table the item. Director Brink added some clarification regarding the recommendation and noted that parts of the code had been overlooked and these would also need to be advertised. Tabling the item tonight would also allow for one motion on the updates to be made as opposed to two.

Public Comment and Commission Discussion

(0:09:34) There was no public comment on the item.

Motion and Discussion

(0:09:52) Vice-Chair Wilson moved to table the item. Ms. Sorenson seconded. A voice vote was called, and the motion passed unanimously (5:0)



Item 2

Staff Presentation and Questions for Staff

- (0:11:31) Director Brink gave a brief presentation on the pre-zone request for city owned parcels in the vicinity of Mount Helena, which are set for annexation, noting the request for PLI to keep it consistent with the other park parcels.
- (0:18:19) Chair Harbage asked if about a specific area on the map and if it will be annexed. Director Brink stated that the area will become wholly surrounded and is in the proposed phase three of the West side annexation, so with the addition of access to water and sewer it is not unlikely that it will be annexed in the future. Chair Harbage inquired if the non-motorized section of Le Grand Cannon will see any changes. Director Brink stated that there are no plans to change the status of the right-of-way, and any portion of it currently in the county will be closed as a thoroughfare once annexed into the city.
- (0:19:51) Vice-Chair Wilson asked about the location of parcels donated by Prickly Pear Land Trust. Director Brink stated that he was not entirely familiar with the trail network but all parcels north of Le Grand is Westside Woods. With no further questions Chair Harbage opened public comment.

Public Comment and Commission Discussion

- (0:21:25) Nate Kopp, Prickly Pear Land Trust, stated that he was available for questions if the Commission had any, but appreciates the annexation of these parcels. There was no further public comment. There was no further discussion.

Motion

- (0:22:30) Vice-Chair Wilson moved to recommend approval of an ordinance rezoning to PLI, which is Public Lands and Institutions, prior to annexing into the City of Helena property legally described as parcel one: Blocks 7, 8, 16, and 24 of Highland Park in Lewis and Clark County, Montana, as shown on Retracement Survey filed under Doc. No. 3339312; and parcel two: Blocks 17, 18, 22, and 23 of Highland Park in Lewis and Clark County, Montana, as shown on Retracement Survey filed under Doc. No. 3331784; and the West 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 26, Township 10 North, Range 4 West, P.M.M., Lewis and Clark County, Montana, EXCEPTING THEREFROM Tract A of Certificate of Survey filed under Doc. No. 589492-T, records of Lewis and Clark County, Montana, all being known as a portion of Mount Helena City Park. Ms. Sorenson seconded the motion. A voice vote was called, and the motion passed unanimously (5:0).

Old Business

- (0:24:10) There was no old business identified.

New Business

- (0:24:20) There was no new business identified.

Public Comment



(0:24:35) There was no general public comment.

Member Communications / Proposals for next Agenda

(0:24:50) Ms. Anderson made a comment regarding the earlier Work Session, and her frustration with the process. The next scheduled meeting is Tuesday November 14, 2023, and that an additional Work Session will be held on Tuesday, October 24, 2023 at 6:00 PM.

Adjournment

(0:27:00) The meeting was adjourned.