

# City Council Work Session

5:30 PM  
Council Chambers  
October 1, 2018

ATTENDANCE: Brown Absent

Mayor/Council (please check)  Cromley,  Yakawich,  Brewster,  Ewalt,  Joy,  Friedel,  Gibbs,  Ronning,  Clark,  Brown.

CM excused:

ADJOURN TIME: 10:15 pm

## Agenda

TOPIC #1	One Big Sky District Update
PRESENTER	Bob Dunn – Landmark Development
NOTES/OUTCOME	<p>PowerPoint Presentation</p> <p>Program and Vision Statement</p> <p>Key Drivers and Constraints</p> <p>District Development Plan</p> <p>Convention Center Analysis</p> <p>Purpose</p> <p>Key Competitive Markets</p> <p>Overview of HVS Study</p> <p>Montana Convention Centers</p> <p>Regional Convention Centers</p> <p>Venue of Tomorrow</p> <p>What is the Venue of Tomorrow?</p> <p>Why Billings? Why Now?</p> <p>Consultant Team</p> <p>The Path Forward</p>

- Dunn – November draft development plan, December final draft.
- Ronning – spoken to State legislators, how involved? Dunn – have more work to do before approaching.
- Brewster – appreciate information. Gave clearer view.
- Joy – Billings has opportunity to set an example and draw people from smaller cities.
- **Public Comment:**
- Connie Wardell, P.O. Box 21432, Billings, Montana – presentation has cleared up some issues. Need to focus on non-stop flights.

<b>TOPIC #2</b>	<b>Trail Construction Funding</b>
<b>PRESENTER</b>	<b>Dave Mumford, Public Works Director</b> <b>Kristi Drake, TrailNet</b>
<b>NOTES/OUTCOME</b>	

- Mumford – trails are well used. After snow storms, get calls to plow trails, especially around nursing homes, etc. Assessments on property taxes, opt out option possible.
- Drake – many trails are not connected. Loop around the City with connections ideal goal. Trail contributions \$1 million.
- Yakawich – would like to see opting in rather than out. Mumford – do not see very many people opting in. Would be maintained by City, not a private assessment.
- Ronning – one time opt out or can pick and choose? Mumford – still looking at options.
- Clark – opt in wouldn't work? Mumford – opt in would be similar to donation.
- Gibbs – opt in portion was low in another area, option for more than original amount, annual opt out seems like best option. Mumford – monthly opt out would take up a lot of staff time.
- Cromley – has TrailNet considered procedure? Drake – write a letter would be ideal. PW to figure out how procedures work.
- Ewalt – what utility bill would it be on? Mumford – water, sewer, garbage combined bill. People from outside City paying for trails, opt in would support, opt out not support.
- Joy – like sunset feature, opportunity to see what has been accomplished. Mumford – community is generous when trusting. Would need to keep trust and follow through.
- Mayor – sunset via time or money raised.
- Clark – does Heights water get separate bill? Mumford – sewer/garbage bill for Heights residents.
- Cromley – opted out for year, some bills go out with amount and some without? Mumford – yes, assessment would be removed.
- Clark – send out letters asking whether opt in or out. Mumford – Yes and would use media.
- Brewster – electronic bills? Mumford – would go with email.
- Gibbs – rough estimate of start up costs. Mumford – not yet.
- Ronning – impressed with TrailNet, thanks to City for creative idea. Mumford – TrailNet funding has been an important part of projects.
- Friedel – stats on crime that trails produce. Mumford – have heard that trails decrease crime due to public use.

- Wyeth Friday, Planning Director – local funding mechanisms work well.
- **Public Comment:**
- Scott Atwood, 207 Yellowstone Avenue, Billings, Montana – great investment, support.
- Audrey Wagner, 310 South 35<sup>th</sup> Street, Billings, Montana – support, great exercise.
- Scott Brown, 4650 Kestrel Road, Billings, Montana – owner Base Camp, support trail system.
- Steve Arveschoug, BSED – support.
- Connie Wardell, P.O. Box 21432, Billings, Montana – not in favor of opt in/out.
- Steve Shandera, 1109 North 31<sup>st</sup> Street, Billings, Montana – support.
- Dan Brooks, 815 South 27<sup>th</sup> Street, Billings, Montana – support.
- Karla Mayhan, 5240 South Thunder Mountain Square, Billings, Montana – support, husband was hit riding bike on road.
- Bruce Kelling, 2006 McKay Lane, Billings, Montana – support.
- Kathleen Aragon, 645 O'Malley Drive, Billings, Montana – support.
- Darrell Tunnicliff, 2341 Quail Court, Billings, Montana – support.
- Jeremy Combs, 1820 Songbird Drive, Billings, Montana- support.
- Gerald Kessler, 237 Avenue B, Billings, Montana – support.
- Ed Gulick, 3015 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, Billings, Montana – support.
- Tom Rupsis, 105 Legends Way, Billings, Montana – support.
- Timothy Pellandini, 2416 Cascade Avenue, Billings, Montana – support, great recruiting tool.
- Recess at 8:40 pm, reconvene at 8:45 pm.
- Cromley – direct staff for proposal opt out/\$2 month.
- Friedel – against, cost annually with complete streets in savings, engineer extra couple feet, cost to implement opt in/out.
- Joy – constituent suggested bicycle license at time of purchase, asset for all.
- Brewster – interested in opt in, if one time opt out.
- Yakawich – opt in version. Underestimating citizens opting in.
- Gibbs – would like to see both opt in/out options, data on differences.
- Ewalt – logistics within utility department, study on impacts in department, like opt in.
- Mumford – will present options to Council at later date for recommendations.
- Mayor – general consensus to bring back opt in/opt out options on bills.
- Friedel – would like to see costs for implementation.

<b>TOPIC #3</b>	<b>Police Department Update</b>
<b>PRESENTER</b>	<b>Chief St. John</b>
<b>NOTES/OUTCOME</b>	

- St. John – have reached out to try to recoup costs for presidential coverage. Explains complexities of policing challenges. Increasing calls, overview of trends and challenges.
- Ewalt – application process. St. John – 60-70 applicants for 4 positions. Lose some during process. Keep applications on file.
- Clark – percentage quit after training? St. John – less than 3%.
- Friedel – combining City and County officers? St. John – defeated years ago. Different pay structures, ranks, etc.
- Ronning – commends officers, would like to see more information on legislative issues. School Resource Officers pulled for Trump rally? St. John – Yes, everyone was pulled for rally. Ronning – technology was amazing during ride along.
- Mayor – Citizens Police Academy information. St. John – 8 week program runs twice per year, Tuesday 6-9 pm. Get to do ride along, creates volunteers.
- Joy – what gets put on back burner due to staffing issues? St. John – Proactive policing, disrupt crime before it happens. Currently 22 officers down in patrol.
- Clark – who pays for officers in schools? St. John – City pays for about 2/3 of 5 SRO's, school pays for 3 officers.
- **Public Comment:**
- None

<b>TOPIC #4</b>	<b>Council Discussion</b>
<b>PRESENTER</b>	
<b>NOTES/OUTCOME</b>	

- Bruce McCandless, City Administrator – memo regarding Popelka property, ditch and power line issues seem manageable. Council direction? Go ahead with closing.
- Mayor – City Administrator interviews, dinner schedule. Agreement to be brought to Council by October 22 Council meeting.
- Yakawich – October 13 Community Peace Building meeting.
- Clark – League of Cities and Towns interesting topics. Resolutions to go before legislature. Next year will be on October 2-4, 2019 in Billings.

<b>TOPIC #5</b>	<b>Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda</b>
<b>PRESENTER</b>	
<b>NOTES/OUTCOME</b>	

- Jeff Essmann, 3130 McMasters Road, Billings, Montana – proposal spreading fire and police through public safety district, per square foot building on parcel, looking at non-profits is fair.
- Matt Vincent, 1201 W. Porphyry, Butte, Montana – Ex CEO Butte Silverbow County, I-186, bill for responsible mining. Bad bill for MT.
- Connie Wardell, P.O. Box 21432, Billings, Montana – supervised walking program less expensive than bussing and healthier. Trail system could provide ways for kids to walk to school.