

## JOURNAL OF COMMISSION/STAFF AGENDA MEETING

2012.15

May 9, 2012  
3:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor Michael Winters, Commissioners Bill Bronson, Fred Burow and Bob Jones.

STAFF PRESENT: Deputy City Manager, Directors of Planning and Community Development, and Public Works, and the Fire Chief

OTHERS PRESENT: *Tribune* reporter Richard Ecke and citizens Ron Gessaman and Mike Witsoe

### **Work Session Review**

Deputy City Manager Jennifer Reichelt went over the items scheduled for the May 15, 2012, Work Session, including the proposed cell phone ordinance and complete streets policy.

### **Agenda Review**

Deputy City Manager Reichelt reviewed the proposed agenda topics and department heads discussed agenda reported information for the May 15, 2012, Commission Meeting. Additional discussion was provided on the following items:

Item 1 - Neighborhood Councils, it was discussed how the drawing would take place for a new Councilmember in Council District 5, due to a tie vote.

Item 5 – Public Hearing for tax exemption status for rental housing providing affordable housing to lower-income tenants, Rainbow House (626 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue South). Mike Haynes provided the Commission with information and answered questions about this item. He also explained that the Commission would not be taking action on this item, just holding the public hearing.

Item 6 – Public Hearing for Ordinance 3088 to adopt the Downtown Urban Renewal District Plan. Mike Haynes explained that the Commission set the public hearing at the last Commission Meeting and that this was the last step in the process before forwarding the request onto the Department of Revenue.

Item 7 – Old Business – Amend the Revolving Loan Fund Agreement between the City and Great Falls Development Authority. Mike Haynes explained that \$300,000 has been set aside for loans. GFDA is asking that the maximum loan amount be increased to \$150,000 (from \$125,000) or 30% of the project, whichever is less.

Item 8 – Ordinances/Resolutions – Proposed Amendments to the Official Codes of the City of Great Falls. Mike Haynes explained that this item set the public hearing for June 5, 2012 and went over the proposed Code changes which relate to bonus living space, C-5 zoning changes, downtown parking changes and general language clean-up.

(5/9/2012)

Under the Consent Agenda Fire Chief McCamley discussed the two EMS contracts included on the contracts list. Jim Rearden also addressed items 12, 13, 14 and 15.

**General Discussion**

The Mayor asked if the Commission wanted to address the Building Coalition's recommendations and comments at this time. The Commission asked to be given at least another week or so to digest the information they were given/presented before responding.

The Mayor asked the Commission about the Large Motor Vehicle Ordinance. The Commission asked to hold off on any action until they get through the cell phone ordinance issue.

Commissioners Jones and Bronson raised concerns about the proposed cell phone ordinance and indicated that they would rather not make it another criminal offense; instead they would support it being a civil offense with a fine.

Commissioner Burow indicated an interest in adjusting fines for those who release animals in the City limits and enforcing mandatory fines. He suggested it be a future work session topic.

There being no further discussion, the informal agenda meeting of April 25, 2012 was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.