



**City Commission Administrative Meeting
August 7, 2024 – 4:00 PM
Zoom Online Meeting; <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86760450198>
City County Building, 316 N. Park Ave., Room 326**

Time & Place

A City Commission Administrative meeting was held Wednesday, August 7, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. via Zoom Online Meeting ID: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86760450198> and physically in the City County Building, Room 326.

Call to Work Session, Introductions

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

City Attorney Dockter
City Manager Burton
Mayor Pro Tem Dean
Commissioner Shirtliff
Commissioner Logan
Commissioner Reed

The following were absent:

Mayor Collins

Commission Comments, Questions

(00:00:57) Mayor Pro Tem Dean disclosed a quorum of the Commission at a the Mann Gulch Fire Centennial Tunnel Mural Ribbon Cutting event on August 5th.

(00:01:30) Commissioner Shirtliff asked City Attorney Docker and Transportation Systems Director Knoepke about dogs at the Helena Farmer's Market, citing recent public comment.

Board Appointment Review

A. Board Appointment Review: HCC District 5

(00:04:07) Mayor Pro Tem Dean presented Item A.

(00:04:26) HCC Chairperson Kuiper discussed the application in question.

Recommendations from the Helena Citizens Council



A. Davis St. Dust Abatement and New Speed Limit

- (00:05:00)** HCC Chairperson Kuiper presented Item A.
- (00:06:55)** Commissioner Reed asked Director Knoepke about the historical speed limit in the Davis Gulch area.
- (00:07:56)** Mayor Pro Tem Dean asked Director Knoepke about budgetary impacts of the recommendation.
- (00:10:10)** Commissioner Reed asked Director Knoepke about an annual review of this area.
- (00:13:13)** Kevin League provided public comment, advocating for dust abatement measures.
- (00:19:03)** Andrea Opitz of the Tourism BID provided public comment, discussing outdoor recreation statistics.
- (00:20:53)** Nathan Bilyeu provided public comment, advocating for dust abatement measures.

Report of the City Manager

- (00:23:00)** City Manager Burton discussed a draft letter to the Big Sky Passenger Rail Authority.
- (00:24:30)** Commissioner Logan asked Manager Burton about the nature of the partnership.
- (00:25:50)** Commissioner Reed explained her support.
- (00:26:28)** Commissioner Shirliff explained his support and asked Manager Burton about the City's financial contribution.
- (00:27:37)** Commissioner Logan explained his support and expressed concerns about funding clarity.
- (00:29:42)** Mayor Pro Tem Dean asked Manager Burton about the proposed route and the possibility of Helena being bypassed.
- (00:31:45)** City Manager Burton asked Director Knoepke to discuss the traffic lights at "mini-malfunction" on Last Chance Gulch.
- (00:35:50)** Commissioner Reed asked Director Knoepke about additional considerations for pedestrian safety when crossing.
- (00:37:37)** Commissioner Logan asked Director Knoepke about additional liability to the City in the event of an accident or injury.



Presentations

A. Community Aid Grant/General Fund Savings Update

- (00:39:30)** Grants Administrator Opitz presented Item A.
- (00:43:30)** Amy Teegarden and Lois Olson of the Tri-County Fire Safe Working Group provided an update to the Commission.
- (00:51:10)** Attorney Dockter asked Ms. Teegarden about costs to property owners.
- (00:52:18)** Heather O'Neil of Exploration Works provided an update to the Commission.
- (00:53:09)** Kelly Posewitz of Helena Regional Sports Association provided an update to the Commission.
- (00:57:44)** Commissioner Shirliff asked Ms. Posewitz about additional funding effort for art.
- (00:58:20)** Commissioner Reed asked about the name for the facility.
- (00:59:10)** Renee Bauer and Theresa Ortega of Good Samaritan Ministries provided an update to the Commission.

B. Transportation Systems - Capitol Traffic Plan

- (01:07:45)** Transportation Systems Director Knoepke, MDT Admin/Security Director Baiamonte, and Engineer McDowell presented Item B.
- (01:11:44)** Mayor Pro Tem Dean asked Director Baiamonte about the distribution of public comment requests.
- (01:12:25)** Commissioner Shirliff asked Director Baiamonte about follow up meetings with stakeholder groups.
- (01:13:53)** Commissioner Reed asked Director Baiamonte and Engineer McDowell about the public outreach regarding bike lane considerations.
- (01:16:45)** Mayor Pro Tem Dean asked Director Baiamonte about a parking garage near the Capitol Complex, citing public comment.
- (01:18:28)** Callie Aschim of the Helena Chamber of Commerce provided public comment, thanking staff for collaboration efforts.

Department Reports

A. CMS Pay Plan Update



- (01:19:52) Human Resources Director McMahon, Communication Management Services Consultants Kerins and Lewis presented Item A.
- (01:36:56) Manager Burton discussed the history and next steps for implementation.
- (01:38:29) Commissioner Logan, Consultant Kerins, Director McMahon, and Director Danielson discussed transparency efforts for staff and the public.
- (01:41:45) Mayor Pro Tem Dean asked Consultant Kerins about rotation of the Compensation Committee membership.
- (01:45:10) Director Knoepke provided an update about sidewalks adjacent to the Goodkind Building.

B. Discuss a resolution adopting policies pertaining to Electronic Meeting

- (01:45:35) Clerk Clayborn presented Item B.
- (01:52:17) Commissioner Reed explained concerns regarding Sections 9 and 13.
- (01:54:54) Commissioner Shirliff explained concerns regarding Sections 9 and 13.
- (01:57:03) Commissioner Logan explained support for Sections 9 and 13.
- (02:00:41) Mayor Pro Tem Dean asked Clerk Clayborn about the number of meetings per year and about the meeting expectation language and explained support for Sections 9 and 13.
- (02:08:35) Commissioner Reed requested edits to resolution language.
- (02:09:30) HCC Chairperson Kuiper provided public comment, opposing Section 9.
- (02:12:29) Mayor Pro Tem Dean asked Clerk Clayborn about intent for public participation and next steps.
- (02:13:41) Bob Jones of The League of Women Voters provided public comment, expressing concerns.
- (02:15:27) Jacob Krissovich provided public comment via Zoom, expressing concerns.
- (02:18:22) Clerk Clayborn addressed public comment.

Public Comment



(02:21:08) There were no further communications from the Commission and/or public.

Commission Discussion and Direction to the City Manager

Adjournment

(02:21:20) There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 6:22pm.