

# City Council Work Session

5:30 PM  
Council Chambers  
October 1, 2018

**ATTENDANCE:** Brown Absent

**Mayor/Council** (please check) x Cromley, x Yakawich, x Brewster, x Ewalt, x Joy, x Friedel, x Gibbs, x Ronning, x Clark, x Brown.

**CM excused:**

**ADJOURN TIME:** 10:15 pm

## Agenda

<b>TOPIC #1</b>	<b>One Big Sky District Update</b>
<b>PRESENTER</b>	<b>Bob Dunn – Landmark Development</b>
<b>NOTES/OUTCOME</b>	PowerPoint Presentation Program and Vision Statement Key Drivers and Constraints District Development Plan Convention Center Analysis Purpose Key Competitive Markets Overview of HVS Study Montana Convention Centers Regional Convention Centers Venue of Tomorrow What is the Venue of Tomorrow? Why Billings? Why Now? Consultant Team The Path Forward

- Dunn – November draft development plan, December final draft.
- Ronning – spoken to State legislators, how involved? Dunn – have more work to do before approaching.
- Brewster – appreciate information. Gave clearer view.
- Joy – Billings has opportunity to set an example and draw people from smaller cities.
- **Public Comment:**
- Connie Wardell, P.O. Box 21432, Billings, Montana – presentation has cleared up some issues. Need to focus on non-stop flights.

<b>TOPIC #2</b>	<b>Trail Construction Funding</b>
<b>PRESENTER</b>	<b>Dave Mumford, Public Works Director Kristi Drake, TrailNet</b>
<b>NOTES/OUTCOME</b>	

- Mumford – trails are well used. After snow storms, get calls to plow trails, especially around nursing homes, etc. Assessments on property taxes, opt out option possible.
- Drake – many trails are not connected. Loop around the City with connections ideal goal. Trail contributions \$1 million.
- Yakawich – would like to see opting in rather than out. Mumford – do not see very many people opting in. Would be maintained by City, not a private assessment.
- Ronning – one time opt out or can pick and choose? Mumford – still looking at options.
- Clark – opt in wouldn't work? Mumford – opt in would be similar to donation.
- Gibbs – opt in portion was low in another area, option for more than original amount, annual opt out seems like best option. Mumford – monthly opt out would take up a lot of staff time.
- Cromley – has TrailNet considered procedure? Drake – write a letter would be ideal. PW to figure out how procedures work.
- Ewalt – what utility bill would it be on? Mumford – water, sewer, garbage combined bill. People from outside City paying for trails, opt in would support, opt out not support.
- Joy – like sunset feature, opportunity to see what has been accomplished. Mumford – community is generous when trusting. Would need to keep trust and follow through.
- Mayor – sunset via time or money raised.
- Clark – does Heights water get separate bill? Mumford – sewer/garbage bill for Heights residents.
- Cromley – opted out for year, some bills go out with amount and some without? Mumford – yes, assessment would be removed.
- Clark – send out letters asking whether opt in or out. Mumford – Yes and would use media.
- Brewster – electronic bills? Mumford – would go with email.
- Gibbs – rough estimate of start up costs. Mumford – not yet.
- Ronning – impressed with TrailNet, thanks to City for creative idea. Mumford – TrailNet funding has been an important part of projects.
- Friedel – stats on crime that trails produce. Mumford – have heard that trails decrease crime due to public use.

- Wyeth Friday, Planning Director – local funding mechanisms work well.
  - **Public Comment:**
  - Scott Atwood, 207 Yellowstone Avenue, Billings, Montana – great investment, support.
  - Audrey Wagner, 310 South 35<sup>th</sup> Street, Billings, Montana – support, great exercise.
  - Scott Brown, 4650 Kestrel Road, Billings, Montana – owner Base Camp, support trail system.
  - Steve Arveschoug, BSED – support.
  - Connie Wardell, P.O. Box 21432, Billings, Montana – not in favor of opt in/out.
  - Steve Shandera, 1109 North 31<sup>st</sup> Street, Billings, Montana – support.
  - Dan Brooks, 815 South 27<sup>th</sup> Street, Billings, Montana – support.
  - Karla Mayhan, 5240 South Thunder Mountain Square, Billings, Montana – support, husband was hit riding bike on road.
  - Bruce Kelling, 2006 McKay Lane, Billings, Montana – support.
  - Kathleen Aragon, 645 O'Malley Drive, Billings, Montana – support.
  - Darrell Tunnickliff, 2341 Quail Court, Billings, Montana – support.
  - Jeremy Combs, 1820 Songbird Drive, Billings, Montana- support.
  - Gerald Kessler, 237 Avenue B, Billings, Montana – support.
  - Ed Gulick, 3015 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, Billings, Montana – support.
  - Tom Rupsis, 105 Legends Way, Billings, Montana – support.
  - Timothy Pellandini, 2416 Cascade Avenue, Billings, Montana – support, great recruiting tool.
- Recess at 8:40 pm, reconvene at 8:45 pm.
- Cromley – direct staff for proposal opt out/\$2 month.
  - Friedel – against, cost annually with complete streets in savings, engineer extra couple feet, cost to implement opt in/out.
  - Joy – constituent suggested bicycle license at time of purchase, asset for all.
  - Brewster – interested in opt in, if one time opt out.
  - Yakawich – opt in version. Underestimating citizens opting in.
  - Gibbs – would like to see both opt in/out options, data on differences.
  - Ewalt – logistics within utility department, study on impacts in department, like opt in.
  - Mumford – will present options to Council at later date for recommendations.
  - Mayor – general consensus to bring back opt in/opt out options on bills.
  - Friedel – would like to see costs for implementation.

<b>TOPIC #3</b>	<b>Police Department Update</b>
<b>PRESENTER</b>	<b>Chief St. John</b>
<b>NOTES/OUTCOME</b>	

- St. John – have reached out to try to recoup costs for presidential coverage. Explains complexities of policing challenges. Increasing calls, overview of trends and challenges.
- Ewalt – application process. St. John – 60-70 applicants for 4 positions. Lose some during process. Keep applications on file.
- Clark – percentage quit after training? St. John – less than 3%.
- Friedel – combining City and County officers? St. John – defeated years ago. Different pay structures, ranks, etc.
- Ronning – commends officers, would like to see more information on legislative issues. School Resource Officers pulled for Trump rally? St. John – Yes, everyone was pulled for rally. Ronning – technology was amazing during ride along.
- Mayor – Citizens Police Academy information. St. John – 8 week program runs twice per year, Tuesday 6-9 pm. Get to do ride along, creates volunteers.
- Joy – what gets put on back burner due to staffing issues? St. John – Proactive policing, disrupt crime before it happens. Currently 22 officers down in patrol.
- Clark – who pays for officers in schools? St. John – City pays for about 2/3 of 5 SRO's, school pays for 3 officers.
- **Public Comment:**
- None

<b>TOPIC #4</b>	<b>Council Discussion</b>
<b>PRESENTER</b>	
<b>NOTES/OUTCOME</b>	

- Bruce McCandless, City Administrator – memo regarding Popelka property, ditch and power line issues seem manageable. Council direction? Go ahead with closing.
- Mayor – City Administrator interviews, dinner schedule. Agreement to be brought to Council by October 22 Council meeting.
- Yakawich – October 13 Community Peace Building meeting.
- Clark – League of Cities and Towns interesting topics. Resolutions to go before legislature. Next year will be on October 2-4, 2019 in Billings.

<b>TOPIC #5</b>	<b>Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda</b>
<b>PRESENTER</b>	
<b>NOTES/OUTCOME</b>	

- Jeff Essmann, 3130 McMasters Road, Billings, Montana – proposal spreading fire and police through public safety district, per square foot building on parcel, looking at non-profits is fair.
- Matt Vincent, 1201 W. Porphyry, Butte, Montana – Ex CEO Butte Silverbow County, I-186, bill for responsible mining. Bad bill for MT.
- Connie Wardell, P.O. Box 21432, Billings, Montana – supervised walking program less expensive than bussing and healthier. Trail system could provide ways for kids to walk to school.