

# City Council Work Session

5:30 PM  
Virtually Held Via Zoom  
March 1, 2021

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Mayor/Council** (please check) ✓ Cole, ✓ Shaw, ✓ Yakawich, ✓ Neese,  
✓ Ewalt, ✓ Joy, ✓ Choriki, ✓ Purinton, ✓ Ronning, ✓ Boyett, ✓ Brown  
**CM excused: None**

**ADJOURN TIME: 9:01 PM**

## Agenda

<b>TOPIC #1</b>	<b>Police – Center for Public Safety Management (CPSM) Analysis and Polco Police Services Survey</b>
<b>PRESENTER</b>	Chris Kukulski, City Administrator Kevin Iffland, Assistant City Administrator Wayne Hiltz and Thomas Wieczorek, CPSM Representatives Michelle Kobayoshi and Damema Mann, Polco Representatives
<b>NOTES/OUTCOME</b>	

- Thomas Wieczorek, CPSM: gave an overview of the survey completed by the City.
- Michelle Kobayashi, Polco: provided a presentation concerning the survey. Stated they have historical data for Billings because Polco has been working with Billings on its citizens’ survey for several years. She stated she wasn’t certain how much COVID may have affected people’s perceptions of public safety whether they were negative or positive due to COVID. People are perceiving that they are less safe in Billings overall, but citizens are very supportive of the police, much higher than the national average; 60% gave an excellent rating. Half of residents that responded have had contact with the police. Discussed ways to survey a willingness to pay.
- General Council questions and discussion.
- Kevin Iffland, Assistant City Administrator, did not look at just 1 group. Targeted as many people as possible.
- Wayne Hiltz, CPSM: introduced others in their group, all have law enforcement backgrounds. Data report results used in assessment report. He spoke of the crime rate being higher than average for Billings. He reviewed the CPSM results and recommendations.
- Rich St. John, Police Chief, spoke of the culture of the City’s Police Department, the departments focus and goals.
- Council continued discussion.

Recess: 7:50 PM  
 Reconvene: 8:00 PM

- **Public Comment:**
- **Dan Brooks, Billings Chamber of Commerce, 815 S. 27<sup>th</sup> St., Billings, MT:** Gave support for PSML and made several suggestions to supporting law enforcement.
- **Kari Lynne Boiter, 946 Yorkshire Ct. W., Billings, MT:** Gave many suggestions to support law enforcement. Spoke of reconvening the Citizens Police Advisory Board.
- **Tina Duran, PO Box 312, Billings, MT:** Stated she was a member of Warrior Women for Justice and offered whatever help the police needed in reaching under-served population for surveys, etc.
- **Amanda Martin, 50 Magnolia St., Box Elder, MT:** Stated she works for IPA and was a member of Warrior Women for Justice. She spoke of public records requests needing a time limit. She offered assistance to the police department.
- **Delano Small, 302 Jackson St. #3, Billings, MT:** Commented on concerns for the homelessness.
- Council continued discussion about crime statistics and the need for jail expansion.

<b>TOPIC #2</b>	<b>Legislative Updates</b>
<b>PRESENTER</b>	Chris Kukulski, City Administrator
<b>NOTES/OUTCOME</b>	

- CA Kukulski: gave an update on Legislative topics of interest to the Council and or affecting the City.
- **Public Comment:**
- None

<b>TOPIC #5</b>	<b>Council Discussion</b>
<b>PRESENTER</b>	
<b>NOTES/OUTCOME</b>	

- None

<b>TOPIC #6</b>	<b>Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda</b>
<b>PRESENTER</b>	
<b>NOTES/OUTCOME</b>	

- **Public Comment:**
- None