



**City of Helena
City Commission Meeting
August 26, 2024 – 6:00 PM
Zoom Online Meeting; <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88137791325>
City County Building Commission Chambers, Room 330**

Time & Place

A regular City Commission meeting was held on Monday, August 26, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom Online Meeting ID: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88137791325> and physically in the City County Building Commission Chambers, Room 330.

Call to Order and Roll Call

(00:00:00) 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

(00:01:09) Mayor Collins asked attendees to please stand and join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

- A. 8-7-24 Admin Meeting
- B. 8-12-24 Commission Meeting

(00:01:40) **There being no comments or questions from the Commission, Mayor Collins accepted Minutes A and B.**

Presentations

- A. **Tax Year 2024 Property Tax Overview**

(00:02:13) Finance Director Danielson presented Item A.



- (00:13:38) Commissioner Dean asked Director Danielson to discuss the impact of newly taxable values as reported by the Department of Revenue.
- (00:16:50) Commissioner Logan asked Director Danielson about the rate of inflation related to property taxes and about revenues.
- (00:19:43) Mayor Collins announced the tabling of Regular Item A.

Board Appointments

A. Board Appointments: Lewis & Clark Heritage Tourism Council

- (00:20:24) Mayor Collins presented Item A.
- (00:21:02) **Commissioner Logan made a motion to approve Board Appointments. Commissioner Dean seconded the motion.**
- (00:21:24) Mayor Collins called for a vote.
 - Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**
 - Commissioner Logan voted: **Aye**
 - Commissioner Reed voted: **Aye**
 - Commissioner Dean voted: **Aye**
 - Mayor Collins voted: **Aye**

The motion carried 5:0.

Consent Agenda

A. Claims

- (00:24:52) **Commissioner Reed made a motion to approve Consent Agenda Items A. Commissioner Shirliff seconded the motion.**
- (00:25:04) Mayor Collins called for a vote.
 - Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**
 - Commissioner Logan voted: **Aye**
 - Commissioner Reed voted: **Aye**
 - Commissioner Dean voted: **Aye**
 - Mayor Collins voted: **Aye**

The motion carried 5:0.



Bid Award

A. City Shop Boiler Replacement Bid Award

(00:25:27) Facilities Manager Johnston presented Item A.

(00:26:53) **Commissioner Shirliff made a motion to award the City Shop Boiler Replacement Project CF23009 to the lowest responsive bidder Tri-County Mechanical & Electrical in the amount of \$247,082 plus alternates 1A & 1B. Commissioner Dean seconded the motion.**

(00:27:16) Mayor Collins called for a vote.

Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Logan voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Reed voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Dean voted: **Aye**

Mayor Collins voted: **Aye**

The motion carried 5:0.

Communications/Proposals from Commissioners

(00:27:32) There were no communications from Commissioners.

Report of the City Attorney

(00:27:37) City Attorney Dockter had nothing to report.

Report of the City Manager

(00:27:43) City Manager Burton had nothing to report.

Communications from the Helena Citizens Council

(00:28:04) HCC Representative Ryan Schwochert discussed recent and upcoming meeting agenda items via zoom.

Regular Items

A. Consider Capitol Traffic Plan Proposal which includes one-way streets and angle parking along 5th, 6th and Lockey Avenue



(00:29:39) Commissioner Reed made a motion to table Capitol Traffic Plan Proposal which includes one-way streets and angle parking along 5th, 6th and Lockey Avenue. Commissioner Shirliff seconded the motion.

(00:29:54) Commissioner Dean explained the purpose of tabling this Item.

(00:31:33) Clerk Clayborn read written public comment into the record, provided by Rebecca.

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

Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Logan voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Reed voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Dean voted: **Aye**

Mayor Collins voted: **Aye**

The motion to table carried 5:0.

B. Consider a Resolution distributing Downtown Urban Renewal District Tax Increment Financing funds to Hrella Brown Rentals, LLC, for façade and sidewalk improvements at 104 East Broadway Street

(00:33:33) Senior Planner Ray presented Item B.

(00:36:38) Commissioner Reed made a motion to approve a Resolution distributing Downtown Urban Renewal District Tax Increment Financing funds to Hrella Brown Rentals, LLC, for façade and sidewalk improvements at 104 East Broadway Street. Commissioner Shirliff seconded the motion.

(00:37:00) Mayor Collins called for a vote.

Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Logan voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Reed voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Dean voted: **Aye**

Mayor Collins voted: **Aye**

The motion carried 5:0.



- C. Consider a resolution for Final Annexation of Craftsman Village Phase 8 of the Crossroads at Mountain View Meadows
- D. Consider the Final Plat for Craftsman Village Phase 8 of the Crossroads at Mountain View Meadows subdivision creating 51 residential lots and containing 7.168 acres

(00:37:26) Community Development Director Brink presented Items C and D.

(00:40:49) **Commissioner Shirliff made a motion to approve a resolution for Final Annexation of Craftsman Village Phase 8 of the Crossroads at Mountain View Meadows, described as a portion of Tract A-1-A-1-A-1-A-1-A-1-A-1-A of the amended plat number 3386391, located within the South ½ of Section 26 and the North ½ and Southeast ¼ of Section 35, Township 10 North, Range 3 West, P.M.M., Lewis and Clark County, Montana, as well as the rights-of-way adjacent thereto, into the City of Helena, Montana. Commissioner Reed seconded the motion.**

(00:41:30) Mayor Collins called for a vote.
Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Logan voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Reed voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Dean voted: **Aye**
Mayor Collins voted: **Aye**

The motion carried 5:0.

(00:42:07) **Commissioner Reed made a motion to approve the final plat for Craftsman Village Phase 8 of the Crossroads at Mountain View Meadows. Commissioner Dean seconded the motion.**

(00:42:33) Mayor Collins called for a vote.
Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Logan voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Reed voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Dean voted: **Aye**
Mayor Collins voted: **Aye**

The motion carried 5:0.



E. Consider a Resolution Adopting an Electronic Public Meetings Policy for the City of Helena and Designating the Recording of the Meeting as the Official Record of the Public Meeting

- (00:43:05) Clerk Clayborn presented Item E.
- (00:47:30) Commissioner Reed explained concerns with sections 9 and 13.
- (00:51:19) Mayor Collins explained his support.
- (00:55:33) Commissioner Logan explained his support.
- (01:01:34) Mayor Collins asked members of the media present how they would contact members of the Commission for input and interviews if they were online.
- (01:02:22) HCC Chairperson Kuiper provided public comment, expressing concerns.
- (01:03:42) Mary Harlow provided public comment via zoom, expressing concerns.
- (01:06:28) Commissioner Dean explained her support.
- (01:09:51) Commissioner Reed discussed concerns regarding specific circumstances and requested language edits.
- (01:12:06) Commissioner Dean, Mayor Collins, and Commissioner Logan addressed Commissioner Reed's concerns.
- (01:13:45) **Commissioner Logan made a motion to approve the resolution creating an Electronic Meetings Policy for the City of Helena and designating the recording of the meeting as the official record of the public meetings. Commissioner Dean seconded the motion.**
- (01:14:19) Mayor Collins called for a vote.
- Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**
- Commissioner Logan voted: **Aye**
- Commissioner Reed voted: **No**
- Commissioner Dean voted: **Aye**
- Mayor Collins voted: **Aye**
- The motion carried 4:1.**

Public Hearings



A. Consider A Resolution specifying the assessment option for the Street Maintenance and Improvements District No. 1 for Fiscal Year 2025 and levying an assessment on all properties within the district

(01:14:56) Finance Director Danielson presented Item A.

(01:16:32) Commissioner Dean asked Director Danielson about the increase in solid waste fees.

(01:18:01) **Commissioner Dean made a motion to approve A Resolution specifying the assessment option for the Street Maintenance and Improvements District No. 1 for Fiscal Year 2025 and levying an assessment on all properties within the district. Commissioner Shirliff seconded the motion.**

(01:18:23) Mayor Collins called for a vote.

Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Logan voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Reed voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Dean voted: **Aye**

Mayor Collins voted: **Aye**

The motion carried 5:0.

B. Consider A Resolution specifying the assessment option for the Open Space Maintenance District No. 1 for Fiscal Year 2025, levying an assessment on all properties within the District

(01:19:08) **Commissioner Dean made a motion to approve a Resolution specifying the assessment option for the Open Space Maintenance District No. 1 for Fiscal Year 2025, and levying an assessment on all properties within the District. Commissioner Logan seconded the motion.**

(01:19:26) Mayor Collins called for a vote.

Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Logan voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Reed voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Dean voted: **Aye**

Mayor Collins voted: **Aye**

The motion carried 5:0.



C. Consider A Resolution Specifying the Assessment Option for the Special Urban Forest Management District for Fiscal Year 2025 and Levying an Assessment on all Properties within the District

(01:19:57) Commissioner Shirliff made a motion to approve a Resolution Specifying the Assessment Option for the Special Urban Forest Management District for Fiscal Year 2025 and Levying an Assessment on all Properties within the District. Commissioner Dean seconded the motion.

(01:20:38) Ryan Schwochert provided public comment via Zoom, asking for an explanation of the Special Urban Forest Management District. Director Danielson addressed public comment.

(01:21:40) Mayor Collins called for a vote.

Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Logan voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Reed voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Dean voted: **Aye**

Mayor Collins voted: **Aye**

The motion carried 5:0.

D. Consider A Resolution Specifying the Assessment Option for the Landfill Monitoring and Maintenance District for Fiscal Year 2025 and levying an assessment on all Properties within the District

(01:22:13) Commissioner Reed made a motion to approve A Resolution Specifying the Assessment Option for the Landfill Monitoring and Maintenance District for Fiscal Year 2025 and levying an assessment on all Properties within the District. Commissioner Dean seconded the motion.

(01:22:31) Mayor Collins called for a vote.

Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Logan voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Reed voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Dean voted: **Aye**

Mayor Collins voted: **Aye**

The motion carried 5:0.



E. Consider A Resolution specifying the assessment option for the collection and disposal of residential garbage and refuse for fiscal year 2025 and levying an assessment on all properties receiving residential solid waste collection

(01:23:05) Commissioner Logan made a motion to approve a Resolution specifying the assessment option for the collection and disposal of residential garbage and refuse for fiscal year 2025 and levying an assessment on all properties receiving residential solid waste collection. Commissioner Shirliff seconded the motion.

(01:23:27) Mayor Collins called for a vote.

Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Logan voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Reed voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Dean voted: **Aye**

Mayor Collins voted: **Aye**

The motion carried 5:0.

F. Consider A Resolution specifying the assessment option for the Stormwater Utility Service Area for Fiscal Year 2025 and levying an assessment on all properties within the service

(01:24:00) Commissioner Dean made a motion to approve a Resolution specifying the assessment option for the Stormwater Utility Service Area for Fiscal Year 2025 and levying an assessment on all properties within the service. Commissioner Logan seconded the motion.

(01:24:17) Mayor Collins called for a vote.

Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Logan voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Reed voted: **Aye**

Commissioner Dean voted: **Aye**

Mayor Collins voted: **Aye**

The motion carried 5:0.



G. Consider A Resolution levying an assessment on properties to recover the cost of removal of snow and ice from sidewalks on the adjacent public rights-of-way for Tax Year 2024

(01:24:50) Commissioner Reed made a motion to approve A Resolution levying an assessment on properties to recover the cost of removal of snow and ice from sidewalks on the adjacent public rights-of-way for Tax Year 2024. Commissioner Shirliff seconded the motion.

(01:25:31) Mayor Collins called for a vote.
Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Logan voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Reed voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Dean voted: **Aye**
Mayor Collins voted: **Aye**
The motion carried 5:0.

H. Consider A Resolution Levying an Assessment on Properties to Recover the Amortized Loans issued under the Residential Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Loan Program for the Tax year 2024

(01:26:11) Commissioner Dean made a motion to approve a Resolution Levying an Assessment on Properties to Recover the Amortized Loans issued under the Residential Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Loan Program for the Tax Year 2024. Commissioner Reed seconded the motion.

(01:26:37) Mayor Collins called for a vote.
Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Logan voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Reed voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Dean voted: **Aye**
Mayor Collins voted: **Aye**
The motion carried 5:0.

I. Consider a Resolution levying an assessment on properties to recover the cost reimbursement for water and wastewater infrastructure installed by the City for Tax Year 2024



(01:27:11) **Commissioner Shirliff made a motion to approve a Resolution levying an assessment on properties to recover the cost reimbursement for water and wastewater infrastructure installed by the City for Tax Year 2024. Commissioner Dean seconded the motion.**

(01:27:33) Mayor Collins called for a vote.
Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Logan voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Reed voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Dean voted: **Aye**
Mayor Collins voted: **Aye**
The motion carried 5:0.

J. Consider A Resolution specifying the assessment option for the Special Street Lighting Districts for Fiscal Year 2025 and levying an assessment on all property within the Districts

(01:28:03) **Commissioner Logan made a motion to approve a Resolution specifying the assessment option for the Special Street Lighting Districts for Fiscal Year 2025 and levying an assessment on all property within the Districts. Commissioner Dean seconded the motion.**

(01:28:23) Mayor Collins called for a vote.
Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Logan voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Reed voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Dean voted: **Aye**
Mayor Collins voted: **Aye**
The motion carried 5:0.

K. Consider A Resolution levying assessments for improvement of sidewalks, curbs, gutters and alley approaches in the City of Helena, Montana for Tax Year 2024

(01:28:53) **Commissioner Reed made a motion to approve A Resolution levying assessments for improvement of sidewalks, curbs, gutters and alley approaches in the City of Helena, Montana for Tax Year 2024. Commissioner Dean seconded the motion.**



- (01:29:09) Mayor Collins called for a vote.
Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Logan voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Reed voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Dean voted: **Aye**
Mayor Collins voted: **Aye**

The motion carried 5:0.

L. Consider a Resolution Providing for the Annual Tax Levy in Mills for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025

- (01:29:35) Director Danielson explained the Staff Recommendation.
(01:29:55) Commissioner Dean asked Director Danielson about the implications of property tax valuation discrepancies.
(01:31:35) **Commissioner Reed made a motion to approve a Resolution Providing for the Annual Tax Levy in Mills for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025. Commissioner Logan seconded the motion.**

- (01:31:50) Mayor Collins called for a vote.
Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Logan voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Reed voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Dean voted: **Aye**
Mayor Collins voted: **Aye**

The motion carried 5:0.

M. Consider a Resolution Adopting Final Budgets, Budget Authorities, and Appropriations for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, and setting the Salary for Municipal Court Judge

- (01:32:18) Director Danielson presented Item M.
(01:34:58) Commissioner Reed asked Manager Burton about dust abatement line items.
(01:35:45) Commissioner Reed asked Director Danielson about future funding recommendations by the Parking Advisory Committee.
(01:36:27) Commissioner Dean thanked Director Danielson and Staff and discussed Cost of Living Adjustment considerations.



(01:40:45) **Commissioner Logan made a motion to approve a Resolution Adopting Final Budgets, Budget Authorities, and Appropriations for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, and setting the Salary for the Municipal Court Judge. Commissioner Reed seconded the motion.**

(01:41:05) Mayor Collins called for a vote.
Commissioner Shirliff voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Logan voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Reed voted: **Aye**
Commissioner Dean voted: **Aye**
Mayor Collins voted: **Aye**
The motion carried 5:0.

Public Communications


(01:41:12) There were no further comments or questions from the Commission and/or public.

Adjournment

(01:41:32) There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 7:42pm.




CLERK OF THE CITY COMMISSION


MAYOR