

JOURNAL OF COMMISSION WORK SESSION
June 7, 2016

City Commission Work Session
Civic Center, Gibson Room 212

Mayor Kelly presiding

CALL TO ORDER: 5:30 p.m.

CITY COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: Bob Kelly, Bill Bronson, Bob Jones and Tracy Houck. Commissioner Fred Burow was excused.

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager; City Attorney; Assistant City Attorney; Director of Fiscal Services; Fire Chief; Police Chief; and the Deputy City Clerk.

**** *Action Minutes of the Great Falls City Commission. Please refer to the audio/video recording of this meeting for additional detail.* ****

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ron Gessaman, 1006 36th Avenue NE, commented that it is admirable inviting Neighborhood Councils to the work sessions. He suggested that recording devices should be used at the Neighborhood Council Meetings.

Richard Liebert, 289 Boston Coulee Road, thanked the community for their support with regard to the Memorial Day Ceremony. He commented about the availability of budget resources for Neighborhood Councils. Mr. Liebert commended the City Commission with regard to the Rail Crossing at 4th Street NE and inquired as to the status. With regard for the ADF and Super One tax hearings, Mr. Liebert suggested having a Work Session before the public hearings are set.

2. INTRODUCTION AND UPDATE FROM NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL # 3

Mayor Kelly reported that the northern boundary is the City Limit line, the southern is the Northwest Bypass, the eastern and western boundaries are the City Limit line.

Chairperson Terry Thompson introduced fellow council members: Vice Chairperson Cyndi Baker; Secretary Andrea Dean; Official Delegate Kathleen Gessaman and Jana Cooper.

Chairperson Thompson expressed concerns with regard to 36th Avenue NE being raised above the flood level. She noted concerns with traffic, speeding and crosswalks. She further noted that Jana Cooper has been participating in the Park and Recreation Master Plan meetings. Chairperson Thompson commented on the new equipment at Skyline and Jaycee Park. She discussed the need for Citizen involvement with regard to the Calumet Plan for public access to West Bank.

With regard to Neighborhood Watch, Chairperson Thompson noted that there is active communication with neighbors. She encouraged Riverview residences to like the Riverview FaceBook page. She further noted that the library in Jaycee Park is free and doing well.

Mayor Kelly applauded NC 3 for actively seeking additional membership participation.

3. MONTANA DEFENSE ALLIANCE UPDATE

Montana Defense Alliance (MTDA) Chairman David Weissman introduced Great Falls Chamber of Commerce President Brad Livingston; Great Falls Development Authority Len Watkins; Cascade County Commissioner Joe Briggs; Airport Director John Faulkner; City Manager Greg Doyon; Executive Members at Large Steve Grooms and Doug Oswood.

Chairman Weissman reported that the MTDA was formed by the Great Falls Area Chamber of Commerce in 2009. The main priority was to bring together the stakeholders of the community to advocate for the Montana Air National Guard (MANG) and Malmstrom Air Force Base (MAFB). Expansion includes all of Montana's Military. The MTDA works to retain, expand, and acquire Military Missions that are in the best interest of National Security and Montana. The National Guard in Helena is a new liaison for the MTDA. The Montana Defense Alliance meets with key decision makers to help identify key issues. The main conference that the MTDA attends is the Association of Defense Communities (ADC). City Manager Greg Doyon and MTDA Chairman David Weismann will be attending the National Summit at the ADC Conference June 19 – 22, 2016.

Chairman Weissman noted that the Strategic Deterrent Coalition (SDC) advocates for all three legs of the Nuclear Triad. MTDA member Steve Grooms will be attending SDC Conference June 20 & 21, 2016. He further noted that the Air Force Global Strike Command is one of the two major commands that oversee the two legs of the Triad.

Airport Authority Board Director John Faulkner discussed the Master Plan for the Airport and the Montana Air National Guard.

City Manager Greg Doyon gave an update with regard to Community Partnership Initiatives. He further commented on Homeland Security Issues.

County Commissioner Joe Briggs discussed the first phase of an alternative route. He commented on the preferred methods for the alternate route. Commissioner Briggs further noted that Senator Tester and Senator Daines have worked with the MTDA with regard to the Defense Authorization Bill.

Commissioner Houck received clarification as to the expectations with regard to the alternate route.

Mayor Kelly received clarification with regard to the expectation of a proposed response from the Air Force.

Chairman Weissman commented on the availability and potential solutions with regard to affordable housing for the airmen. He discussed Enhanced Use Leases (EUL). EUL's involve Air Force property that is leased to and developed by private industry. He noted that a meeting with the Under Secretary will take place to discuss the EUL projects. Military construction

monies (MILCON) is used for adding facilities on bases in need of new facilities. Malmstrom is in need of a Tactical Response Facility (TRF) for new helicopters. He noted that at a recent Military Affairs Committee, Senator Tester spoke about Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC).

Chairman Weissman summarized that Malmstrom should be considered as an Economic Center, one with opportunity for growth and development, rather than a Military Installation. The Montana Defense Alliance focus is to bring a second mission to Malmstrom as a major, stable employer in Great Falls.

Commissioner Bronson inquired about the potential threats of Malmstrom's future. He further inquired if tools are available to address threat issues.

Manager Doyon responded that the development of Walmart could have a positive impact for interest in other developments in that area. He noted that there are three other identified and documented encroachment impacts to Malmstrom. He added that studies are available for the Commission to utilize when going through land use decisions. Manager Doyon noted that Malmstrom has programs for preserving areas of concern.

Commissioner Briggs commented that the County has utilized all of its tools under state law to protect the Accident Potential Zones and Runway. He also discussed development issues that require annexation by the City.

Commissioner Houck applauded the group efforts.

Manager Doyon commended the MTDA for its work.

Member Steve Grooms commended the 150 Airmen that are deployed.

Great Falls Chamber of Commerce President Brad Livingston noted that the MTDA is a member of the Great Falls Chamber of Commerce. He commented on the importance of having all of the tools and other options available.

Mayor Kelly thanked the MTDA for its work. He noted the importance of meeting with the MTDA more frequently. Mayor Kelly further noted the importance of having retired military personal as members of the MTDA.

4. DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL UPCOMING WORK SESSION TOPICS

Mayor Kelly reported that a GFDA update will be on the next work session agenda.

City Manager Greg Doyon reported that a Neighborhood Council and River Drive South Trail updates will be on the next work session agenda. The budget will be discussed at a future work session. He noted that he will be attending a conference on June 21.

ADJOURN

There being no further discussion, Mayor Kelly adjourned the informal work session of June 7,

2016 at 6:33 p.m.