

MISSION STATEMENT

To provide high-quality public services in partnership with our community to enhance our quality of life.

Acknowledgement for the Alliance for Community Media's 2020 Buske Leadership Award.

Congratulations to Mary Van Sickle, who is recognized for her commitment to the mission and goals of the Alliance for Community Media.

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF CITY COMMISSION

1. Public comment (restricted to items on the Consent Agenda and Regular Agenda, excluding public hearing items).

Bea Kaiser, Joyce Hinman and Katherine Waldera, employees of the Library, all spoke on behalf of the Commission supporting the Library's budget.

John Kuhn, an employee at Public Works, requested that as the City moves forward with the 2021 budget, to keep in mind how important the City health benefit package is to employees.

2. Consider the approval of the minutes.

Commissioner Zenker moved to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Marquardt seconded the motion.

Upon a roll call vote, all voted aye. M/C.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Guy moved to approve the consent agenda as presented with the exception of Community Development's item F5, which she requested be pulled for further discussion. Commissioner Zenker seconded the motion.

Upon a roll call vote, all voted aye. M/C.

After further discussion about item, F5, it was determined that the Community Development Department and the City Engineer recommended the property owner move forward with the easement release, as long as a new easement was established to replace it.

Commissioner Guy then moved to approve Community Development's item F5 as presented. No second followed.

Commissioner Marquardt motioned to table the item until the next commission meeting, with the understanding that more information will be provided from the Community Development Department and the City Engineer regarding the stormwater easement in question. Commissioner Splonskowski seconded Commissioner Marquardt's motion.

Upon a roll call vote, all voted aye. M/C.

A. Consider approval of expenditures.

Vouchers: 1093663 - 1093986.

B. Consider the approval of personnel actions.

C. Consider the request for approval from the Administration Department for the following:

1. Appoint Ryan Fugere to the Bismarck-Mandan Mayors' Committee for People with Disabilities.
2. Authorize gaming site applications for the following:

Fort Abraham Lincoln Foundation

- Peacock Alley - 422 E. Main Ave.

D. Consider the request for approval from the Airport for the following:

1. Sole Source Purchase of LUMACURVE sign panels.

E. Consider the request for approval from Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health for the following:

1. Permission to apply for a grant from the North Dakota Department of Health for an influenza vaccination rates in high risk adults.

F. Consider the request for approval from the Community Development Department for the following:

1. Approve modified major subdivision final plat for Elk Ridge Second Addition.
2. Approve modified minor subdivision final plat for Wachters Addition.
3. Approve contract for a consultant to complete a historic architectural survey of portions of Highland Acres neighborhood.
4. Request from Ryan and Courtney Heiser to release the North 4 feet of the 7-foot utility easement along the south lot line of Lot 1, Block 4, Horizon Heights Fifth Addition. Staff recommends approval.
5. Request from Jason and Krysta Sellers to release the drainage easement within Lot 36, Block 1, Misty Waters. Staff recommends approval.
6. Introduction of and call for a public hearing on Ordinance 6429, a request for the annexation of the North 223 feet of Lot 1, Block 3, Timberlane Place Second Subdivision. The Bismarck Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval.

G. Consider the request for approval from the Engineering Department for the following:

1. Accept NDDOT Transportation Alternatives Funding for the School Safety Project.
2. Approve street closure amendment for the annual Downtowners' Street Fair.
3. Approve private utility and private drive agreement with Heritage Development, Inc.
4. Approve development agreement with Innovative Solutions, LLC.
5. Approve new banner design for Camp Hancock historical site.
6. Approve the Mandan Old Red Trail project for 2025 federal aid solicitation.

H. Consider the request for approval from the Event Center for the following:

1. Approve the Belle Mehus Theater lighting project.

I. Consider the request for approval from the Finance Department for the following:

1. Application for abatement, for 2019, market value reduction, at 5428 Duncan Dr.

2. Introduction of and call for a public hearing on ordinances 6427-6428, to create special assessment districts for annexed properties.

J. Consider the request for approval from the Public Works - Service Operations Department for the following:

1. Award bid for asphalt and concrete crushing, at the Municipal Landfill, to Hoffer Landscaping.

2. Award bid for the City/County Building backup generator project to Western Edge, Inc.

4. REGULAR AGENDA

5. Receive a Budget Committee update, regarding Budget 2021, from Dmitriy Chernyak, Finance Director.

Finance Director, Dmitry Chernyak, presented an overview of the City's 2021 budget.

Please see the link for his full presentation.

<https://www.bismarcknd.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Item/5266?fileID=12767>

In conclusion, the Budget Committee made these recommendations for the Commission with these goals in mind: Maintaining essential City services, understanding the current financial and economic situation, addressing critical needs to sustain services to citizens and reducing costs, where possible.

Priority initiatives, as recommended based on these goals were:

1. New/reclassified employees (All Funds)

Requested: \$547,357 - Recommended: \$128,261

2. Additional operations and maintenance (All Funds)

Requested: \$954,272 - Recommended: \$871,047

3. One-Time (All Funds)

Requested: \$13,672,231 - Recommended: \$9,122,944

4. Capital improvement projects, as recommended

5. Fees and charges for services with changes, as recommended

6. 3% increase in employee salaries with an employee cost index adjustment of 2.7%, as recommended in the Condrey plan from 2015

7. Maintain current health insurance plan for City employees

8. General Fund: Increase property taxes by \$8M to sustain General Fund and Roads and Streets Operations going forward, replacement of obsolete equipment, vehicles and machinery for Roads and Streets operations.

9. Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library: Increase property taxes by \$180K to sustain the Library operations going forward.

This increase equates to \$239.82 per property with a median value in 2019 of \$274K.

Commissioner Guy moved to approve the Budget Committee's recommendations as presented with an additional request to add the Library's building renovations. No second followed her motion.

After further discussion, the Commission directed staff to explore the options of doing an incremental or phased approach to the Budget Committee's recommendations.

At this time, no motion was made for this item. The Commission will re-address this item at the next City Commission meeting.

6. Consider the request from the Finance Department for an application for abatement, for 2020, market value reduction, for 315 Linden Lane.

Allison Jensen, the City Assessor, informed the commission that the property owner at 315 Linden Ln. was requesting an abatement for a market value reduction of \$23,000.00. This would make the property valued at \$315,000.00. Assessor Jensen stated that the Assessing Department valued the home at \$338,000.00, and did not recommend approval of the abatement.

Commissioner Guy asked about the impact the abatement would have on owner's property tax. Assessor Jensen stated the amount would be small and gave the estimation of about a \$50.00 decrease.

Commissioner Marquardt moved to deny the request for the abatement. Commissioner Zenker seconded the motion.

Upon all roll call vote, all voted aye. M/C.

Abatement denied.

7. Consider the request from the Community Development Department for a request from 161 Commercial, LLC. for approval of a final plat of First Responders Addition. The Bismarck Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval.

Commissioner Zenker moved to approve the final plat as presented. Commissioner Marquardt seconded the motion.

Upon a roll call vote, all voted aye. M/C.

8. Consider the request from the Attorney for continued discussion regarding the Temporary License to Use Premises Agreement for the August 1, 2020 Medieval Rush event.

At the June 23, 2020 meeting, the Commission requested the Medieval Rush event organizer meet with the City Engineer and Ian Easton, a bicyclist in the community who assists with taking care of the bike trails overlooking the Missouri, to develop a better route for the race. The route change would have less of an impact on the existing trails adjacent to the MDU Resources Community Bowl.

After confirming this meeting was successful, Mayor Bakken asked the City Attorney, Janelle Combs, if she felt confident in the Temporary License to Use Premises Agreement to move forward with the event. Attorney Combs stated she felt the agreement covered the liability and insurance associated with allowing an event like this to occur on City property.

Commissioner Guy moved to approve the agreement as presented. Commissioner Zenker seconded the motion.

Upon a roll call vote, all voted aye. M/C.

9. Consider the request from the Attorney for continued discussion regarding fireworks displays within City limits.

Commissioner Splonskowski, Marquardt and Guy all shared comments and concerns they had heard from Bismarck residents regarding firework displays within City limits.

Commissioner Zenker stated he felt Commissioner Guy's suggestion of placing the item on a ballot would be a more effective approach for making a decision on the item.

President Bakken then directed staff to find out the logistics of placing the item on the November, 2020 election ballot, including a timeline for writing the measure, and to present the information at the next meeting on July 28, 2020.

No motion was made for this item at this time.

Other Business

Having completed all the items on the agenda, President Bakken asked if there was any other business.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 p.m.