



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

## WORK SESSION SUMMARY

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
220 N. 27<sup>th</sup> St.

**August 21, 2023**

**5:30 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Cole

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

Absent/  
Excused: Councilmember Daniel Tidswell, Ward IV

Staff  
Present: Chris Kukulski, City Administrator  
Kevin Iffland, Assistant City Administrator  
Gina Dahl, City Attorney  
Debi Meling, Public Works Director  
Nicole Cromwell, Zoning Coordinator  
Wyeth Friday, Planning Director  
Tina Hoeger, Code Enforcement Manager  
Pepper Valdez, Fire Chief  
Rich St. John, Police Chief

Public comment:

- None

### 1. **Small Cell Wireless Facilities.**

Debi Meling, Public Works Director, gave an overview of the ordinance governing small cell wireless facilities in the public right of way. She reviewed small cell deployments, fees and the proposed modifications.

General Council questions and discussion.

Public comment:

- None

## **2. Zoning Text Amendments.**

Nicole Cromwell, Zoning Coordinator, gave an overview of past Council action, concerns with exemptions, definitions of publicly accessible open space and developed public parks, and connection of new bikeways/trails in linear parks. She reviewed policy questions to get feedback from Council.

General Council questions and discussion.

Public comment:

- None

## **BREAK 7:38 P.M. – 7:45 P.M.**

## **3. Tax Increment Finance (TIF) Policy.**

Wyeth Friday, Planning Director, gave an overview of the TIF Policy background, policy areas of discussion and Council direction. He indicated the following people were in attendance: Michelle Harkins, East Billings Urban Renewal District (EBURD), Mehmet Casey, Downtown Billings Alliance, Jim Tevlin, South Billings Urban Renewal District (SBURD) and Dick Zier, SBURD.

General Council questions and discussion.

Public Comment:

- Jim Tevlin, South Billings Urban Renewal District (SBURD), current TIF Policies are good, not one size fits all.
- Dan Brooks, Billings Chamber of Commerce, spoke on Legislative changes to TIF Policies.

Mehmet Casey, Downtown Billings Alliance, gave an update on projects.

Councilmember Shaw left at 8:55 P.M.

## **4. Public Safety Updates.**

Tina Hoeger, Code Enforcement Manager, gave an overview of Code Enforcement abatement data and the Mystic Park cleanup job. She showed a graffiti and nuisance tracker map and reviewed education moments for the department.

General Council questions and discussion.

Pepper Valdez, Fire Chief, gave an overview of calls for service, false alarms, training and mobile response teams.

General Council questions and discussion.

Rich St. John, Police Chief, gave an overview of calls for service and categories of crimes.

General Council questions and discussion.

Public comment:

- None

## **5. Highlight Upcoming Agenda Items of Council Interest.**

Chris Kukulski spoke of upcoming agenda items.

Public comment:

- None

**COUNCIL DISCUSSION:**

Councilmember Owen – Dan Clark presentation being rescheduled? Kukulski – will look at future work sessions.

Councilmember Boyett – DBA and TIF updates regularly.

Councilmember Joy – thanked DBA for recent tour.

**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:** 10:18 P.M.