

City Council Work Session

5:30 PM
Council Chambers
September 21, 2015

ATTENDANCE:

Mayor/Council (please check) Hanel, Cromley, Yakawich, Cimmino, Pitman, McFadden, Bird, Swanson, McCall, Crouch, Brown.

Announcements: None

ADJOURN TIME: 8:57

Agenda

TOPIC #1	Airport Customer Facility Charge
PRESENTER	
NOTES/OUTCOME	

- Kevin Ploehn: presentation. (on the server)
- Crouch: how much water recycled? Almost all of it.
- Ploehn: continues with presentation. No plans to change fee but could do so in future
- Brown: CFC charge for every car? Every car rented in Billings. Transaction has to start in Billings.
- **Public comments:** none

TOPIC #2	Airport Terminal Expansion Concepts
PRESENTER	
NOTES/OUTCOME	

- Kevin Ploehn : presentation. (on the server)
- Cimmino: restrooms additions size or number? square footage/size
- McCall: Concessions in sq ft? Yes. Probably downsize restaurant that was built for 1950s.
- Ploehn: presentation continues – terminal construction, 8 options, narrowed to 3. After review, eliminated one of them, so left with 2 options.
- McCall: existing terminal sq ft? How much expansion? Don't know, but will check.
- Ploehn: presentation continues with floor plans and elevations.
- Hanel: concessions? Yes, have not decided where yet. Security? Will include some and gates will be visible from it. New security uses some of the previous restaurant space.
- McFadden: raise ceiling purpose? Have to raise the ceiling if we move the security up to the concourse level.
- Cimmino: eliminate the stairs to concourse? No, but they will be moved.

- Cromley: if no checked luggage, go to upper level? Parking structure? Yes. Discussing parking structure and it would fit in with raised screening area.
- Pitman: what triggers parking garage? Numbers. Concessions going to be well known fast foods? Name brands follow the numbers and hub airports. Will be lucky to have 2 bidders on concessions. View when deplaning? Nothing slated to change near baggage claim. Won't change a lot with either option.
- McFadden: will improvements generate more people or airlines? Hard to say, these improvements are intended to improve the experience for current passengers.
- McCall: Façade change? Is it going to have pizzazz or a new appearance? This is a space study; don't know what finishes will be.
- Brown: if we attract new airlines, how will that fit the projections and planned facilities? Improvements will accommodate a new airline. Tight right now.
- Bird: will billings have to relocate the airport? Enough expansion space for the terminal? Not for a long time. Runway is at 20% capacity. Terminal expansion is many years in future.
- Volek: this has been a long term planning effort. Airline market much different now. Fewer airlines, more demands. Not a lot of communication about planning until recently. Chamber air service committee heard presentation last week, relationships being built.
- Ploehn: getting close to term of 1991 bonds. Easy to finance at this point. Bonds, PFCs, could get some higher fees from airports. Does not impact taxpayers, only passengers with a user fee.
- Hanel: airport served well, dysfunctional now and needs to be addressed.
- Swanson: construction time? Will get back to that.
- Cromley: new concession area serves as part of the hold room space? Yes, some sharing but hold rooms do increase a lot.
- Ploehn: CTA estimated costs. 9 million for small expansion. Anywhere from 40-55 million for larger.
- Volek: Previous size was 153,000 square footage.
- Hanel: when expansion happens, what does it do to operations? Airport remains open, contributes to cost. Construction would be staged/phased. Could start concourse B changes anytime.
- Yakawich: practical reasons for improvements - Infrastructure is aging so need new equipment, etc? Yes. Siding is deteriorating; improve energy efficiency, HVAC replacements.
- Ploehn: start work next year on concourse B, conversation about whether to use local architects or go outside for specialists, 9-12 months to design, construction for 2 years.
- Volek: if specialist architects hired, will probably use local architects for part of the design.
- Cimmino: why "international" in the title? Airport commission said that if there is any hope of international traffic, leave it in the title. \$200k/year to have customs inspection.
- Crouch: council decisions tonight?

- Ploehn: architect selection guidance ideas? Ask for RFPs?
- Brown: Bozeman is cheaper now, what does it do to our traffic if we raise rates in order to do the improvements?
- Ploehn: business travelers pay about the same, but leisure travel has better rates.
- Hanel: suggest that travelers and rates be subject of a future work session presentation.
- Pitman: go ahead with concourse B now and RFP for the rest. Parking is part of the project.
- **Public comments:**
 - Steve Arveschoug: with Big Sky Economic Development, appearing for John Brewer and air service committee. Wants Kevin to move ahead now.
 - Steve Wahrlich, air service committee member and TBID president: consultant helped understand our market. Agree that business travel is our market and leisure travelers will come in time. Think TBID can drive passengers to Billings, including marketing in Bozeman.
 - Bird: why do Bozeman residents fly out of Billings? Mr. Wahrlich: believe its business travelers. Dynamic pricing.
 - Cimmino: what will TBID do at airport? Mr. Wahrlich: multi-media and regional advertising.
 - Hanel: freight through airport? Mr. Wahrlich: high number of freight moves through airport
 - Crouch: info from Minneapolis marketing? Mr. Wahrlich: not prepared today but good results.
 - Pitman: TBID assist with this? : Mr. Wahrlich yes, may be able to but hard to put hotels money out there, this should be a community investment. Willing to help but can't be alone.
 - Kevin Nelson: 4235 Bruce Avenue, Billings, MT: good perception entering and leaving airport. Security lines are too slow, not too few. Bad taxi service.
 - Dennis Ulvestad: 3040 Central Avenue, Billings, MT: need to improve airport
 - Peggy Gaghen: 87 Mountain View, Billings, MT: airport commission member and former councilmember. Always impressed with airport personnel.
 - Pam Ellis: 2000 Outlook Drive, Billings, MT: supports improvements and encourages RFP process and would like to see energy efficiency options
 - Hanel: Council approves moving ahead? Councilmembers: Yes
 - McCall: national bid partnering with local companies

TOPIC #3	Task Force Discussion
PRESENTER	
NOTES/OUTCOME	

- Candi Millar: 2013 – 2014 strategic planning goals to review task forces.

- McCall: another task force is Highlands, although it's not active at this time. School issues, active for a while but disbanded.
- Cromley: North Elevation (now called Pioneer Park) also included
- Millar: task force is important as conduit to Council.
- Bird: SW Corridor meets monthly. Will do some follow-up.
- Crouch: know how many attend? Ms. Millar: No
- Yakawich: council has responsibility to attend task forces.
- Cromley: chairs meet? Yes
- Brown: does city promote or advertise that task forces exist? Yes, periodically mailers go out. Task force meetings are listed on website.
- Cimmino: Neighborhood plans on website.

Public comments:

- Dick Clark: 1207 25th ST. West, Billings, MT: president of west end task force. Meet 11 times/year, usually with speaker, core group of 10-15.
- Yakawich: how can city help the task force? Mr. Clark: tried lots of things, had help from Planning, mainly need to let people know we're meeting.
- Dennis Ulvestad: 3040 Central Avenue, Billings, MT: task force chairs should visit other task forces.
- Matt Lundgren: 4251 Iron Horse Trail, Billings, MT: thanks for serving city. Task Forces are vital to communities.
- Yakawich: how can city support task forces? Mr. Lundgren: people from various city departments attending will help.
- Terry Buller: North 2nd Street, Billings, MT: find a champion to keep neighborhood organized. Next door website is helpful.
- Cromley: how should task forces mesh with next door social network? Mr. Buller: we are new to it, but it seems safe and helpful.
- Yakawich: Task force training? Mr. Buller: Yes, it would be helpful.
- Kevin Nelson: 4235 Bruce Avenue, Billings, MT: SW corridor members attending the TIF meetings (SBURA) so not very active or well attended.
- Pam Ellis: chair of heights task force, meetings are well attended and Facebook page is growing.
- Peggie Gaghen: 87 Mountain View Blvd, Billings, MT: task force participation is a link to being informed about neighborhoods.

TOPIC #4	Council Discussion
PRESENTER	
NOTES/OUTCOME	

- Hanel: continue to receive complaint from Troy Boston at Boston Harbor Tea about code violations at Good Stuff (Broadwater). Metal fence at rear, encroaches on alley, junk dumped in alley.
- Crouch: next week will have an initiative to bring down reserves. Hire 4 police, 4 fire, and 2 dispatchers.
- Pitman: introduced 2 of his children
- McCall: support Crouch initiative. Staff also provide cost estimate for 6 police, 6 fire and 4 dispatchers.

- Cimmino: remember that we have to support on-going personnel and costs.
- Volek: Weber states COLA costs are about \$1 million/year. Work session discussion in future about costs and mills.
- Yakawich: Miss Emma, living on Antelope Trail, concern about Alkali Creek trail
- Volek: staff will look into Alkali Creek Trail. Also, Millar will check on complaints about Good Stuff, lawsuit enforcement limitations.
- Hanel: report to the Boston's instead of me.
- Brown: when staff reports on public safety personnel costs, staff says there are other considerations, would like more info from Weber all at one time about the considerations.
- Volek: 2 year reappraisal, capital needs, current costs of existing personnel
- Yakawich: invite Council to Leadership forum event on Oct 26
- Cimmino: reminder that Jani needs City Administrator personnel evaluation forms.
- Bird: will sponsor initiative about using Council Contingency funds to help Yellowstone County spelling bee - \$2000. Yakawich - Volunteer recognition event in Oct? Pitman, Cromley, Cimmino and I will meet with Volek tomorrow, planning flier, Oct 22 is the date.

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

- Kevin Nelson: setting aside tipping fees. Fees support the program, not a profit, entitled to a reserve. If not charging fees, must be a profit. Charging me more as a result. Should use tax money to reimburse PW for the costs of the program.
- Brown: moving toward a work session to discuss all options.
- Volek: thought Council direction was to bring decision package to Council, scheduled for Oct 13.

Additional Information:
