



Special Commission Work Session

**City Commission Special Minutes
Fire Training Center, 1900 9th St S
May 1, 2018**

1. Call to Order:

Mayor Kelly called the meeting to order at 8:37 a.m.

City Commission members present: Bob Kelly, Bill Bronson, Tracy Houck, Owen Robinson, and Mary Sheehy Moe.

Staff Present: City Manager Greg Doyon, Deputy City Manager Chuck Anderson, Training/Development Coordinator Mark Willmarth, and City Clerk Lisa Kunz.

2. Commission Goals/Budget/Policy Initiatives Discussion - Facilitated by Mark Willmarth.

Training/Development Coordinator Mark Willmarth started a round table discussion with the Commission to each discuss their "why" they ran for office. He played a short Simon Sinek, TED Talk video titled Why, How, What.

Break 9:45 a.m. - 9:50 a.m.

A discussion followed about their collective beliefs, priorities and successes.

The following responses were summarized during the exercise.

We believe . . .

- everyone should live in a safe neighborhood;
- everyone should live in an aesthetically pleasing community;
- no downtown means no town;
- in having public places to play, interact and relax;
- City government can attract and support economic development;
- in a strong foundation to support economic development and growth;
- in strength of partnerships;
- in welcoming all individuals - diversity;
- quality growth;
- in listening to and responding to our community;
- in being good stewards of the community's money;
- the City provides a critical service in our community; and
- young families are crucial to the viability and vitality of the community.

Successes . . .

- Growth in tax base;
- Reduction in crime and drug use;
- Sustainable funding for parks;

- Continuing role with military;
- Positive perception of City government;
- Vibrant downtown;
- Cut average age of Commission;
- Progress in ADA;
- Strong continuation in Public Works infrastructure;
- Good Disaster and Emergency Services; and
- Increase in swimmers, golfers and Library users.

Priorities . . .

- ADA accessible public facilities;
- Police and Fire Rescue have the resources they need;
- Affordable access to culture and recreation;
- Health and safety infrastructure;
- Better communication - Commission to community;
- Committed to our downtown;
- The health of our community - mental, drug use, abuse, crime;
- Economic diversification and growth; and
- Better engagement with Neighborhood Councils.

3. Preliminary Discussion on Commission Budget for Fiscal Year 2019.

City Manager Greg Doyon commented that the Commission's budget typically consists of supplies, memberships and dues, training, and travel expenses. He asked the Commission their general thoughts with regard to additional items to include in the Commission's budget.

Mayor Kelly noted that as President of the Montana League of Cities and Towns (MLCT) next year his travel expenses will get reimbursed through MLCT. He further discussed the benefits of being a member of the National League of Cities and Towns (NLCT). He suggested that the Commission review the NLCT website and Facebook page to see all that it has to offer, and to consider membership. The membership fee would be \$4,467.

Manager Doyon commented that he would be providing alternatives to address issues and concerns McKinstry identified at his June presentation.

With regard to training, the MLCT Conference is typically budgeted for the Commission. It is a beneficial training opportunity. This year it is scheduled in Butte, September 26-28, 2018.

A quarterly or semi-annually written report setting forth the direct and in-kind contributions between the City and Great Falls Development Authority was requested.

Manager Doyon noted that the City provides a direct allocation of \$250,000 annually to the Cascade City-County Health Department. The last legislature increased food inspections to twice annually. A pass through charge for food inspections will need further exploration.

Manager Doyon further noted that the City budget will not have the flexibility the Commission wants until the golf courses are resolved.

4. Public Comment.

Brad Livingston, 2704 Big Ranch Road, commented that the Commission members are citizens of the community. This is all of our community of choice. He commented that the community lacks pride and suggested getting the neighborhood councils and other groups involved in a competition to help clean up neighborhoods and parks to help the City look better. He believes in investing in the children, and suggested the Commission consider what it wants Great Falls to look like in 2030.

5. Adjourn

There being no further discussion, Mayor Kelly adjourned the informal special work session of May 1, 2018, at 11:10 a.m.