

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**  
**City Council Chambers**  
**140 W. Pine**  
**MISSOULA MONTANA**  
**April 19, 2010, After Council Meeting**

**Members present:** Ed Childers, President; Stacy Rye, Vice President; Dick Haines, Roy Houseman, Bob Jaffe, Dave Strohmaier, Renee Mitchell, Pam Walzer, Jason Wiener, Jon Wilkins, and Lyn Hellegaard

**Members absent:** Marilyn Marler

**Others present:** John Hendrickson, Roger Miller, Keila Spzaller; Ginny Merriam; Bruce Bender; Marty Rehbein

**I. Administrative Business**

The minutes of [March 15, 2010](#), were approved as submitted.

Mr. Childers said Mr. Houseman is interested in serving as the City Council liaison to the carousel market, and he will make the announcement at next City Council meeting.

**II. Public Comment on items not listed on the agenda**

None

**III. Regular Agenda**

**A. Mayor's Update – Ongoing in Committee. (Mayor Engen)**

Mayor Engen gave an update on the Best Place Project. This morning he received a draft report from Garner Economics with a competitive analysis which he will review with local economic development officials. The report will be issued on May 10<sup>th</sup>. He has also had some contacts with people who have some potential economic development projects.

The staff continue to develop the FY 11 budget. The administration is still waiting to hear from some of the bargaining units. There will be some revised collective bargaining contracts coming before City Council soon.

He indicated there are a number of construction projects in town, particularly the North Higgins streetscape project, and his office is working with downtown businesses and communicating with them about the project.

He has received two resignation letters from Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Board members in the last month. He has been met with board members, and they are working on a process to engage the board in city projects in a more meaningful way. As a result of these meetings, one of the board members elected to remain on the board, but the other has resigned.

The Mayor is continuing conversations with the Poverello Center and the board. He is interested in the Pov continuing its service in the community, but he is concerned that the organization provides its services in a sustainable way.

Mayor Engen met with over twenty downtown business folks last week and had a frank conversation about predatory panhandlers. These business owners are looking for some help from the city. He has proposed a three prong approach including:

- He is interested in creating a funding mechanism to have an officer committed to working downtown. The problems are becoming more pervasive this year.
- He and the police chief are working on some amendments to the pedestrian interference ordinance to give officers some additional tools to deal with the problem.

- He is also interested in understanding how Missoula can address the issues of homelessness in our community while not serving as the region's homeless center.

Mr. Wilkins said he is glad the city is looking at the transient problem again. He would like to be involved. He has some ideas too.

There was no public comment on this item.

**B. Updates from Council representatives on the Health Board, Community Forum, Transportation Policy Coordinating Committee (TPCC), other boards and commissions as necessary. – (Ongoing in Committee)**

**Health Board**

Ms. Mitchell noted the next meeting will be on April 29<sup>th</sup>. At the last meeting, they learned that restaurant health inspections are now on-line on the health department's website.

**Community Forum**

Mr. Wilkins said the Community Forum sponsored training on Saturday about how to get people to a neighborhood council meeting. There is another training opportunity this coming Thursday on appreciative inquiry and listening.

Ms. Merriam indicated the training went very well. They talked with neighborhood leaders about how to talk to the media and how to plan events in the neighborhoods that are not meetings.

Mr. Wilkins indicated the neighborhood project funds were cut by \$2,000. Community Forum is interested in restoring that funding in the coming year's budget.

**TPCC**

Ms. Rye said the TPCC met in March. They had an update on the Missoula Active Transportation Plan. They are planning to count bicycles and pedestrians this spring. The website on the plan is updated.

The Congestion Mitigation Air Quality funding has been fully restored. There were threats at the federal level to cut funding for this program.

The city's Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant application was not successful. TPCC decided to write a letter of support for the next round of applications.

She reported that the Montana Department of Transportation (MDOT) charges indirect costs known as "ICAP" for city and county projects. The percentage has risen from 11% to 17.5% since 2006. Missoula County made some inquiries and found that 15 of the 50 states charge ICAP, and Montana is one of very few states that charges ICAP on local projects. MDOT indicates ICAP percentages will be reduced in the coming year.

She noted the TPCC recently changed its rules to allow amendments to the Transportation Improvement Plan if there is an extraordinarily time-sensitive item. This would require a supermajority vote of TPCC to suspend the 30 day notice requirement.

**Brownfields Committee**

Ms. Walzer said the committee recently approved applications they received for a share of the grant the city received from the EPA for environmental cleanup. One grant was for the Millsite project. This grant would have a restriction requiring that the funding would be used for public good, not just for the private development. The second grant was for the North Missoula Community Development Corporation (NMCDC) for asbestos removal for the Burns Street Community Center. The project is estimated to cost between \$15,000 and \$20,000. Now the

committee has approved these applications, they will be forwarded to the EPA for final approval. She said if there are other community non-profits that need to remediate environmental issues, there will be another round of funding soon. She indicated those organizations should contact her, the Mayor or John Adams, the administrator for the revolving loan fund. When the money is awarded to the city, the City Council will need to approve.

#### Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

Ms. Walzer they had a presentation on the state's pre-disaster mitigation plan. The state has to have a current plan in order to receive funding to mitigate a disaster or to respond to a disaster from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The County is also developing a mitigation plan.

#### Public Art

Mr. Strohmaier announced the committee will unveil and dedicated the firefighter tribute at Rose park on Friday, May 7<sup>th</sup>.

#### IV. Held in Committee

- A. Joint meeting of the Mayor, City Council and County Commission; a facilitated quarterly OPG review as directed in the [Interlocal Agreement](#) (Agenda)—Ongoing (Mayor Engen)
- B. Develop short and mid-term goals ([memo](#)).—Regular Agenda (Bob Jaffe) (Referred to committee: 4/23/2007)
- C. Joint meeting between the Missoula City Council and the Missoula County Public Schools' Board of Trustees ([memo](#)).—Regular Agenda (Dave Strohmaier) (Referred to committee: 09/17/07)
- D. Examination of Office Planning and Grants ([memo](#)).—Regular Agenda (Lyn Hellegaard) (Referred to committee: 09/08/08)
- E. Review CIP funding mechanism, vehicle replacement policy, department vehicle use practices, specifically Police, Fire, and Parking Commission ([memo](#)).—Regular Agenda (Ed Childers) (Referred to committee: 11/10/08)

#### V. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marty Rehbein, CMC  
City Clerk