

From: [Lisa C. Kunz](#)
To: [Bob Kelly](#); [Eric Hinebauch](#); [Joe McKenney](#); [Rick Tryon](#); [Susan Wolff](#)
Cc: [Greg Doyon](#); [Charles Anderson](#); [Krista Artis](#); [Christoff T. Gaub](#)
Subject: FW: Great Falls Water Treatment Plant
Date: Tuesday, January 17, 2023 8:28:10 AM

Good Morning – see comments for consideration of Agenda Item 17 this evening.

Lisa Kunz

City Clerk/Records Manager
Civic Center Room 102
406.455.8451

From: Lisa C. Kunz
Sent: Tuesday, January 17, 2023 8:26 AM
To: 'cheryl reichert' <montanapathdoc@gmail.com>
Cc: Charles Bocoock <fishdoc70@gmail.com>
Subject: RE: Great Falls Water Treatment Plant

Good Morning Dr. Reichert – thank you for your comments pertaining to Agenda Item 17 for Commission consideration this evening. Your comments will be shared with the Commission and appropriate staff and so noted in the record of the meeting.

Best regards,

Lisa Kunz

City Clerk/Records Manager
Civic Center Room 102
406.455.8451

From: cheryl reichert <montanapathdoc@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 16, 2023 10:42 AM
To: commission <commission@greatfallsmt.net>
Cc: Charles Bocoock <fishdoc70@gmail.com>
Subject: Great Falls Water Treatment Plant

Dear Mayor Kelly and City Commissioners:

As you consider awarding yet another multi-million dollar contract for our water treatment plant at your January 17 City Commission meeting, we ask that you consider piping water to the treatment plant from Giant Springs rather than from the Missouri River. If a private company can do this to produce beer, why can't we do this to safeguard our health and save the City millions of dollars in the long run? How fortunate we are to have this amazing resource at our doorstep. Giant Springs could do this for us. It has an average discharge of 242 cubic feet of water per second or 156 million gallons per day.

This past summer our usually quiet neighborhood was subjected to weeks of incessant high decibel hammering sounds emanating from the Water Treatment Plant, and we could see a pumping truck improvising some sort of costly temporary solution for our recently updated facility. We also see the delivery of huge numbers of pallets providing tons of materials necessary to treat the Missouri River water in order to make it potable.

As a biochemist and a medical doctor, I am aware that there are contaminants coming out of our taps into our drinking water that derive from upstreams communities and agriculture. I am not talking about germs that can be treated with chlorine, but rather chemicals that are present but not quantitated in the City's routine publicly available annual water analysis. These include pharmaceuticals like estrogen. Not everyone can afford bottled water or under-the-counter reverse osmosis. Besides, filtered water that has everything removed doesn't provide the healthy natural mineral content that is present in Giant Springs water- just ask David Brown, the CEO of Source Giant Springs.

We are blessed with clean air (thanks in no small measure to a group of dedicated private citizens who defied the City to help defeat a coal-fired power plant) and an abundance of clean water (if only we should be visionary enough to tap into its potential). This improvement would make our community one of the most desirable small cities on the planet. So while you are voting to approve yet again expensive short-term mitigating improvements to the Water Treatment Plant (and we agree you must), **won't you please consider allocating a few dollars for a formal feasibility study of piping water directly from Giant Springs into the Water Treatment plant?**

Charles Bocoek first asked this question of the City many years and many millions of dollars ago, and he has done so repeatedly over the years. Don't he and the citizens deserve an answer....if not now, when?

Please include my remarks in the public record.

Sincerely,

Cheryl M. Reichert, MD, PhD

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Great Falls, MT 59405
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