

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL #4 MINUTES for January 25, 2024

Heritage Baptist Church – 900 52nd Street North, Great Falls, MT 59401

Members Present: Sandra Guynn, James Whitaker, Neil Tredray, Chris Ward, Doug Darko
(All Present)

CALL TO ORDER:

Sandra Guynn called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance

NEW BUSINESS:

- 36th Street South Traffic Study – Eric Boyd, City of Great Falls Street/Traffic Division Manager and Austin Schultz, Traffic Foreman. Extensive data was collected during summer 2023 including traffic counts, speeds, sight lines at intersections, and crash history. The analysis was recently completed. A powerpoint summary of the data is available. Findings were that traffic levels have declined since 2018, speeds are consistent with the posted speed limit, and while the remaining uncontrolled intersections meet requirements for new yield signing due to traffic volumes and/or trees blocking sight lines, due to declining traffic, no changes are proposed right now. The council reiterated the desire to not create a through street. Yield signing would have to be applied to the Avenues because the MUTCD requires the busier street to get the right of way. Tree trimming might help with safety but is voluntary. The staff and council have not received any feedback from residents on 7th Ave S which was converted to all stop sign controlled intersections around 2018. Guynn suggested that staff review the no parking zones adjacent to the 9th Ave/36th St. S. intersection due to difficulty seeing around parked cars. Snow removal plan will get updated this summer and Boyd could speak to the council about it as a future agenda item.

OLD BUSINESS

- Guynn moved to accept the minutes from the September meeting. Darko seconded the motion. Minutes approved.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

- A resident spoke in favor of adding protected/buffered bike lanes on 57th Street. Ward suggested commenting on the Long Range Transportation Plan update on the city website.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Election of Officers.
 - Chair. Ward nominated Guynn. Tredray seconded. All in favor.
 - Vice-chair. Darko nominated Tredray. Ward seconded. All in favor.
 - Secretary. Guynn nominated Ward. Whitaker seconded. All in favor.
 - Official Delegate. Tredray nominated Darko. Whitaker seconded. All in favor.
- By-law Review. New by-laws were presented to be adopted. Darko moved to table approval of the by-laws until next month to allow more review. Second by Tredray. All in favor.
- Open meeting training is a requirement for council members. Training is scheduled for February 20 or 21st. A disclosure form must be completed as well.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Guynn reported on Council of Councils. Items included a police update, Growth Policy update by Brock Cherry, Planning Director, and a letter from NC5 requesting a speed study on 10th Avenue S. between 36th and 57th Streets. NC5 hopes to have a lower speed limit posted.

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

- Guynn presented a development update from Lonnie Hill, Senior City Planner.
 - Silver Stone Apartments. Permit review expected in February. Property not annexed yet. Construction could be this summer.
 - Discovery Meadows. Development agreement to go to City Commission. Construction could start this year.
 - Carwash on 57th Street. Working on underground storage tank remediation.
- Tredray updated on the GYST House. The owner responded to his contact and is receptive to meeting with the neighbors. He passed her contact info on to the neighbors who made the inquiry originally. No other contact since.

ADJOURN

- Whitaker moved to adjourn. 2nd by Darko. Motion carried. Adjourned at 8:08 pm.

Submitted by Chris Ward