

JOURNAL OF COMMISSION WORK SESSIONS
June 6, 2006

City Commission Work Session

Mayor Stebbins presiding

CALL TO ORDER: 5:30 P.M.

ROLL CALL: City Commissioners present: Dona Stebbins, Bill Beecher, Sandy Hinz, Diane Jovick-Kuntz and John Rosenbaum. Also present were the City Manager, Assistant City Manager, City Attorney, Directors of Community Development, Planning, Public Works, Fiscal Services, Police Chief, Fire Chief, Interim Park and Recreation Director and the City Clerk.

1. GREAT FALLS ARTS COUNCIL REPORT.

Library Director Jim Heckel, and member of the Great Falls Arts Council, briefly described the programs the Art Council offered this past year. The Arts Council serves as a coordinating structure for some 42 arts and culture groups in the Great Falls area with the goal of fostering communication between arts and culture groups and to initiate group events.

2. YOU MAKE GREAT FALLS GREAT UPDATE.

Dee Strending and Mark Willmarth, staff members working on the “You Make Great Falls Great” provided a brief recap of the program and asked the Commission to participate in the sessions as often as they could.

3. POLICE DEPARTMENT ALCOHOL COMPLIANCE CHECKS.

Police Special Projects members Steve Pretat and Noah Scott reviewed the Alcohol Compliance Checks program. They stated that youth who begin drinking before the age of 21 were more likely to be involved in a fight, commit violent crimes, fail at school, use other drugs, experience verbal physical and sexual violence, drink and drive and become alcohol dependent than those who wait to drink legally. Because of this, the Police Department performs compliance checks in Great Falls. They added that compliance checks are done in all 49 other states. The Police Department conducts three compliance checks per year. If a tavern or store passes the test, they are not subject to another compliance check for one year. If they fail, however, they will be tested again. Before the Police Department conducts a test, notification is sent to all liquor license owners alerting them that a test will be conducted. Additionally, fake IDs are not used, nor is lying allowed. If a bartender asks what the person’s age is, they must tell the truth.

ADJOURN

There being no further information for the Commission, Mayor Stebbins adjourned the work session of June 6, 2006, at 6:35 p.m.

(06/06/06)