

Missoula City Council Committee of the Whole Minutes

June 17, 2020

1:50 PM

Virtual Meeting: Live Stream and On Demand: <http://www.ci.missoula.mt.us/webcasts>

Watch Live on Cable TV Channel 190

YouTube Live Stream and On Demand:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5fnfMPFGSk8Gwq6F5UoqGg>

Live call in phone numbers: 1 (253) 215-8782 1 (888) 475-4499 (landlines only) Meeting ID: 960 049 3694

Members present: Stacie Anderson, Mirtha Becerra, John P. Contos, Heather Harp, Jordan Hess, Julie Merritt, Amber Sherrill, Sandra Vasecka, Bryan von Lossberg, Heidi West

Members absent: Gwen Jones, Jesse Ramos

1. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

1.2 Approval of the Minutes

1.3 Announcement - City Council Meetings

City Council will not meet for two weeks in a row: Monday, June 29, 2020 and Monday, July 6, 2020.

von Lossberg - Made announcement

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

3. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

3.1 Engage Missoula Demonstration

Jessica Miller, Citizen Services Manager - Reviewed the new public engagement digital platform for citizens, Engage Missoula.

Montana James, Community Development Manager - Provided background on the platform.

Jessica Miller - Gave a demonstration of the platform.

Members present: Stacie Anderson, Mirtha Becerra, John P. Contos, Heather Harp, Jordan Hess, Julie Merritt, Amber Sherrill, Sandra Vasecka, Bryan von Lossberg, Heidi West

Members absent: Gwen Jones, Jesse Ramos

3.2 Affordable Housing Trust Fund Ordinance & Funding Commitments Resolution

von Lossberg - This is from Eran Pehan and Montana James

Montana James, Community Development Manager, Office of Housing and Community Development - I will be reviewing our Affordable Housing Trust Fund. The four strategies in our approach towards affordable housing were reviewed. The implementation timeline was reviewed. Our first recommendation is establishing an affordable housing trust fund including researching best practices. The purpose is to create a reliable local trust fund. National affordable housing trust fund attributes were reviewed. The approach for Missoula was reviewed. The resolution and ordinance work together to solidify the purpose of the fund. A citizen advisory committee will be established to oversee the fund. The proposed ordinance was reviewed. The funding commitments resolution was also reviewed.

von Lossberg - Public Comment?

Denny Cunningham - local attorney - Thanks to Montana for a great presentation. I think that this is a great tool. People in criminal justice and medical professions are also excited about this. I think that the City should fund this completely from the general fund. I think the City should commit \$1 million each year to the trust fund.

West - I will start with the resolution, she has some suggested language. Housing is a healthcare issue. This housing trust fund will leverage Tax Increment Funding.

Montana James - No funds from TIF will go directly into the trust fund.

West - I would like this clarified. Had a question on funding mechanisms.

Eran Pehan - We are focusing on what is in our control. A voted on measure is not in our control.

West - Specific ordinance questions. Thinks the definition of affordable housings should be clarified and easier to find. I have a question on debt financing, could this be a grant?

Montana James - We are going to clarify that definition.

von Lossberg - I am going to take a caller and there are additional council members that want to comment. I want to schedule another COW meeting next week on this.

x3578 Heath McMillan - Homeward Project Director, Thank you for your work on this. I agree with Councilor West.

von Lossberg - Thanks. Amber.

Sherrill - I'm excited on where we are at with this. I have a question about TIF.

Montana James - Our request is that MRA creates set asides in their annual budget process for the trust fund.

Sherrill - That was my question.

von Lossberg - Can you follow-up.

Harp - All motions

von Lossberg - Amber?

Sherrill - How are we insuring that this housing remains affordable?

Montana James - We hope to clarify these processes defined through administrative rules. Some tools are trust indentures and deed restrictions.

Eran Pehan - Administrative policies and rules will guide this and define the affordability levels.

West - Who is eligible for grants vs loans need to be

von Lossberg - Next week COW

Moved by: Heather Harp

Conduct first reading, set a public hearing on July 13, 2020 and preliminarily adopt an ordinance amending Missoula Municipal Code Title 3 establishing Chapter 3.24 entitled "Affordable Housing Trust Fund" to create a funding mechanism for financing affordable housing in the City of Missoula.

AYES: (9): Stacie Anderson, Mirtha Becerra, John Contos, Heather Harp, Julie Merritt, Amber Sherrill, Sandra Vasecka, Bryan von Lossberg, and Heidi West

ABSENT: (3): Jordan Hess, Gwen Jones, and Jesse Ramos

Vote results: Approved (9 to 0)

Moved by: Heather Harp

Adopt a resolution supporting the creation and funding of the Affordable Housing Trust Fund to meet the urgent housing needs in the City of Missoula

ABSENT: (2): Gwen Jones, and Jesse Ramos

3.3 Commit matching grant funds to establish the Missoula Mobile Crisis Response Team

von Lossberg - This is from the Mayor.

Mayor - This is for a State grant for a mobile crisis team for folks experiencing mental health crisis. Eran please clarify the amount.

Eran Pehan - The math is incorrect.

Merritt - I'm chairing A&F you can have some time. I will make the recommended motion.

Vasecka - Will people be trained?

Mayor - They will be trained; no one will be put in harm's way.

Sherrill - I appreciate the on-call model. I think this is fabulous. Will we learn more later about the specifics on this?

von Lossberg - I am a supporter.

Mayor - If we are successful, we will be bring in others to talk to you about it in regards to the budget. If we are not successful in getting this grant, we think we can figure it out through other means.

Harp - I worked on the mental health aspect. We talked about crisis and having people to show-up that weren't Policy Department. This is promising work.

Moved by: Julie Merritt

Approve the commitment of up to \$150,000 in matching funds to support an application by Missoula County to the State of Montana to establish the Missoula Mobile Crisis Response Team.

AYES: (9): Stacie Anderson, Mirtha Becerra, John Contos, Heather Harp, Julie Merritt, Amber Sherrill, Sandra Vasecka, Bryan von Lossberg, and Heidi West

ABSENT: (3): Jordan Hess, Gwen Jones, and Jesse Ramos

Vote results: Approved (9 to 0)

4. ADJOURNMENT

3:12 PM