

JOURNAL OF COMMISSION WORK SESSION
August 16, 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, Tracy Houck and Fred Burow.

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager; City Attorney; Directors of Fiscal Services and Planning and Community Development; and the 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

Brad Livingston, Chamber of Commerce, 100 1st Avenue North, thanked the City and its public safety personnel the past couple of weeks in dealing with the fires and flooding.

2. PARKING UPDATE REPORT

Planning and Community Development Director Craig Raymond reported that the Parking Advisory Commission (PAC) met yesterday as a result of the Commission's direction at its July 19, 2016, Commission meeting for additional information for consideration of Resolution 10155. The PAC made minor amendments to the three proposals set forth in the Resolution. The Resolution will be revised and will be brought forward for Commission action. The amendments are as follows:

- (a) End of Residential Parking Enforcement Program. This proposal was to suspend the permit fees and the residential parking enforcement program for a period of one year.

The Commission discussed issues that were unforeseen when the program was implemented and that are problematic, public education, and the transition of the district over time from business to residential.

Director Raymond commented that the program will be evaluated and the suspension doesn't have to be for an entire year. Staff will be listening to the public, working with the Police Department, and educating the public so that people don't call 911 for parking related issues.

PAC Chairman Bill Mintsiveris explained that the PAC is a reactionary committee as changes occur downtown. The three changes being proposed make sense.

- (b) Suspend enforcement of time limits at all metered locations on Saturdays. The PAC reached consensus and agreed to amend the proposal to extend the timeframe from October 29, 2016, to March 31, 2017.
- (c) Removal of parking meters in low demand areas. To accommodate a business owner in attendance at the PAC meeting, the PAC agreed to amend the proposal to exclude removing the meters in a one block area in front of this certain business. The proposal is to remove the meters along both sides of 2nd Avenue South from 3rd Street South to 6th Street South.

The next step is to submit the Resolution as amended to the Commission for consideration in September, 2016.

Commissioner Houck suggested that the changes be advertised and that information be made available on the City's website to educate the public.

With regard to monitoring (b) above, Director Raymond explained that most PAC members have businesses or work downtown and will be downtown quite a bit on Saturdays. Staff will be listening to their input.

PAC Chairman Mintsiveris concluded that the PAC is excited to see the changes implemented, to hear the feedback, and determine where to go from there. All of the changes were put forth in good faith. The PAC believes the changes make sense and are the right move for right now.

3. DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL UPCOMING WORK SESSION TOPICS

A private company presentation regarding an Energy Audit of certain City properties will be presented at the September 6th work session.

After discussion, it was the consensus of the Commission to add a detailed presentation to the work session topic list when the Park and Recreation Master Plan is complete regarding Natatorium expenditures.

Mayor Kelly suggested adding "a lessons learned" presentation by public safety personnel with regard to recent fire and flooding emergencies. No one objected.

ADJOURN

There being no further discussion, Mayor Kelly adjourned the informal work session of August 16, 2016 at 6:05 p.m.