

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
City Council Chambers
140 W. Pine
MISSOULA MONTANA
October 17, 2011, After Council Meeting

Members present: Ed Childers, President; Dick Haines, Cynthia Wolken, Renee Mitchell, Jon Wilkins, Marilyn Marler, Bob Jaffe, Jason Wiener, and Pam Walzer; Dave Strohmaier, Stacy Rye

Members absent: Lyn Hellegaard

Others present: Marty Rehbein

I. Administrative Business

- A. Minutes of [October 12, 2011](#).
The minutes were approved as submitted.

II. Public Comment on items not listed on the agenda

There was no public comment.

III. Regular Agenda

- A. 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 reported that on November 2nd the Air Pollution Control Board will hold a meeting to hear an appeal on UM's biomass boiler at 6:30 p.m. in the Health Dept. conference room.

Mr. Jaffe asked about dust from the increased number of coal trains coming through the neighborhood on the north and westside. He asked if there has been any sort of study to establish a baseline data set to monitor effects on air quality. Ms. Mitchell said she wasn't aware of one. Mr. Jaffe asked if the department could look into this issue and see if any data can be developed.

Mr. Strohmaier said he plans to bring a referral to public safety and health on this issue soon.

- Community Forum

Mr. Wilkins wasn't able to attend the September meeting. Ms. Gillespie from the Community Forum gave a report to City Council during the meeting. Mr. Wilkins said the next Community Forum meeting is scheduled for October 27th. Mr. Gravatt from Traffic Services will be there to talk about Sharrows. There is also a tentative presentation on Land Use scheduled.

- TPCC

Mr. Wiener said the committee meets tomorrow. Last month the meeting consisted primarily of updates including: the transportation demand management study and Mountain Line's operational analysis. Mountain Line is holding informational meetings this month.

The TPCC also discussed a resolution supporting electric vehicle infrastructure. There was concern about supporting such a measure because one of the primary funding mechanism for transportation infrastructure is the gas tax. Mr. Wiener noted that current gas tax collections don't cover the costs to maintain the infrastructure.

TPCC has to update the Transportation Improvement Plan again. It is updated every four years.

Finally, Mr. Wiener noted there are some funds remaining from the LED traffic light upgrade project, and TTAC is discussing a recommendation about how to redirect those funds. There are 2 options: reconfigure Front and Main to remove the one way streets as called for in the downtown master plan or traffic signalization optimization on Russell. He is leaning toward supporting the reconfiguration downtown.

- Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund Committee

Ms. Walzer said the committee approved a loan to the owners of the Macy's building for over \$600,000 to abate hazardous materials in the building. There is asbestos and lead paint in the building that must be removed.

A second grant application was approved to the Public Health Center for asbestos abatement for \$22,000.

- LEPC

Ms. Walzer reported the committee met last week. City Council is conducting a public hearing on the pre-disaster mitigation plan next week. This plan is required to access federal disaster funds. In the event of a disaster, if the jurisdiction has followed the pre-disaster mitigation plan, assistance funds are more likely to be made available. She noted there was praise for response by agencies to the West Riverside fire incident.

The FEMA office has closed from the spring floods. The County is applying for a post disaster \$1.5 million grant. The grant funds would provide matching funds to prevent future flooding by buying out homeowners, relocating home, raising elevations and other solutions.

They had a request from some citizens to create Citizen Emergency Response Teams or (CERTs). These are volunteers who have a high level of training and can help with emergency response and to help citizens understand what they need to do to help themselves in an emergency. Trained CERTs can also help organize volunteers who want to help in an emergency.

Ellen Leahy asked Ms. Walzer to chair a committee on the strategic national stockpile. The stockpile makes large amounts of emergency medical supplies available in an emergency. In an emergency, you need to tell the federal government what you need. It's complicated and it takes a great deal of planning. This group involves the coordination of nineteen different emergency response agencies to develop a plan so they can request supplies, receive and distribute them from the emergency medical stockpile.

Mr. Walzer said October is fire prevention month. Check your smoke detector batteries.

- Saturday Market

Mr. Childers noted the market had a successful summer.

- MCTAC

Mr. Childers reported that less government hours are being used in years past because there are fewer planning and zoning issues being considered. Mr. Childers said the biomass hearing will be recorded. Mr. Wiener said he had a request to tape the Mountain Line Board. Mr. Wilkins added he would like to see the Parks and Recreation Board broadcast.

IV. Remove from Agenda

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

V. 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. 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)
- C. Examination of Office Planning and Grants ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Lyn Hellegaard) (Referred to committee: 09/08/08)

VI. Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,
Marty Rehbein, CMC
City Clerk