

DRAFT - Journal of Proceedings

Missoula City Council

May 19, 2025, 6:00 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, Bob Campbell, Daniel Carlino, Kristen Jordan, Eric Melson, Mike Nugent, Amber Sherrill, Sandra Vasecka

Members Absent: Sierra Farmer, Gwen Jones, Jennifer Savage

Administration Present: Ryan Sudbury, City Attorney, Claire Trimble, City Clerk

Administration Absent: Mayor Andrea Davis

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting of the Missoula City Council was called to order by Councilor Becerra at 6:00 PM.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

2.1 Minutes from May 12, 2025

The minutes were approved as submitted.

3. ANNOUNCE CHANGES TO COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDAS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP APPROVALS

3.1 Committee Schedule for May 21, 2025

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

4.1 Neighborhood Council Updates

4.1.1 Northside Westside Leadership Team Report

Neighborhood has shifted to two annual gatherings. Looking forward to the roundabout going in. Gave thanks for the design process for the Northside park going in.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS

6. NEW BUSINESS

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

8. CONSENT AGENDA

Public Comment

- Public commenter requested that council keep the Johnson Street shelter open.
- Scott Sproull former downtown business owner spoke in support the increased parking tickets but requested the implementation be delayed.

AYES: (9): Alderperson Anderson, Alderperson Becerra, Alderperson Campbell, Alderperson Carlino, Alderperson Jordan, Alderperson Melson, Alderperson Nugent, Alderperson Sherrill, and Alderperson Vasecka

ABSENT: (3): Alderperson Farmer, Alderperson Jones, and Alderperson Savage

Vote result: Approved (9 to 0)

8.1 Accounts Payable (claims) for checks dated May 20, 2025

Approve accounts payable (claims) for checks dated May 20, 2025, in the amount of \$2,392,720.04.

Vote result: Approved

8.2 4th Quarter Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Amendments

Set a public hearing for June 2, 2025, to consider the resolution for the 4th Quarter Fiscal Year 2024 Amendments to the annual appropriations.

Vote result: Approved

8.3 Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Trails Update and Public Draft

Set a public hearing for June 23rd to consider adopting (with or without edits) the 2025 Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Trails comprehensive master plan as an issue plan of the Our Missoula 2045 Land Use Plan, and as the guiding document for the Parks and Recreation Department for the next 15 years.

Vote result: Approved

8.4 Resolution of Intent to Create Special Lighting District #53, #54, #55 Heron's Landing, McNett Flats, and Hellgate Village

Set a public hearing for June 9, 2025, on a resolution of the Missoula City Council to create special improvement lighting districts (SLD) #53 currently known as Heron's Landing, Phase W1, SLD #54 currently known as McNett Flats, and SLD #55 currently known as Hellgate Village, as described in Exhibit A District Boundary. The intent of the resolution of the Missoula City Council levying and assessing a special assessment and tax on the lots, pieces and parcels of land situated within the district boundary of the City of Missoula, Montana, over a fifteen-year period to defray the design, construction and installation of street lighting in the special lighting districts #53, #54 and #55.

Vote result: Approved

8.5 Design Holdings, LLC at 325 SW Higgins - City/MDT Maintenance Agreement

Authorize the Mayor to sign the Design Holdings, LLC at 325 SW Higgins - City/MDT Maintenance Agreement.

Vote result: Approved

8.6 Copper Mountain Coffee at 1901 Stephens Ave - City/MDT Maintenance Agreement

Authorize the Mayor to sign the Copper Mountain Coffee at Stephens Avenue - City/MDT Maintenance Agreement.

Vote result: Approved

8.7 Bid Award for Orange Street & Cregg Lane Traffic Signal Project

Award the bid for the Orange Street & Cregg Lane Traffic Signal project to JAG Construction for the sum of \$477,182.00 and authorize return of bid bonds.

Vote result: Approved

8.8 Contract Amendment for Construction-Related Professional Services for the Orange Street & Cregg Lane Traffic Signal Project

Approve an amendment for construction engineering and inspection services within Sanbell's current Professional Services Agreement for the Orange Street & Cregg Lane Traffic Signal project at a cost not to exceed \$85,005.00.

Vote result: Approved

8.9 Momont 1 Sewer Main Upsize Construction Contract

Award the bid for the Industrial Road to Momont 1 Lift Station Sewer Improvement Project to Prospect Construction, LLC, at a cost not to exceed \$1,080,049.00 and authorize the return of bid bonds.

Vote result: Approved

8.10 Bid Award to 3 Rivers Landworks for the North 1st Street Water Main Replacement

Award the bid for North 1st Street Water Main Replacement project to 3 Rivers Landworks at a cost not to exceed \$826,066.38 and authorize the return of bid bonds.

Vote result: Approved

8.11 Downtown Safety Access & Mobility Professional Services Agreement Amendment #2 with DJ&A

Approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the contract amendment to the Professional Services Agreement with DJ&A for tasks related to the Preliminary Engineering Services at a cost not to exceed \$1,155,153.00.

Vote result: Approved

8.12 Resolution Setting Forth Missoula Parking Commission's Existing Jurisdiction

Approve the resolution setting forth Missoula Parking Commission's existing jurisdiction.

Vote result: Approved

8.13 Parking Violation Penalties Ordinance Amendment

Set a public hearing on June 2, 2025, to approve an ordinance amending section 10.54.140 Penalties - Parking violations and section 10.22.260 Limitations on parking in a residential parking permit only area.

Vote result: Approved

9. REGULAR BUSINESS

9.1 Committee Reports

9.1.1 Budget and Finance (BF) committee report

9.1.1.1 Minutes from May 14, 2025

9.1.1.2 Tourism Business Improvement District: Hotel Room Nightly Fee Increase & Update

Council Comments

- Councilor Vasecka spoke against this stating that in-state and local residents also use hotels and this increases the price.
- Councilor Nugent spoke in favor, noting the positive benefits the TBID works in favor of such as flight guarantee programs and working to encourage tournaments and other events in Missoula
- Councilor Campbell spoke in favor of the work this generates for the local economy from activities such as Class A basketball tournament and that this a modest increase with a large return.

Public Comment

- Dan Monahan spoke in favor of this after significant research and work went into engagement ahead of time, resulting in unanimous support from the board.

Moved by: Alderperson Nugent

[Passed in Committee] Approve the resolution to increase the nightly hotel fee to four dollars (\$4.00) per night starting July 1, 2025.

AYES: (8): Alderperson Anderson, Alderperson Becerra, Alderperson Campbell, Alderperson Carlino, Alderperson Jordan, Alderperson Melson, Alderperson Nugent, and Alderperson Sherrill

NAYS: (1): Alderperson Vasecka

ABSENT: (3): Alderperson Farmer, Alderperson Jones, and Alderperson Savage

Vote result: Approved (8 to 1)

9.1.2 Climate, Conservation and Parks (CCP) committee report

9.1.2.1 Minutes from May 14, 2025

9.1.3 Committee of the Whole (COW) committee report

9.1.4 Housing, Redevelopment, and Community Programs (HRCP) committee report

9.1.4.1 Minutes from May 14, 2025

9.1.4.2 On Our Way Home: Missoula Community Houselessness Strategy Adoption

Council Comments

- Councilor Campbell spoke in support of this because it is a starting framework, although the particulars are not yet known.
- Councilor Nugent clarified that there is no requirement for the City of Missoula to follow the \$500 fine from the recent legislature bill as Missoula is permitted to set their own fines and ordinances under their charter.
- Councilor Carlino reiterated actions of the council he views as criminalizing homelessness. Noted that better funding priorities are needed, including funding shelters.
- Councilor Jordan voiced concerns regarding some aspects of the plan, including the concern that there are lack of guarantees for those housed in the housing sprint, and noted the various ways that tax dollars go to addressing homelessness in the criminal justice system.
- Councilor Anderson clarified that the \$400,000 for the housing sprint is a privately raised community fund run by the United Way, it is not money coming directly from the City. The City is supporting the sprint through employee time and coordinating efforts.

Public Comment

- Sage Bennett voiced concerns about various homelessness plans, programs and penalties.
- Karl Spitzmacher spoke in favor of banishing people appropriately.

Moved by: Alderperson Nugent

[Passed in Committee] Approve a resolution to adopt *On Our Way Home: Missoula Community Houselessness Strategy*.

AYES: (9): Alderperson Anderson, Alderperson Becerra, Alderperson Campbell, Alderperson Carlino, Alderperson Jordan, Alderperson Melson, Alderperson Nugent, Alderperson Sherrill, and Alderperson Vasecka

ABSENT: (3): Alderperson Farmer, Alderperson Jones, and Alderperson Savage

Vote result: Approved (9 to 0)

9.1.5 Land Use and Planning (LUP) committee report

9.1.6 Public Safety, Health and Operations (PSHO) committee report

9.1.6.1 Minutes from May 14, 2025

9.1.7 Public Works and Mobility (PWM) committee report

9.1.7.1 Minutes from May 14, 2025

9.1.7.2 Bid Award to Western Municipal Construction for the Garden City Compost Improvements Project

Council Comments

- Councilor Nugent recommended people watch the conversation in this committee for more information, there was a lot of conversation about standards for drinking water and products such as the compost the City sells.
- Councilor Becerra reminded everyone that experts from all sides were included in this conversation.

Public Comments

- William Fleischman commented that PFAS contamination stated that the Montanans can no longer rely on the EPA and stated concerns about forever chemicals, including the desire to have warnings regarding Garden City Compost contamination.

Moved by: Alderperson Nugent

[Passed in Committee] Award the bid for Garden City Compost Improvements Project to Western Municipal Construction at a cost not to exceed \$8,579,779 and authorize the return of bid bonds.

AYES: (8): Alderperson Anderson, Alderperson Becerra, Alderperson Campbell, Alderperson Carlino, Alderperson Jordan, Alderperson Melson, Alderperson Nugent, and Alderperson Sherrill

NAYS: (1): Alderperson Vasecka

ABSENT: (3): Alderperson Farmer, Alderperson Jones, and Alderperson Savage

Vote result: Approved (8 to 1)

9.2 Informational Reports

9.2.1 Administratively Approved Report

10. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- Jamie Davis spoke as a guardian of her brother, who has a complex diagnosis of various mental health issues, and is a resident of a group home here. She spoke to the difficulty of getting proper care, including being hospitalized if necessary, as he is nonverbal.
- Sage Bennett spoke to concerns with HB642 and reiterated concerns with City houselessness policies.
- Karl Spitzmacher spoke to concerns regarding the running of the local shelter.

- Carrie Schriber spoke to concerns regarding the selection of a developer and noted there was a planning process that took place in 2003. She notes time spend speaking to neighbors about their unofficial "park" area along the waterway.

11. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

12. GENERAL COMMENTS OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

- Councilor Anderson reiterated the concerns that state-level cuts to mental health services have real, everyday consequences. She also noted that the Southgate Triangle property will go through a robust engagement process that would not have necessarily happened if this has been sold to a private developer. The City has shown its commitment to parks and open space repeatedly, and reminds everyone that we are at the very beginning of this process with additional public engagement to come.
- Councilor Nugent noted that MEP has been asked to help engage interested developers, and that the acquisition by the City gives opportunities for public engagement on the use of the Southgate Triangle. He also noted that the City continues to enjoy all the facilities in and around Playfair Park.
- Councilor Vasecka reminded everyone to reflect on the meaning of Memorial Day.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.