

Missoula City Council Public Works Committee Minutes

May 21, 2025, 1:15 pm

Council Chambers (in person) or TEAMS (virtually)

Attend in person: City Council Chambers, 140 W Pine, Missoula MT

Members present: Stacie Anderson, Mirtha Becerra (chair), Bob Campbell, Daniel Carlino, Kristen Jordan, Mike Nugent, Amber Sherrill, Sandra Vasecka

Members absent: Sierra Farmer, Gwen Jones, Eric Melson, Jennifer Savage

1. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

1.1 Roll Call

1.2 Approval of the Minutes

1.2.1 Minutes from May 14, 2025

The minutes were approved as submitted.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

3. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

3.1 Update on 2024 Windstorm

Informational presentation.

Megan McMeekin, Adriane Beck, and Morgan Valliant presenting,

This presentation will be an update on the windstorm from last July. On July 24, 2025, the City experienced fifty to sixty miles per hour winds. The Office of Emergency Management oversees the 911 center. The 911 center was inundated with calls, and the office had to take some pressure off 911. Missoula Fire Department stepped in to help and work with the Office of Emergency Management. They worked to triage the calls as much as possible. The Mayor and Commissioners declared an Emergency disaster. The declaration acknowledges that a local jurisdiction has been impacted by an incident likely to exceed the jurisdictional resource capacity of two million. After this, it was declared a Federal Major Disaster Declaration and was authorized by the President to receive FEMA funds.

The City Urban Forestry program had a lot of work to do over the past year. After the storm cleared, travel lanes became the most important for the urban forestry team. They identified locations where the City and residents could drop off debris. The first few weeks were spent opening streets, alleys, and sidewalks. Several different departments stepped up to help out. Several power lines were down in the river, causing parks to reach out to new partners. Then they looked to get public trees off private property. The City Arborist crew worked a long day, and private contractors also worked to help people clear up. The City of Helena sent a crew and equipment to help for two weeks. Team

Rubicon and sawyers from the DNRC focused on debris removal and blocking private driveways. The city street department and contracted equipment also stepped up to help. Many community members also helped out.

After the first few weeks, the Parks department wanted to get proactive instead of reactive, so they worked with the Fire Department and City GIS department to get volunteers to walk the City streets and evaluate tree conditions. Many of the Parks department were shifted from pool work because it was closed to assessing trees. The City lost over 650 trees in the public right-of-way areas. For more detailed information, please see the attached presentation.

The debris was taken to drop lots, and then Terra Firma from Jackson Hole, WY, was hired to grind and remove it. 9400 cubic yards of debris were hauled out from the Fort Missoula lot. The Larchmont triangle had 21,000 cubic yards of debris ground and removed. The Northside lot had 13,800 cubic yards, and Garden City Compost had 44,000 cubic yards removed.

Please see the attached slideshow for information on the costs of windstorms.

Ms. Anderson asked how they track costs in the early stages. Ms. Beck said they could look at the damage and do some initial calculations. She also added that in the first stages, they are not sure who will pay for the costs; they do what they need to do for the community.

Ms. Becerra asked about the Federal funding now and asked if we were at risk of not receiving the remaining FEMA funds. Ms. Beck said they have not received any indication that the funds are in jeopardy.

3.2 Professional Services Amendment 1 with Morrison-Maierle for the N 1st St water main replacement

Chris Fuchs presenting,

This is an amendment to the original contract for the N 1st Street water main replacement project. The amendment would cover construction oversight and closeout documentation needed to complete the project.

Moved by: Amber Sherrill

Approve and Authorise the Mayor to sign the Professional Services Amendment 1 with Morrison-Maierle for the N 1st St water main replacement project at a cost not to exceed \$95,369.00

AYES: (8): Stacie Anderson, Mirtha Becerra, Bob Campbell, Daniel Carlino, Kristen Jordan, Mike Nugent, Amber Sherrill, and Sandra Vasecka

ABSENT: (4): Sierra Farmer, Gwen Jones, Eric Melson, and Jennifer Savage

Vote results: Approved (8 to 0)

4. ADJOURNMENT