



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

WORK SESSION SUMMARY

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

January 17, 2023

5:30 P.M.

220 N. 27th St.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Cole

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

Absent/
Excused: None

Staff
Present: Chris Kukulski, City Administrator
Kevin Iffland, Assistant City Administrator
Gina Dahl, City Attorney
Kory Thompson, Recreation Superintendent

Public comment:

- **Amber Dunn, 832 Dorothy Lane, Billings, Montana**, spoke of mental health issues due to issues on Dorothy Lane.
- **Jaqueline Garcia, 836 Dorothy Lane, Billings, Montana**, spoke of the need for community support for crime issues.
- **Wesley Dunn, 832 Dorothy Lane, Billings, Montana**, spoke of Council not answering questions and concerns not being addressed.
- **Dale Parkin, no address given, Billings, Montana**, spoke of the lack of general cleanup in downtown and how to address homeless issues.

1. **Multi-Generational Recreation Center**

Kory Thompson, Recreation Superintendent, introduced staff involved in the Parks and Recreation Department. He gave an overview of the Recreation departments role, SD2 partnership, swimming pools and City Park programming.

Dusty Eaton, A&E Design, spoke of the project goals, community survey results, floor plan designs projects costs and cost recovery options.

Council spoke of the next steps after adoption of the plan.

Chris Kukulski, City Administrator, spoke of the importance of adopting a plan and the allowance of tweaking the plan before completion.

Council discussed various plans for the center, expenses, and budgeting numbers.

Jeff King, Ballard King, spoke of the center “ramp up” and how the expenses would change throughout the process. He spoke of operations costs, potential savings through utilization of volunteer groups and City services.

Council continued questions about construction completion time, bonding, potential operational efficiencies and sizing possibilities.

Mr. Eaton and Mr. King addressed Council’s concerns.

Public comment:

The following constituents spoke in favor of the Multi-Generational Recreation Center:

- Tyler Yarina, Boulder Elementary School, Billings, Montana.
- Paxon Waddoups, Arrowhead Elementary School, Billings, Montana.
- Samuel Went, Billings West and Billings Aquatics Club, Billings, Montana.
- Heather Hasiak, 6607 O’Donnell Lane, Billings, Montana.
- Julie Seedhouse, 104 North Broadway #308, Billings, Montana.
- Dax Rice, 2522 Silver Spur Trail, Billings, Montana.
- Shawn Seedhouse, 104 North Broadway #308, Billings, Montana.
- Megan Davis, 1017 Princeton Avenue, Centennial Ice Arena, Billings, Montana.
- Evan Decker, Billings Chamber of Commerce.
- Pete Kamman, Hockey Association, Bozeman, Montana.
- Jodie Adams, 5520 Morning Star Lane, Billings, Montana.
- Liana Sustott, Big Sky State Games Executive Director.
- Derek Waddoups, 3648 Donna Drive, Billings, Montana.
- Doug Wild, 4712 Audubon, Billings, Montana.
- Kristy Cancro, 1710 East Thunder Mountain Road, Billings, Montana.
- Dan Githens, 3126 Harrier Lane, Billings, Montana.
- Shannon Wippert, 1605 Long Pine Drive, Billings, Montana.
- Sean Gilmore, 909 Governors Boulevard, Billings, Montana.
- Aaron Noble, 3713 Tommy Armour Circle, Billings, Montana.

Council discussed additional staffing, community involvement, and legislative options for funding.
Recess at 7:58 pm. Reconvene at 8:10 pm.

2. Local Governing Authority Appointments.

Chris Kukulski, City Administrator, spoke of the need for Council appointments to the board.

Councilmember Neese indicated it would be easiest to appoint the Mayor and Deputy Mayor to the board.

Councilmember Boyett made a motion to direct staff to assign Mayor and Deputy Mayor to fill those positions. There was not a second. Approved 10-1, Councilmember Choriki opposed.

Public comment:

None

3. Council and Leadership Team Retreat.

Chris Kukulski, City Administrator, discussed possible dates of February 24-25 or March 31-April 1.

Council discussed location, having retreats every year or changing to every other year, and dates. Council consensus: different location (no Depot), checking with department heads for schedule, food was good.

Public comment:

None

4. Highlight Upcoming Agenda Items of Council Interest.

Land use issue/Blue Creek area.

Public comment:

None

Council Discussion:

Councilmembers Neese and Purinton – Legislative Committee updates.

Councilmember Owen – Will present a Council Initiative to hire National Center for State Courts to examine/plan on resourcing a new municipal court.

Mayor Cole – Governor roundtable discussion last week.

CA Kukulski – update on Fire Marshal policy regarding fire/building code and allowing families to stay in basement of church. Letter from Family Promise in response to parishioners questioning policy. Building must meet appropriate requirements.

Councilmember Neese - bring back annual report with numbers for crime.

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.)

None

ADJOURN: 9:11 pm