

Missoula City Council Committee of the Whole Minutes

**June 30, 2021
3:00 PM
ZOOM Webinar**

Members present: Stacie Anderson, John P. Contos, Heather Harp, Jordan Hess, Gwen Jones, Jesse Ramos, Sandra Vasecka, Bryan von Lossberg, Heidi West

Members absent: Mirtha Becerra, Julie Merritt, Amber Sherrill

1. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

1.2 Approval of the Minutes

1.2.1 Minutes from the June 23, 2021 Meeting

The minutes were approved as submitted.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Seeing none.

3. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

3.1 Resolution - Support of Transgender and LGBTQ+ Youth

Bryan von Lossberg introduced the agenda item and is pleased to have started this during Pride Month.

Gwen Jones thanked the co-sponsors for helping draft the resolution and for the community members that contributed. She is interested in hearing public comment regarding this topic and will speak in more detail during the public hearing. She provided a background for her intentions in initiating this item.

Bryan von Lossberg invited Ms. Jones to read a portion of the resolution.

Gwen Jones read a portion of the resolution beginning on page two and explained that the Non-Discrimination Ordinance is being reviewed for improvements.

Bryan von Lossberg opened the floor to questions, comments and a motion.

Jordan Hess made the recommended motion. He provided information as to why he is a co-sponsor of this item.

Sandra Vaseka asked if the vote is to adopt the resolution today or to set a public hearing.

Bryan von Lossberg clarified that the public hearing would be set on July 12 and final consideration for July 19.

Jordan Hess confirmed that is correct.

Sandra Vaseka said she will hold her comments for public hearing.

Stacie Anderson thanked the sponsors and explained her support of this resolution.

Bryan von Lossberg read a portion of the White House's statement of Pride Month.

Jim Nugent clarified the dates of public hearing due to the July 5th holiday.

Bryan von Lossberg said that is correct. The action to set the public hearing will happen on July 12, open the public hearing on July 19 and close on the 26th.

Gwen Jones confirmed that is correct.

Stacie Anderson asked if the action today is to support the resolution, then could it be finalized on the 12th.

Jim Nugent said he doesn't think that will work for public notice and participation and it will brought out of committee on July 12th, instruct the Clerk's office on the 12th to set the public hearing on the 19th.

Bryan von Lossberg stated that is the process the will be taken. He invited public comment.

Zooey Zephyr, citizen Ward 4, thanked Council for considering this resolution. Zooey explained their efforts with the State Legislature and Governor's office regarding these items and how scary the future of Montana is for trans-people. Zooey thanked Council for making a vulnerable population feel valued and protected.

Jesse Ramos clarified that the vote is to set the public hearing.

Bryan von Lossberg called for the vote. Vote passed unanimously to set the public hearing.

Stacie Anderson asked for clarification for the public what the schedule is for this resolution moving through July.

Bryan von Lossberg clarified the dates: set the public hearing on July 12, open public hearing on July 19-26, final consideration on the 26th. He reminded the public the various avenues they have to provide comments starting now, they do not have to wait for the public hearing.

Moved by: Jordan Hess

Set a public hearing to adopt a resolution regarding the 2021 Montana State Legislature's proposal, debate and passage of HB 112 and proposal and debate of HB 113 and HB 427; finding those actions to be ill-informed and damaging to Montana youth, their families and their community and declaring that the Missoula City Council supports transgender and all LGBTQ+ youth living within our community.

AYES: (9): Stacie Anderson, John Contos, Heather Harp, Jordan Hess, Gwen Jones, Jesse Ramos, Sandra Vasecka, Bryan von Lossberg, and Heidi West

ABSENT: (3): Mirtha Becerra, Julie Merritt, and Amber Sherrill

Vote results: Approved (9 to 0)

4. ADJOURNMENT

Bryan von Lossberg adjourned the meeting at 3:27 pm.