

City Council Work Session

5:30 PM
Council Chambers
January 3, 2017

ATTENDANCE:

Mayor/Council (please check) x Hanel, ~~Cromley~~, x Yakawich, ~~Cimmino~~, x Brewster, x McFadden, x Friedel, x Swanson, x Sullivan, x Clark, x Brown.

CM excused: Cromley & Cimmino

ADJOURN TIME: 7:50 p.m.

Agenda

TOPIC #1	Annual Renewal of MOU – Beartooth RC & D
PRESENTER	Earl Atwood, Office Manager & Sue Taylor, Economic Development Director
NOTES/OUTCOME	

- Earl Atwood and Sue Taylor from Beartooth RC&D: handout that explains programs and an insert specific to Billings and Yellowstone County. Cooperate and supplement the BSEDA in Yell and work the most in 4 rural counties.
- Yakawich: on the RC&D board. County commissioners attend the meetings. What do the city dollars go to? Accomplishments? Match for federal and state operating grants. Worked with BSEDA on the Lockwood TEDD. Workforce housing rehabilitation in TIDs. Working toward Yellowstone County sports complex to enhance METRA.
- Swanson: was on board for 2 years, a lot accomplished with small budget.
- **Public Comment:** None

TOPIC #2	Information on Suburban Subdivision Design Criteria – County Regulations
PRESENTER	David Goodrich
NOTES/OUTCOME	

- David Goodrich: Ward 1 representative on Planning Board. Planning Board initiated committee to review subdivision standards in close-in county developments. Inconsistent installations and trans routes. Good committee composition. Goes through presentation. Recommendations on roads and design, sidewalks and stormwater management facilities. Presentations made to stakeholder groups. Info for Council at this time. If County Commissioners adopt the standards, it should be good for the City and its future expansion.
- Hanel: any change to the annexation policy? No. New standards should make it much less expensive when people want to annex to the city.
- Mr. Goodrich: introduces the committee members.
- Sullivan: did the committee do any cost estimate of required improvements? Dan Wells: R15000 lot, probably adds \$8,000 to average lot cost.

- Yakawich: what development do the standards apply to? Only to new subdivisions. When rural subdivisions want to annex, anyone thinking about how to bring them up to standards? Wyeth Friday, Planning Director: planning board reviews new subdivisions and they varied. Not retroactive.
- Friedel: cost that's diverted by property owners who want to annex? Mr. Friday: cost for subdivisions not estimated but many millions depending on size.
- Tina Volek, City Administrator: SID if people want to annex and improve?
- Friedel: what % of city improvements to these standards accomplish? Mr. Friday: hard to estimate, maybe 40%?
- Yakawich: credits Ms. Volek with getting this planning rolling.
- Clark: thanks to the committee members.
- Volek: can't take credit for what Planning Board started. Have seen other rural standards and one benefit is that subdivision and their improvements that are done before the houses are built, costs can be amortized in mortgage and made more affordable.
- **Public Comment:** Woody Woods, 129 Rolling Meadow Drive, Billings, MT: past manager of Lockwood sewer and water. Got involved in the topic to support pedestrian safety.

TOPIC #3	Marsy's Law
PRESENTER	Brent Brooks, City Attorney
NOTES/OUTCOME	

- Brent Brooks: hands out same presentation that was sent in Friday packet.
- Clark: how much more money to implement? New V/W employee in C.A. office, printing costs in PD, updating laptops with checklists, additional notification costs at the jail, etc.
- Chief St. John: most of burden is on prosecutors and jailers, not PD. PD must properly ID victims and give them info. Est. \$10,000 out of pocket expense. Example of wreck between 2 school buses and 2 cars; everyone on board is a victim under CI 116.
- Brown: is 1 FTE all that's needed? When will you hire if amendment is approved? 1 FTE identified right now, could be more in future and will hire as soon as Council approves an upcoming budget amendment.
- Friedel: do slick street wrecks trigger law? Civil disputes and Civil Infractions don't trigger victim rights.
- Sullivan: legislature will have to put some bookends on the amendment.
- Brewster: hope attorneys provide some clarity.
- **Public Comment:** none

TOPIC #4	Strategic Plan
PRESENTER	Tina Volek, City Administrator

NOTES/OUTCOME	
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- Tina Volek: apologizes that 2016 strategic plan report isn't done. CMs will discuss timing. Special work session on Sat. January 21. Past meetings were on budget but this topic might fit too. Or, could use the 5th Monday (Jan 30)
- Sullivan: current planning cycle and structure may not work with election cycle or budget cycle. Proposal is to start with new Mayor, beginning of 2018, bring in a consultant and discuss broad themes for next 4 years; every 2 years revisit the plan when new CMs are elected; annually develop a work plan. Describes proposed process and schedule. Will use Tina's report on current plan, combine with CM initiative list and then ask CMs to comment and help select priorities.
- Hanel: does Jan 21 work for everyone? Does everyone like the concept?
- Clark: appreciate the timing of the proposal; gives new council the chance to plan for their terms.
- **Public Comment:** none
- Hanel: asks scout in audience to identify himself – Patrick Gowdy and parent.

TOPIC #5	Council Discussion
PRESENTER	
NOTES/OUTCOME	

- Brewster: staff is starting on TIFD policy; if CMs want specifics considered, please email brief ideas to him. Could include whether we want to have a policy at all.
- Brown: when do you need it? Couple weeks.
- Swanson: snow removal policy? Volek: emergency snow removal route policy in place, but nothing formal on residential street plowing. June, FY 17 budget meeting – Council decided to not increase rates in order to do residential plowing.
- Staff has put CMs in position to know snow policy, we don't and can't tell people what to do/solutions. Volek: probably will be discussed again in FY 18 budget.
- Brown: is there a policy on plowing drifts.
- Sullivan: Phipps Park parking lot plowing complaints.
- Yakawich: ask Mayor about letter from Heights task force re Barrett Road. Hot topic. No lights, no infrastructure, etc.
- Friedel: damaged stop sign post in alley 2 houses away from his house.
- **Public Comment:** none

TOPIC #6	Public comment on items not on the agenda
PRESENTER	
NOTES/OUTCOME	

None