

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BILLINGS CITY COUNCIL
April 18, 2011

The Billings City Council met in special session in the Council Chambers located on the second floor of the Police Facility, 220 North 27th Street, Billings, Montana. Mayor Thomas W. Hanel called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and served as the meeting's presiding officer.

ROLL CALL: Councilmembers present on roll call were: Ronquillo, Gaghen, Pitman, Cimmino, McFadden, Ruegamer, McCall, Ulledalen, Astle and Clark.

SPECIAL AGENDA:

1. Legislative Review with Lobbyist Ed Bartlett

Mr. Bartlett began his presentation.

- **HB2:** Budget Bill – Transmitted to the Governor on April 13th. Hallway talk indicated the Governor's Office and Legislators in Leadership were having discussions on what it would take to satisfy both the Executive and Legislature. He said the Legislature took Thursday, Friday, and Saturday in recess last week for the sole purpose of having days of the 90-day session saved to work on HB2 and other outstanding matters.
- **SB423:** Medical Marijuana – That day preconference committee (3 senators and 3 representatives) met on two separate occasions trying to iron out a bill that could be sent back to the floor in the House and the Senate. The bill is being reported as stricter relating to regulation and control of use than any other bill, including HB68, which was the primary bill at the beginning of the session.
- **HB43:** Medical Marijuana – Passed on 3rd Reading in both the House and Senate that day and would be going to the Governor. He said it was a bill that would give employers the right to test and discharge employees related to employees' use of medical marijuana.
- **HB495:** A bill that would freeze entitlement payments for two years and then set a new formula. Passed on 3rd Reading in the House that day on a 90 to 9 vote.
- **HB439:** Bonding Bill (statewide jobs and career bill). Sent back to House for 2nd Reading on a 52 to 47 vote.

McCall: Asked Mr. Bartlett to repeat the status of HB2. She said she had heard a rumor that the Governor was going to do an amendatory veto in Health and Human Services.

Mr. Bartlett: Said they were just rumors, but hallway talk suggested the Governor had a number of amendatory vetoes that he would suggest instead of an outright veto. He said he had no confirmation on any of the topics but knew discussions were going on.

McCall: Said she was visiting with an advocate at the Capital that day by phone who indicated that the Governor would have only one amendment veto capability with HB2.

Ms. McCall said she thought that was incorrect and thought he could have several as long as they went at the same time.

Mr. Bartlett: Told Ms. McCall she was correct. He said an amendatory veto could only be done once but the topics could cover as many as the Governor wanted that were already included in the bill.

There were no further comments or questions for Mr. Bartlett.

PUBLIC COMMENT on Agenda Item #1 ONLY. – Speaker Sign-in required.
(Comments offered here are limited to one minute per speaker. Please sign in on the clipboard located at the podium.)

The public comment period was opened. There were no speakers, and the public comment period was closed.

There was no further business, and the meeting adjourned at 5:41 p.m.



CITY OF BILLINGS

BY: Thomas W. Hanel
Thomas W. Hanel, Mayor

ATTEST:

BY: Cari Martin
Cari Martin, City Clerk