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JENI DODD  
Commission meeting comments  
December 3, 2019

## GENERAL COMMENTS

I recently read that the city came into over half a million owed to it from the county's collection of local option taxes.

My questions are—how did the city go for three years and not realized it hadn't been paid this money? Doesn't the city hire an independent auditor to review the books each year? How could the auditor miss something this significant? What does this say about their competence?

## PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES . 6

I feel the minutes of the previous meeting do not accurately reflect the comments made by Commission Bronson in response to my comments on Resolution 10322.

He stated "one who reads this reasonably" would realize that intent of Resolution 10322 wasn't an abridgment of First Amendment right.

I consider myself a reasonable person, so his statement is a thinly-veiled insult. He's allowed to insult me, but I can't respond in kind because of Resolution 10322.

I do understand the need for civility in meetings. You've gone far beyond that now.

You can assure me this Resolution will never be abused all you want, but Intent and consequences are two different things. The commissioners have the duty to consider that future commissions could use these rules maliciously. Why even open that door with this overreach? Didn't the city learn from the Stebbins/Overfield incident?

As for these rules already existing, I've never found existing public participation rules comparably to those in Resolution 10322. I ask that Commissioner Bronson direct me to those prior existing rules.

The resolution prohibit "vulgar, discriminatory, profane or impertinent speech, or personal attacks and personal accusations...objects that are deemed a threat or perceived to be a threat...creating, provoking or participating in any type of disturbance..."

Many of those actions are already covered by existing Montana criminal laws once they reach a level that is recognized as a threat. The resolution appears to attempt to criminalize behavior that seeks to merely inform the public, such as accusing a commissioner of a potential conflict of interest.

## DESIGN REVIEW BOARD .21

I ask that the commissioners not reinstate the Design Review Board. In fact, I suggest that the city eliminate the Design Review Board entirely.

The Design Review Board is a quasi-governmental entity that we do not need. Most people I've spoken with feel that the Design Review Board is an unnecessary hurdle to projects. The implication exists that if a developer doesn't follow the recommendation of the Design Review Board, their project may not be approved. In order to promote growth in Great Falls, many of us feel that we need less, not more, regulations and oversight.

There is also the appearance, whether accurate or not, that the Design Review Board exists only to serve special personal interests of a few of its members. When board members are also vendors that sell goods and services involved in these projects, there's too much potential for conflicts of interest. Many folks I've spoken with feel its not enough for these people on the Design Review Board to recuse themselves from decisions. Why are they on the board in the first place? Has the city learned nothing for the CDBG debacle?

## MACLEAN RFP EXTENSION OF DEADLINE

I ask that the commission not extend the deadline to the Maclean/Animal Foundation for response to the city's RFP.

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For many years the Maclean has pursued a partnership with the city. Despite wanting this partnership, the Maclean has been evasive in revealing its financials, which is one reason a partnership wasn't realized. The Maclean didn't show good faith.

Now it's a little different in that there would be a contractual agreement. The Maclean has known for some time that this RFP was in the works. They had ample opportunity to address it. I feel that it again the Maclean is failing to act in good faith.

I have also received information that Commissioner Robinson recently donated a large sum of money to the Maclean. If this is true, I request that Robinson recuse himself from this decision tonight for conflict of interest of the appearance thereof.