

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL #7
Monday, **November 10**, 2025 7:00 p.m.
Gibson Room, Great Falls Civic Center

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was brought to order at 7:00 by Chair Trevor Mikkelsen, who led the Pledge of Allegiance. In attendance were Council Members Troy Lane, Trevor Mikkelsen, Sandy Rice, and Bill Wadman and Liaison Rob Moccasin. Allison Tangen was absent. Roll call of the Council was completed and a quorum established. Neighbors present were Jane Weber, Jolene Schalper, Charles Goodman, and Rose Schuster.

OLD BUSINESS:

The October Minutes were approved as presented.

Committee Reports:

Downtown Development Partnership: The Chamber is launching a Shop Great Falls initiative to run through November and December. All the traffic signal box art is complete. BID is submitting a grant from Montana Main Street to fund the mural lighting. Upcoming November events were presented. The City Commission is accepting applications for the super TIF committee mandated by state law. Current TIF projects include Big Dipper and the Semansky building.

Brownfield Committee: Parameters for Brownfield funds were reviewed.

Downtown Safety Alliance: no report.

Council of Councils: Quarterly meeting report: Chief Newton reported that the SRO presence in downtown over the summer was successful. The SRO officers are now back in the schools. Calumet reported on the splitting of the two businesses, Calumet Refining and Montana Renewables. They are working on environment improvement and use less water. Tours are welcome. Trevor will arrange a tour for NC7.

Strategic Planning: no report

City Safety Funding: the safety committee is continuing to meet.

NEW BUSINESS:

Jolene Schalper from the Great Falls Development Authority presented the mission of GFDA, good jobs with good pay and benefits. The Data Center being discussed is far into the future. The construction happening at the Agri-Tech center is for a new Pepsi building, not a Data Center. There was an extended conversation about the pros and cons of a Data Center in Great Falls and Jolene repeated that this was far into the future, if at all. She suggested checking the weekly Top10 on the GFDA website for further information.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Charles Goodman, director of the Baatz Building supportive housing project, reported that all 24 apartments are occupied. He expressed a need for coffee pots for the apartments and reported on donations the apartments have received.

NEIGHBORHOOD PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

Jane Weber reported that the street lights around Whittier School have been fixed. There are 7686 residents of Cascade County on the SNAP nutrition program which has been halted by the government shutdown. She suggested monetary donations for the Food Bank.

Andy Anderson has a new local newsletter called the Great Falls Gazette.

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL:

Next Meeting: Monday December 8, 2025, at the Civic Center.

Agenda suggestions: Possible tour of Calumet and Montana Renewables

The meeting adjourned at 8:28 pm on unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted, Sandra Rice, Secretary