



VISION STATEMENT:
"The Magic City: A diverse,
welcoming community
where people prosper and
business succeeds."

WORK SESSION AGENDA
October 3, 2022

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

5:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Cole

Present: Councilmember Kendra Shaw, Ward I
Councilmember Jennifer Owen, Ward II
Councilmember Denise Joy, Ward III
Councilmember Danny Choriki, Ward III
Councilmember Daniel Tidswell, Ward IV
Councilmember Pam Purinton, Ward IV
Councilmember Mike Boyett, Ward V
Councilmember Tom Rupsis, Ward V
Mayor William Cole

**Absent/
Excused:** Councilmember Gulick, Ward I
Councilmember Neese, Ward II

**Staff
Present:** Chris Kukulski, City Administrator
Kevin Iffland, Assistant City Administrator
Gina Dahl, City Attorney
Rusty Logan, Transit Manager
Andy Zoeller, Finance Director
Wyeth Friday, Planning Director

Public comment:

- **Lenette Kosovich, Substance Abuse Connect**, spoke of public/private partnerships and accomplishments of Substance Abuse Connect.
- **Walt Donges, 941 Constitution Avenue, Billings, MT**, recognized the Mayor and Council for their support and spoke of the past year's activities for 406 Pride.

1. Transit Development Plan

Bill Troe, SRF Consulting, gave an overview of the Transit Development Plan, recommended action, results of the community outreach, anticipated future budget and investments. He reviewed the fixed route network and schedule improvements. He showed maps of the redesigned transit network, expansions, designated stops, and benefits of improved frequency. He reviewed the Lockwood Transit Service concepts plan and the next steps.

Council discussion included: handicap options, hiring additional drivers, the transit app, reduced cost options, and shelters.

Rusty Logan, Transit Manager, answered Council's questions and reviewed the model for Federal funding for the Lockwood concept.

Public comment: None

2. Commercial Property Assessed Capital Enhancement (CPACE)

Seth Lutter, MT Facility Finance Authority, spoke of the Authority's mission and ways they helped. He reviewed energy costs, financing options, typical measures funded by CPACE, eligible properties, tax impacts and the process involved. He gave an overview of the role of local government and indicated the City could be as involved or uninvolved as they would like.

Council discussion included: benefits to the borrower, government involvement, collateral, the role of the County, MT Facility Finance Authority funding, size of districts, and nonprofit assessments. Council questioned using CPACE as a financing option for the Stillwater Building.

Andy Zoeller, Finance Director, indicated the City used the tax base as a repayment option which was typically the most beneficial.

Public comment:

- **Dan Brooks, Chamber of Commerce**, supports program and spoke of benefits.
- **Wesley Dunn, 832 Dorothy Lane, Billings, Montana**, thanked Council.

3. Ward Boundary Updates

Wyeth Friday, Planning Director, reviewed the background of the current ward boundaries and gave an overview of 2023 election schedule and ward changes being proposed.

Council reviewed the map, proposed ward boundaries changes and the potential of Charter changes that could affect the wards.

Chris Kukulski, City Administrator, discussed possible amendments to the Charter to change wards and Councilmembers.

Public comment:

- **Wesley Dunn, 832 Dorothy Lane, Billings, Montana**, indicated Ward I was encroaching on Heights.

Council indicated approval for moving forward with proposed map.

4. Highlight Upcoming Agenda Items of Council Interest.

Chris Kukulski, City Administrator, reviewed upcoming items.

Public comment: None

COUNCIL DISCUSSION:

Councilmember Purinton spoke of a Ward 4 constituent complaint of barking dog and questioned how the City could impact policies of animal control. Mr. Kukulski spoke of Council options to address policies. Councilmember Boyett gave kudos to landfill staff for cleaning of landfill area.

PUBLIC COMMENT on "NON-AGENDA ITEMS". Speaker Sign-in required. *(Restricted to ONLY items not on this printed agenda. Comments are limited to 3 minutes or as set by the Mayor. Please sign the roster at the cart located at the back of the Council chambers or at the podium.)*

- **Wesley Dunn, 832 Dorothy Lane, Billings, Montana,** spoke of the Dorothy Lane issues being a Billings problem, meth problem. He spoke of marijuana money for heights.
- **Amber Dunn, 832 Dorothy Lane, Billings, Montana,** spoke of an incident on Dorothy Lane, the need for a full time Mayor.

ADJOURN: 7:52 PM