

MEETINGS MINUTES  
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL #2  
Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
Great Falls West Elementary School  
5:30 pm

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. A quorum was established with Chair Shyla Patera, Vice Chair Tim Croft, Secretary Frank Speidel, Members Pam Wagner and Wayne Young present. Also present were City of Great Falls Communications Specialist Lanni Klasner and City Commissioner Shannon Wilson. Many members of the neighborhood were in attendance.

OLD BUSINESS

- Approval of the January 2024 minutes

- 5:32 pm Vice Chair Tim Croft made a motion to approve the January 2024 meeting minutes.

Member Wayne Young seconded the motion. The Council unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

- Bay View Apartment Rezone Project recommendation for the City Council.

- Vice Chair Tim Croft attended the meeting and was surprised what the board decided. They went through the traffic, crime, property value, water pressure, trail, parking, all the dirt, FEMA, traffic, safety traffic. They went through all the motions and stuff and he was really surprised and after the Montana State Supreme Court made some decisions about those wrong political spots zones//spot zones are interesting because we're also part of the lawsuit that went against the state of Montana to overturn the two laws that are on the books right now. That's who we have an injunction with. So I have some familiarity with what's going on right now. So some of us are already part of the membership that went ahead and with that law firm that filed the lawsuit against the state of Montana. We won the injunction and the state is appealing it right now. So when she brought up the spot zoning we have another law firm out of Helena that is our way, some of you may know or may not know, that we have already retained, they have already seen the proposal, the video from the meeting last night, just to let everybody know, they will view the entire meeting. They were going to come here personally, but for 25 hundred dollars to have them come here and sit in the meeting, there's better advantageous, will save the 25 hundred dollars having watched the video instead because we have already paid them 25 hundred dollars to just to review the tape, so far is where we sit. So that way if we have any situation that shall arise, the law firm which was referred to us from the firm that filed the lawsuit against the state of Montana, came recommended from these people the tremendous experience in this realm and situation. So when they bring up the spot zoning like they did yesterday, big red flag. And they are going to jump on something like that very quickly.//will you introduce yourself//Kirby Berlin I have the house at 825 2nd St SW I spoke a few times last night//yes you did//yeah because the main reason a lot of these that I try to take in consideration have experiences in the past. And from the other side of things I've seen dilapidated apartment buildings in communities and then I would go in and work with the police and work with the city work with other local entities and bring the whole neighborhood back to life. Increasing property values so I know how that works so I see what's going to happen with if you reverse it. And so when I bring up situations that what was going to happen like when I asked them to pinpoint I would like to know what the direct economic impact of what the property values are going to be to not only the adjacent properties within the quote 150 feet that we like to use per city code but to the neighbors, everyone included. That is why like I showed them last night and they didn't really care except for Ms Essix and she really did a great job I think of listening and preparing accordingly. Here is 100 I can present this to the city council, 100 property owners for the entire neighborhood from 2nd St SW 10 Ave all the way to //printed off //its in the packet//6th St, so the entire basically the neighborhood except for a few that we couldn't get a hold of, they were gone or whatever. The entire neighborhood opposes this zoning change. Now when we had the last city, I mean neighborhood council meeting they kept talking, making introductions, a lot us for the first time about this proposal because we didn't know this is gonna take place or anything about it. And we were exposed to it for the very first time. You know a lot of these really caught us off guard but it shows how strong when we can gather fortunately about 95 percent of the entire neighborhood opposes this project. But also one thing that it has done is it has brought a lot of people together, we didn't know each other, and a lot of common values, and a lot of the similar traits that we all share and that's what a neighborhood is. And now what they are trying to do is push this into this apartment complex and this like I said, two people win, the developer and the settler at the expense of 100 property owners. And the other thing is were pushing this river, Missouri river growth plan. What was on the news just this last night. About the meeting yesterday with police and everything that the commissioners were speaking about. The law enforcement. I even brought up to the staff last night, October 23rd 2023, Great Falls had 142.3 percent crime rate above the national average. What did we have, a failed levy. We don't have a police force to be able to enforce the rules that are on the books here and to minimize the crime and yet they even said on the news article tonight on the news, we cant keep up with the growth. The police force is saying this.

Well who is pushing the growth that we can't even handle ourselves. Growth is allowed we can manage the growth. Right now between the traffic that is happening all around, and nobody can deny it, you try to drive from one side of town to the other side, is the traffic worse or better. It's worse. If you can't manage our city as we are right now, why are we continuing to push growth. So we can have all the economic and development plans that people want, but if you have a neighborhood that doesn't support it one bit, you will apply that growth to when and as it fits. Right now that growth does not fit. And I made my point yesterday. Oh we have all these people who need houses. Right there at the meeting I said I pulled up right there on apartments.com there are 379 available units right now. Give me the names of who needs them I will put them up, I will get them in contact and they can get a house, they can get an apartment. Again, it falls on deaf ears. So the economic impact statement I asked for, they just bolster, oh no we haven't done that. That affects every single person in this entire neighborhood. It affects the city of Great Falls. You decrease the values of every single house a potential 50 percent of the houses. What is going to happen to the assessment values of those homes. The city loses money at the expense of one project. You lose way more money when these houses go down in value, and they will go down in value. You can find any clown up there that says that oh I found one in Salt Lake City that goes up in value, I don't care about Salt Lake city. I don't care about Little Rock. What we care about is Great Falls Montana and that particular neighborhood. Because every neighborhood is different. Every community is different. And every city is different. So you can't take studies from other areas and apply those same studies in this particular neighborhood. You know even on the traffic count that they did yesterday, that they talked about. You don't know how fair was that traffic count and //cross talk //2 days//yeah// and they didn't allow us to speak. When I went and took pictures, of where, and I sent them to the city. Here is where you placed these traffic counters. My dad and I and others went out. There were 66 homes that were disenfranchised from the traffic count that will be using the same street. Do you know how skewed those numbers are. You are only going to skew those numbers to be in favor where it minimizes the impact of the project. So all these numbers that the city is going such a great job in creating the work. They are all faulty, sham numbers that aren't realistic in nature. So that's going to effect the safety. That's going to effect the traffic. That's going to effect the designated bike route that it is. And that's going to effect a lot more than those things at the same time. So you know I even talked to Lonni, I said Lonni this whole thing is just a sham. I said these numbers aren't legitimate. These things aren't real. And then you get the so called traffic experts that come up and do these things. And I even requested put a counter at the first of the 6th st entrance and one at the beginning of 2nd st SW because a 40 percent sampling which I think the traffic expert said is what we're going to need. Well how are these other people, the other 60 percent of the people on that road, they are never going to cross another car that's coming out of that apartment building that's going to take place. Are the cars just going to fly in the air. To get in and out of their neighborhood. No. I even told em. I will buy traffic counters and put them at the front and the back. And I will guarantee those numbers will be significantly different. And yet they don't want to, oh you can't, we know what we're talking about and you don't know. This isn't rocket science. //cross talk//hold on// one at a time//cross talk// one at a time//

◦ Lanni Klasner stated that I just want to see, I know that you collected all these signatures. Are you speaking on behalf of everyone or do we need to have //cross talk//excuse me for a second//cross talk// I went door to door//no//and got them some of them signatures and every single person invited me in their home and it took me //who are you, your name and address please for the record//Lawrence Gadbaw 803 2nd St SW //no I wasn't meaning to interrupt I just want to see there's folks here so I just want to see if there is //I think that we've had enough we're pretty much on the same page//cross talk//we discussed it in length, I went from my house 803 2nd st up Coal drive to 3rd I guess and then over to 9th and all the way down 9th to 6th st. And every single person we discussed the situation, what their thoughts were on it, and every single person was on the exact same thoughts as far as what they thought about it, what they didn't like about it. There was no, everybody was OK with some sort of maybe some townhouses or a few duplexes, or something, but nobody wants three story apartments. They said at that meeting that some of the surrounding areas was the same zone that they want to get that too. Well that's all out of the neighborhood. It is not in the housing part of the neighborhood. It's off to the side. And so when they talk about that what do they call that zone were they're trying to cram it in there //cross talk//M2//spot zone//no as far as that they said could be litigation //spot zoning//spot zoning OK that's exactly what it is. They're trying to shove this thing in a neighborhood that's all single family homes and it doesn't fit. So everybody I talked to is on the same thought process as far as not wanting something like that in the neighborhood //yeah that was my intent was to let everybody speak. So I'm glad you got an opportunity and //ditto the same thing //name and //Bill Bodeski 614 10th Ave SW //thank you//but //alright//I think//I did the same thing 6th st all the way down of course wild food necks, the start of 2nd just about st. //but I think//everybody was against it that I talked to. Some of them 25 to 30 minutes I wanted to keep rolling //oh yeah at least 8 hours//they were all against it, nothing to do with it.

◦ A member of the community commented at yesterday's meeting //you name and address please//Jane Brinkman 310 6th Ave SW //thank you //they kept putting up all these slides, they had all these figures, all these numbers, how many people 34 people here, 18 people on that one graph, they had 1111, they got to shut that down and start listening to the people I feel that whole meeting was geared to what was up on that board, and to heck with every one else.

◦ Chair Shyla Patera responded well I think that is part of what we as a council have to, if we want to support the neighbors or if we want to support this development. Members here are going to have to decide and it has been contentious, at least the November meeting when I attended as well. It wasn't just, some of the same

issues were brought up. It is always tough when you bring something different into a neighborhood not because of need or anything else, it's just going to change the complexity. Is it the right thing for our neighborhood, that's what we have to decide with your help

- Vice Chair Tim Croft commented that one of the points that struck me was the safety of the kids going to school. Where they said there wasn't a safety issue but it was brought to my attention I think by Bill, there isn't any gutters or sidewalks. //cross talk//kids are walking up and down the streets and //cross talk//one of the things that they said at that meeting//let him finish//sorry//. Another thing was if I look at the area, there is no place really for kids to play, except for a vacant lot over here which is //right//super fund//right//chemical//I just want to bring that to attention and they said that the traffic, it's just going to be routine traffic, well I think in the middle of the summer, when people use the trail, and come up and down 10th there's going to a lot more traffic. //March through October is when it picks up //that's another point I want to bring up.

- Chair Shyla Patera responded and that's a great point. I think it's, throughout the life of the project were going to have to as neighbors whether it passes or not. I encourage many concerns, I tried to watch the meeting yesterday, until it cut off. I appreciate every neighbor coming forward because when the issue was tabled until January, the issue was that they didn't give you guys enough notice. So I am really grateful that for all you bring your points forward.

- A member of the community stated that one of the reasons why this zoning change is a very pertinent thing and it really didn't get to come up much, the reason why were in a neighborhood R1, is so we're not around that. We choose to live in a place, we chose to have houses around this, where it is more of a, less of a impactful environment. Now when you change a zone, //garbled//we want to have that, we though we were safe. This creates a very dangerous precedent. Because if anything we can change at any moment in time, all these people are living in these places, living in these homes, and now all of the sudden, oh we can go to anyone developers//garbled// change from R1 to an M2, to make an apartment building, well what place is safe in Great Falls. Because were in neighborhoods with R1 for a reason. To have that protection. And now if anyone at any time can go to the board, to and say hey I want to build an apartment complex, despite 95 percent of the neighborhood saying we don't want that. we're in this neighborhood because we want that safety, we want that zoning, and then someone can go and change it, what is safe then in Great Falls. No place since you create the precedent otherwise.

- A member of the community stated she has another point. Mrs. Essix brought it up yesterday. If you make it into a M2 they can do whatever they want with an M2 zone change. They said well we will voluntarily not do this, not do that. But if they sell, that next person can do whatever they want on that M2 zoning. She brought that up. So I want to bring up that our road, which was brought up yesterday, is part of the Rivers Edge Trail connecting Fox Farm. all the people on the other side of 6<sup>th</sup> St SW to the Rivers Edge Trail. We have CMR cross country runners, we have ladies with baby strollers, we have, and they use our 10<sup>th</sup> Ave SW to get from all of that part of Great Falls, to the Rivers Edge Trail.

- Russ Scott 400 10<sup>th</sup> Ave SW. Your headlights on//that's easily fixed//haha//they brought up last night that 10<sup>th</sup> Ave SW is not Rivers Edge Trail//right//it is a bike path. Rivers Edge Trail stops at the park there. They did bring up the fact out of the six commissioners that were there, only one really did their due diligence in their search and brought up the State Supreme Court pointed out that there is three points to make spot zoning available and this project flunked all three of them. One of them said it has to benefit the majority of the people in that area. Out of 100 people it only benefited 2. My question on that might be how about the 129 people that will be living there could that be counted as benefiting them, or is it just the existing people. They were very concerned about being sued because they are in violation of that spot zoning. And they felt it was easier to pass it off to the City Council at the County Commissioners, and let them with their legal advice handle it rather than them. So they were very concerned about doing so.

- Vice Chair Tim Croft asked did the city legal council did they say, I left at 5:30, so did she have a rebuttal to Mrs Essix//not really // cross talk////no she didn't// she was trying to guide them. They could be liable too. I don't know why they didn't table until they did have the City Council//it was a done deal//yeah//I mean you could just tell when they walked in, they were so unprepared, and they had already made their mind up by however they do their little, their antics, whatever. I have been in enough of these meetings I can read the body language the //cross talk//those people//two ladies and guy on the end.//yeah//they were in lala land //and one was sleeping//but in general across the board, and I had mentioned to Brock Cherry at the last meeting we had here, how he spoke and some general direct questions, I said you guys are already in agreement with this project no matter what we say. //yeah//oh no its all democracy and power to the people//yeah// and everything. Well it's hard to to, when you have 100 signed property owners who are taxpayers who have been here for decades, a 100 have that higher percentage . How do you argue that.

Lanni Klasner recommended to the Council, I am their liaison, is they could, cause since the zoning meeting has already happened, and they voted for it. The Council can write a letter. They need to vote on whether they want to, yea or nay, want to support or not support, but to point out specifically what they are hearing within the neighborhood. That would be you know, to include, they received a lot of feed back from the meetings so that would be as their liaison that would be my recommendation, is that you guys, I mean I want people to continue to share. Not trying to stifle any conversations, but I also want the Council to know that on the agenda is a decision for you to //right//we understand that//and how you want to move forward and it was asked by the community to have a

decision. So I just want to kind of outline what your next steps forward could be. //Vice Chair Tim Croft stated Shyla has to leave pretty quick so I think we will have to take a vote//but I think before we do//comments

- A member of the community stated she had a couple of more things. There is no stop light on 6<sup>th</sup> St SW. They mentioned they are not going to improve our street. There is no room for older//what street is that//cross talk//10th Ave SW//9 Ave SW is even narrower than that //yeah//. They said that there is only 4.5 acres there. There is no way that they are going to get 100 only 113 parking spots for these enormous buildings. And they never really talked about if there is a train derailment that Huffman Ave train crossing is going to be slammed with trains because from Laurel to Shelby that is going to be the main track. And they never, there's just, and also I looked spot zoning up, it's called Montana Miracle. If you want to google it, it comes up on your Montana Miracle. On that spot zoning. I'm done.

- A member of the community stated there is one thing that hasn't been mentioned, its kind of out of they way here, but being a walker myself. Rivers Edge Trail goes underneath the rail road tracks. Many people walk the road, or walk the trail to the road, that rail road bridge has a wonderful walk across which I've taken, illegally. And with 129 units with children, I can see that becoming a thoroughfare to go downtown.//kids walk across there all the time to go swimming to Mitchell pool. //cross talk//

- Berlin 827 2<sup>nd</sup> St all I can say is as representing the people, all the people I have spoken to the have been unanimous, 95 percent 100 percent and they all have the same comments. And a transient community moving into a stable community is not a desirable trait. That's it//thank you//

- Another resident stated there's no place to park cars except on that avenue and they are going to be parked from that cross way that goes to Mayflower all the way around the curve, both sides, and you know the people that live in those apartments are going to have abandoned cars eventually going to be there. Then people that do want to use the Rivers Edge Park wont be able to park. You know that its a big mess, that deal we sat through yesterday, reminds me of going through a Soviet show trail that we used to watch on black and white TV when I was a kid. Like you said when they sat down we already knew who they were.//yeah//sickle and hammer//exactly// and that's a scary thing you know here especially in the State of Montana you know this is how you really exercise you rights and freedoms and you should and it feels like everything but that. And we really mean nothing. They are more than happy to take the taxpayer money //sure the guy told us when we had the meeting last month, //behind you//yeah//he said if we would have passed the bond we probably wouldn't have even done this project, but they want the money. Tax money to spend on//cross talk

- Steve//cross talk//I live at 826 2<sup>nd</sup> St SW stated//person behind you// when you are reading all this how come the one property line it says it has to be reassessed. Is there even enough property to put what they want to put on there. //yeah exactly//or do they have to buy property from the city to accommodate it to put it on there.//well that's if the 3<sup>rd</sup> phase goes through. The way I read it says if FEMA OK's it then they are going to continue on.//But the property line goes all the way back almost to Lawrence's house. //yeah//and that's //garbled// I was just curious is there enough property to put what they want to put there.//that's up to //one last comment//cross talk// and isn't this//well being it is going to be in stages then that could all change. //But they don't own the property.

- A member of the community wanted to know, poor Mr. Gavenaugh sitting down there on this corner, he's going to have cars, I cant even imagine what he is going to have parked because his home is on that corner. He's going to be looking at a 6ft tall fence and they have no consideration for him and his property.//so discussion

- Happy Stefenson 826 2<sup>nd</sup> St SW that driveway is coming right through where they want to put it and it's going right into my house. All those headlights at night is going to come right into my house. I don't think that's fair. It's not, all those headlights, everyone of them coming out of that apartment coming right into my house. //that is definitely a consideration//yeah//all of that is why since day one of the very first meeting//garbled//a direct economic impact study done to this neighborhood. Your house, Lawrence's house are going to be worth squat. I will say that right now//head lights here//now when they do that unfortunately your going to have to //garbled//home buyers who know this stuff. Your not going to give away Lawrence's house. Guess who's going to come talk to ya oh the developer will give you 10 cents on the dollar. That's what is going to happen. And you've done nothing wrong. Lawrence has done nothing wrong. My dad's//garbled//adjacent property to it. //garbled//fence line on this project. All of those areas and all the traffic and everything, all of that will have a dramatic impact, how many emails, how many times have I raised my hand. Why is there not a direct impact economic study on property values because you guys have done nothing wrong and I will guarantee that no matter what they say, whatever their study gonna come out, nobody going to want those houses.

- Vice Chair Tim Croft stated alright Kirby were going to take a vote.//Secretary Speidel asked if we are going to discuss it between the Council Members first

- Chair Shyla Patera stated that we have to make a motion before discussion between the Council members and voting.

- 6:03 pm Vice Chair Tim Croft made a motion to yea or nay this project. Then after discussion send a resolution to the City Council. Secretary Speidel stated he would rather have a discussion before the vote. Lanni Klasner stated we have to have a motion on the table. 6:03 pm Member Wayne Young seconded the motion. Chair Shyla Patera asked for any discussion.

◦ Secretary Speidel stated he didn't know how many have driven it, but I have actually driven the area. I don't know about the 10<sup>th</sup> Ave SW part, but I know I have driven the Hoffman Ave all the way to major thoroughfare and I didn't have a problem with that, but when I drove 2<sup>nd</sup> St SW I did have a problem with that because of what they are bringing up. But it is a problem right now for children. So if they do build that, if we do approve it and they do build it, we are probably going to go back as a neighborhood council and demand that they lower the speed limit from 25 which it currently is, to even lower. //that was brought up by that female today Karen right//I didn't get a chance to read her email//yes she wanted to reduce//cross talk//council discussion only//I have been on this deal for a long time Lonni. When Jerry was going to lower it to 20 but that was the idea//I'm sorry we have Roberts Rules of Order, and right now it is council discussion//OK//So that's what I had a problem with right there. Now one of the guys at the other meeting, the meeting last night, he didn't live there but he had family members living there and he brought up the fact that, well he thinks it would, it would be a benefit to the community, and it would not lower, but raise property values and I could see his point too. But he doesn't live there. He is expressing his view and I don't live there. I live in Neighborhood Council 2 but I don't live over there. I am at a confliction whether I go with the City because I already know what the City wants or do I go with the neighborhood actually wants. So that's what I have an issue with, keep going back and forth with.

◦ Vice Chair Tim Croft stated the keyword to him is neighborhood and this is a neighborhood and that's what he is sticking with the neighborhood. I have lived here my entire life so.

◦ Chair Shyla Patera stated I think that is, I think that we represent the neighbors but the problem is several different considerations of the meeting. In my work life, I will say I have a niche for housing but that doesn't affect my work life just to let everyone know, because usually I am very much for housing. But if the neighborhood has advised us, these are the issues than I think that we should bring those up. We can bring the positives points up as well, but most of our neighbors here, that have come to several different meetings have spoken to the pitfalls and the neighborhood concerns of that, and we represent you.

◦ Member Wayne Young stated he is new to the game. He is on the council since January but he has lived in the neighborhood for over 40 years. I didn't grow up here but I have lived here since 78. I live over on 5<sup>th</sup> Ave SW, that little short piece on other side of 6<sup>th</sup> St. And in the summer, spring and fall I ride my bike. I get across 6<sup>th</sup>, I come down Hoffman go around and take the trail. And I am setting here thinking to myself, what a disaster. And on top of that, the people who live here, that are directly effected, I cant understand how they can not take your concerns into consideration. I mean you got a 100 and some people saying we don't want it. Isn't that what democracy is suppose to be about. About the people and their will. What I have heard so far their will is like no. Not now, not never. This is our neighborhood. And as Tim mentioned, it's a neighborhood. And this will change that neighborhood. So I'm with you guys.

◦ Member Pam Wagner stated that she is new to this as well. A lot of it I knew but I did, I was somewhat alarmed the first meeting was in Nov when this first came up and I listened to residents that came and one of the questions that was brought up to us is that there is a shortage, and I work somewhat with real estate, I work with apartment rentals and I just talked with a couple owners yesterday and they are hoping their apartments will rent. And then I checked on apartments that they said there was a waiting list, and there wasn't a waiting list. So that was a red flag to me. Wait a minute here. And then I am listening to, I am a representative of the neighborhood (noise), but really I am a neighborhood council member. And I listened to the 2 hours 15 minutes before it got cut off and the rest of it today when I was able to get the link. I kind of got the feeling it was going to go that way. I wasn't happy per se, but I just didn't feel that they listened. There was one gentleman that mentioned 327 or something like that apartments which doesn't necessarily surprise me and there might be a couple of people who might benefit that person (noise) there but there are some who it will be devastating, actually devastating. And they have made some considerations, voluntary adjustments for you know, were not going to have a liquor store, could have a hotel down there, yes, could change owners, not the funeral homes like they said and stuff, are bad in themselves. It's a cute little (noise) back there I like it. And I would, if I lived in that community, I would not want it and I think the people overwhelming have said no.

◦ 6:10 pm Chair Shyla Patera stated the council discussion has finished and asked for the yeas and nays. 6:10 pm the Council unanimously denied their support for rezoning request.

◦ Member Pam Wagner will draft a letter for the Council to the City Commissioners of Neighborhood Council 2's decision not to support the rezoning request.

◦ A member of the community stated that for the record that area is called Garden Home Tracks.

◦ 6:13 pm Chair Shyla Patera made a motion to table the rest of the agenda items, visioning and bylaws until the March meeting. Secretary Speidel seconded the motion. 6:14 pm the Neighborhood Council unanimously approved the motion.

◦ 6:18 pm Chair Shyla Patera departed. Vice Chair Tim Croft took over meeting.

◦ 6:22 pm Member Wayne Young asked how the letter is going to be presented to the City Commission, is one of us actually going to go to the meeting. Or is it just sent and they read it and there is no input from us or what. //actually Facebook and sent to them right Frank. Lanni Klasner stated you can email it to them//but is there anybody from the Council that you are going to throw up if they got questions. Secretary Frank Speidel stated if the Member wanted to show up and represent the Council be my guest. Member Wayne Young wanted to know when the next City Council meeting will be. Lanni Klasner stated that it is not on their agenda for the next meeting.

Member Pam Wagner asked if they could make comments or reports from any Neighborhood Council//during any Commission meeting//Lanni Klasner state yes, during any Commission meeting. So at the next Commission meeting you can address this to the Counsel. If the letter is done by next Tuesday.//cross talk//you can do both, submit a letter and go speak. If the Council approves. Shyla is not here to delegate him. She generally the delegate.

◦ 6:25 pm Vice Chair Tim Croft motioned that we delegate Wayne Young show up at the Council meeting to represent us. Secretary Frank Speidel seconded the motion. The Council unanimously approved the motion.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS (Public comment on any matter that is not on the agenda of the meeting and that is within the jurisdiction of the Neighborhood Council. In the interest that all parties can be heard, please limit your comments. When addressing the Council, state your name and either your address or whether you are a Neighborhood Council 2 resident for the record).

- Neighborhood Concerns

◦ Andy Bole 1025 8<sup>th</sup> Ave NW stated that snow plows from the state are burying us. He cleans it up and they come by and do it again. He has contacted the City and they were quite helpful. The issue seems to be confusion on right of way. The state seems to think that they own that whole thing. They only have 3 ft. And the City is a 20 ft alleyway. He went down to Planning and they told him to go to through Neighborhood Council. He is looking for some type of dialog between the Neighborhood Council and Montana Department of Transportation. Chair Shyla Patera will engage with MDT and we can put it on our March agenda as well. The community member stated that it is a city alley way. An EMS corridor and should be left open. He also wanted to know if we could get an ordinance on truck brakes. His mother cant take the truck brake noise anymore. Vice Chair Croft asked if maybe a "rent a cop" sign would help. Resident stated it may, or it may just be a waste of time. He just wanted to bring it to the Councils attention. Lanni Klasner asked for the streets. Community member stated both are North West Bypass corridor//8th Ave NW//yeah Jack Club road to the stop sign//Stuckey Road.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

- Visioning: Tabled until March
- By Laws: Tabled until March

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (Miscellaneous reports, announcements, and agenda suggestions from Neighborhood Council #2 members)

- Neighborhood Watch

◦ Vice Chair Tim Croft reports 1 DUI, 3 vandalism, 1 robbery, 1 arson, 3 assaults, 2 larceny. He also reported that the 5 trailer houses by the Ledo Bar that have been a mess for about 6 months, they have finally cleaned them up. He requested a Facebook post from the Council thanking the Company, Terrascapes, for a job well done.

- Council Facebook Page

◦ Secretary Frank Speidel reports 101 followers, 38 post engagements due to this current situation, 1 new page like, 2 new followers

- Council of Councils

◦ Secretary Frank Speidel reports Police Department same, down 4 sworn officers. Down 8 dispatchers. Still don't know what they are going to do about the Safety Levy. Brock Cherry is new City Planner introduction. Elections Chair Sandra Guynn again, Vice Chair Lisa Meyers, Delegate Eric Ray again, Secretary Alicia Hamilton. Goals of the Mayor and Commission economic development, growth policy, safety levy. Next meeting May 27<sup>th</sup> at 7. Agenda Items are Andrew Finch from the Transportation plan. They are going to try and lower the speed limit on 10 Ave S. Lanni Klasner stated that Council 5 have neighbors that want to, by City Motors up to like North 40 slow that down corridor.

- Council Member Training

◦ Vice Chair Croft reminded the Council members of the up coming training next week the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. Mandatory training every two years.

- Agenda Suggestions

- MDT snow plows right of way

#### ADJOURNMENT

• At 6:30 pm Secretary Frank Speidel motion to adjourn. Vice Chair Tim Croft seconded the motion. The Council unanimously approved. The next scheduled meeting will be on March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 5:30 pm.