

**Lisa C. Kunz**

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**From:** Laura Lynch  
**Sent:** Friday, May 12, 2023 3:12 PM  
**To:** 'mark bell'  
**Cc:** commission  
**Subject:** RE: Public Notice

<https://greatfallsmt.net/citycommission/city-commission-meeting-may-16-2023>

Here is the link to the agenda report for the Commission meeting on May 16<sup>th</sup>. Your written comments are being shared with the City Clerk for Commission consideration during the public hearing and before final vote on this matter, and will be so noted in the official minutes of the meeting.

Thanks,  
Laura

**Laura Lynch**  
**Operations Manager**  
**City of Great Falls Utilities Department**  
**(406) 455-8440 phone**  
**(406) 452-8048 fax**



**From:** mark bell <markbell68@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 10, 2023 1:05 PM  
**To:** Laura Lynch <llynch@greatfallsmt.net>  
**Subject:** Re: Public Notice

Here is my question; how can you post five new city jobs that will cost taxpayers an additional \$500K per year and decide that it's OK to pass the cost on to, in addition to, the monthly cost of water and sewer service?

Follow up question; When are you releasing an audit of all the city's expenses for FY 2022?



Virus-free [www.avg.com](http://www.avg.com)

On Wed, May 10, 2023 at 9:25 AM Laura Lynch <llynch@greatfallsmt.net> wrote:

Good morning! There will be a public hearing for the proposed 10% increase to water, sewer, and storm drain rates at the regular commission meeting on Tuesday, May 16th. The meeting starts at 7 pm in the Civic Center Commission Chambers, or comments can be submitted in writing to the City Clerk prior to noon the day of the meeting. I have attached the Public Notice that is being sent to all City of Great Falls utility customers.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Laura

**Laura Lynch**

**Operations Manager**

**City of Great Falls Utilities Department**

**(406) 455-8440 phone**

**(406) 452-8048 fax**



City of Great Falls e-mails may be subject to Montana's Right To Know law (Article II Sec 9, Montana Constitution) and may be a Public Record (2-6-1002, M.C.A.) and available for public inspection.

**Lisa C. Kunz**

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**From:** Lisa C. Kunz  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 11, 2023 10:30 AM  
**To:** Krista Artis  
**Subject:** FW: Public Notice - redacted

On May 10, 2023, at 12:39, Laura Lynch <[llynch@greatfallsmt.net](mailto:llynch@greatfallsmt.net)> wrote:

Hi, Hillary! I found you in the system at 1117 1<sup>st</sup> Ave N. Your consumption is XXX cf which is pretty good for 1 person. The only discounts that the City offers are for low income and a senior sanitation discount. Since you don't qualify for either of those, my best advice would be to watch your consumption as best you can. The change in consumption is what will cause your bill to fluctuate. If you water your lawn over the summer, your bill will increase.

The rate increase is basically just covering costs. Chemicals at both the Water Treatment Plant and Wastewater Treatment Plant have skyrocketed. Electricity costs have also increased from \$29.25/MWh to \$89.95/MWh. Since we haven't increased rates since 11/1/2019, the rate increase is needed to cover the operational costs at the plants. There are some capital projects that will most likely get pushed back because the costs for completing projects has increased substantially but we always have main replacements.

I hope that helps to explain why we are asking for a rate increase. There's nowhere to cut costs. We have to treat the water and the sewage and it's expensive.

Please let me know if you have any other questions.

Thanks,  
Laura

**Laura Lynch**  
**Operations Manager**  
**City of Great Falls Utilities Department**  
**(406) 455-8440 phone**  
**(406) 452-8048 fax**



**From:** Hillary Christiansen <[hillarychristiansen@icloud.com](mailto:hillarychristiansen@icloud.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 10, 2023 11:57 AM  
**To:** Laura Lynch <[llynch@greatfallsmt.net](mailto:llynch@greatfallsmt.net)>  
**Subject:** Re: Public Notice

Man. My water bill is already almost \$75 a month and I'm just one person.

Are there really no costs to be reduced elsewhere to meet in the middle at least?

If I was free to attend the meeting, the thing that would help me be less pissed about a 10% rate hike when we literally live on the water source, would be if the provider could clearly and fully demonstrate that they are literally at a checkmate with reducing any further costs and that a rate hike isn't just the easy way out.

Thank you for the notification.

Sent from my iPhone

On May 10, 2023, at 09:23, Laura Lynch <llynch@greatfallsmt.net> wrote:

Good morning! There will be a public hearing for the proposed 10% increase to water, sewer, and storm drain rates at the regular commission meeting on Tuesday, May 16th. The meeting starts at 7 pm in the Civic Center Commission Chambers, or comments can be submitted in writing to the City Clerk prior to noon the day of the meeting. I have attached the Public Notice that is being sent to all City of Great Falls utility customers.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,  
Laura

**Laura Lynch**  
**Operations Manager**  
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**Lisa C. Kunz**

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**From:** Laura Lynch  
**Sent:** Friday, May 12, 2023 3:13 PM  
**To:** 'Tyler Gunderson'  
**Cc:** commission  
**Subject:** RE: Public Notice

<https://greatfallsmt.net/citycommission/city-commission-meeting-may-16-2023>

Here is the link to the agenda report for the Commission meeting on May 16<sup>th</sup>. Your written comments are being shared with the City Clerk for Commission consideration during the public hearing and before final vote on this matter, and will be so noted in the official minutes of the meeting.

Thanks,  
Laura

**Laura Lynch**  
**Operations Manager**  
**City of Great Falls Utilities Department**  
**(406) 455-8440 phone**  
**(406) 452-8048 fax**



**From:** Tyler Gunderson <gunderson\_tyler@live.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 11, 2023 10:21 AM  
**To:** Laura Lynch <llynch@greatfallsmt.net>  
**Subject:** Re: Public Notice

I am against this. I can't afford to pay attention anymore with everything going up in price.

Tyler G.

On May 10, 2023, at 9:22 AM, Laura Lynch <llynch@greatfallsmt.net> wrote:

Good morning! There will be a public hearing for the proposed 10% increase to water, sewer, and storm drain rates at the regular commission meeting on Tuesday, May 16<sup>th</sup>. The meeting starts at 7 pm in the Civic Center Commission Chambers, or comments can be submitted in writing to the City Clerk prior to noon the day of the meeting. I have attached the Public Notice that is being sent to all City of Great Falls utility customers.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,  
Laura

**Laura Lynch**  
**Operations Manager**  
**City of Great Falls Utilities Department**  
**(406) 455-8440 phone**  
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<image001.png>

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<RES 10498 PUBLIC NOTICE 10% INCREASE.docx>

**Lisa C. Kunz**

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**From:** Lisa C. Kunz  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:25 AM  
**To:** 'Christian Madson'  
**Subject:** RE: Conditional Use Permit: 727 4th Avenue North

Thank you for your comments. Your comments will be shared with the Commission and appropriate staff for consideration during the public hearing on Resolution 10503, Agenda Item 12.

Best regards,

*Lisa Kunz*

City Clerk/Records Manager  
Civic Center Room 102  
406.455.8451

**From:** Christian Madson <cmadson406@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:17 AM  
**To:** commission <commission@greatfallsmt.net>  
**Subject:** Conditional Use Permit: 727 4th Avenue North

This letter is in support of approval for a conditional use permit for 727 4th Avenue North, Great Falls, MT 59401.

We have no reservations regarding the land use for a two-family residence.

Regards,

Christian and Greg Madson  
709 4th Avenue North  
Great Falls, MT 59401  
406-899-5969

**Lisa C. Kunz**

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**From:** Lisa C. Kunz  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 2:03 PM  
**To:** 'Kellie Pierce'  
**Subject:** RE: Resolution 10505 - TIF Funding

Thank you for your comments Kellie. Your comments will be shared with the Commission members and appropriate staff for consideration during the public hearing on Resolution 10505, Agenda Item 13.

Best regards,

*Lisa Kunz*

City Clerk/Records Manager  
Civic Center Room 102  
406.455.8451

**From:** Kellie Pierce <kellie@downtowngreatfalls.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:41 PM  
**To:** commission <commission@greatfallsmt.net>  
**Subject:** Resolution 10505 - TIF Funding

Hello,

I am writing in support of the \$18,000 allocation of TIF funds for the storm drainage project in the alley of the North 400 block. This drainage issue is causing significant property damage to our historic buildings.

**Kellie Pierce**  
Executive Director  
Business Improvement District/Downtown Great Falls Association

Downtown Office  
318 Central Ave.  
Great Falls, MT 59401  
Phone: 406-727-5430

[www.exploredowntowngf.com](http://www.exploredowntowngf.com)  
[Destination Downtown Great Falls](#) - Facebook  
[downtowngreatfallsmt](#) - Instagram



**Lisa C. Kunz**

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**From:** Lisa C. Kunz  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 16, 2023 10:27 AM  
**To:** 'Terry Bjork'  
**Subject:** RE: comment for 5/16/23 regular commission meeting item 17, "Approval of a HOME Investment Partnerships Funding etc"

Thank you for your comments Terry. Your comments will be shared with the members of the Commission and appropriate staff for consideration of Agenda Item 17 this evening.

Best regards,

Lisa Kunz  
City Clerk/Records Manager  
Civic Center Room 102  
406.455.8451

-----Original Message-----

From: Terry Bjork <tlbjork@hotmail.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2023 10:22 AM  
To: commission <commission@greatfallsmt.net>  
Subject: comment for 5/16/23 regular commission meeting item 17, "Approval of a HOME Investment Partnerships Funding etc"

Commissioners

Please support the Neighborworks request for HOME and HOME-ARP funding for renovation of the Baatz Building.

- The building has been an eyesore on downtown sitting there empty and deteriorating for some years.
- There is an obvious need for additional homeless/low income housing in Great Falls, as the current approach of wishing them away does not seem to be working particularly well.
- The HOME-ARP money is pretty much earmarked solely for project like this.
- Neighborworks has always been a responsible partner in Great Falls.

Thanks for your consideration,

Terry Bjork

Great Falls resident

05/16/23 17

## Lisa C. Kunz

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**From:** Lisa C. Kunz  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 16, 2023 10:49 AM  
**To:** 'Shyla Patera'  
**Subject:** RE: Baatz Building HOME -ARP funds

Hi Shyla - Thank you for your comments. Your comments will be shared with the members of the Commission and appropriate staff for consideration of Agenda Item 17 this evening.

Best regards,

Lisa Kunz  
City Clerk/Records Manager  
Civic Center Room 102  
406.455.8451

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Shyla Patera <shycpat@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 16, 2023 10:46 AM  
**To:** Lisa C. Kunz <lkunz@greatfallsmt.net>; commission <commission@greatfallsmt.net>  
**Subject:** Baatz Building HOME -ARP funds

My name is Shyla Patera. I am a resident of Great Falls and through my work at North Central Independent Living Services, Inc. in Black Eagle, Montana . As a reminder, my center for independent living helps citizens with disabilities navigate services so that north central Montanans with disabilities can live in our communities with or without disability supports. As a disability advocate, I have provided disability accessibility information to Be Spark and Sophia Sparklin as The Baatz building has gone through several phases of design planning . As a long time homeless citizens advocate, it is my hope that all Great Falls and Cascade County citizens with disabilities will be able to find accessible, affordable housing with permanent supportive housing and service opportunities if needed, wanted and requested. I believe that Great Falls City Commissioners should support the proposal request of Neighborworks Great Falls and Homeward regarding the Baatz Building use of HOME-ARP funding .

Shyla Patera  
Great Falls ,Montana  
shycpat@icloud.com  
406 781-1885

Shyla Patera IL Specialist North Central Independent Living. Services, Inc.  
1120 25th Avenue North East  
Black Eagle, Montana 59414 406 4529834  
spatera@ncils.org