

City Council Work Session

5:30 PM

Hybrid, Billings Public Library Community Room and Zoom

June 21, 2021

ATTENDANCE:

Mayor/Council (please check) ✓ Cole, ✓ Shaw, ✓ Yakawich, ✓ Neese,
 ✓ Ewalt, ✓ Joy, ✓ Choriki, ✓ Purinton, ✓ Ronning, ✓ Boyett, ✓ Brown
CM excused:

ADJOURN TIME: 7:23 PM

Agenda

TOPIC #1	Stormwater Utility and Service Levels
PRESENTER	Debi Meling, Public Works Director
NOTES/OUTCOME	

- Debi Meling gave an overview of project history, goals, phase I results and findings. She reviewed the stormwater program, deferred maintenance, capital improvements, and phase II decisions. Tyler Westrope, City Engineer, (via Zoom) indicated he was available for questions.
- General Council discussion and questions.
- Jennifer Duray, Deputy Public Works Director, spoke of comparable cities and their rates.
- Continued Council discussion.
- **Public Comment:** None
- Debi – how much public participation? Mayor Cole recommended written public participation plan that Council approved.

TOPIC #2	Coronavirus Response Initiative Project – VISTA Report
PRESENTER	Tam Rodier, CD Program Coordinator and AmeriCorps VISTA members
NOTES/OUTCOME	

- Amber Nichols and Blake Matthews, VISTA members, provided a PowerPoint Presentation viewing their findings of a survey and the 2 programs they developed during the pandemic and their response. They discussed the community assessment, priorities, virtual needs, food security, mental health, utilities and awareness of services.
- General Council discussion and questions.
- Tam Rodier addressed Council questions.
- **Public Comment:** None

TOPIC #3	Council Discussion
PRESENTER	
NOTES/OUTCOME	

- Ronning: Geico Commercial was filmed at Dehler Park.
- Yakawich: Code enforcement – encourages proactive code enforcement, rather than complaint driven. He stated that in the more impoverished areas people are afraid to report violations.
- Neese: Doesn't want code enforcement to become the lawn police. Applications and complaints are easy to do and he wants neighbors to be involved in the process.
- Boyett: stated that being proactive is code enforcement responding to one call and seeing that across the street there is an abandoned vehicle without tires, hood up and no engine, code enforcement shouldn't look the other way, but respond to that as well.
- Shaw: Likes common sense code enforcement terminology.
- Ronning: Appreciates proactive approach.
- Wyeth Friday, Planning Director, (via Zoom): tracking complaints by Wards.

TOPIC #4	Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda
PRESENTER	
NOTES/OUTCOME	

- Dennis Ulvestad, 3040 Central Avenue, A102, Billings, Montana: Been involved in many boards. 24th and Central traffic to 8th Street to increase the speed limit to 35 mph to alleviate
- Catherine Card, 2815 4th Avenue South, Billings, Montana: spoke about Road Dogs assault she received by a Galloping Goose Gang. She is concerned that there are police officers associated with the gang and these gangs are allowed to take over the streets with several hundreds of bikers from time to time without proper permitting.