



MEETING OF THE ITG POLITICAL SUBCOMMITTEE

On Thursday, February 25, 2021, the ITG Political Subcommittee met in regular session at 5:30 p.m. in the Tom Baker Meeting Room. Those present included: Mark Armstrong, Donnell Presky-Hushka, Wayne Monson, Steve Marquardt, Renae Moch, Keith Hunke, Nancy Guy, Randy Bina, Jason Hornbacher and Darin Scheer.

1. Pandemic Response Update

Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health Director Renae Moch presented a brief overview of the Department's Pandemic response. Her full presentation is attached to this meeting's agenda.

Director Moch's presentation included COVID testing, vaccine efforts, and ongoing prevention outreach.

Moch stated on April 5, Public Health is anticipating the opening of vaccine clinics for teachers and other school district employees.

2. Vehicle Circulation at Horizon Middle School

Chairman Marquardt stated an individual reached out to him about this issue. He stated that he spoke about this issue with the City Engineer and they are working to create a safer, easier environment for parents and children dropping their kids off at Horizon Middle School.

Bismarck Public School Superintendent Jason Hornbacher stated they are reviewing bus ridership and have engaged the Bismarck State College Career Academy to take drone pictures of the area to see first-hand how they could make improvements to traffic flow. School Board Member Donnell Preskey-Hushka stated she feels that this issue is a long-range plan issue, and that this is a great opportunity for the committee to work together to fix the issue and in the long-run help other schools develop safer plans.

Preskey-Hushka asked for road development plans that will affect the schools on the north side of Bismarck. Chairman Marquardt stated they would present plans for the next 10-15 years at the next meeting.

3. Remote Access for Public Government Meetings Discussion

Burleigh County Commissioner Mark Armstrong requested this item be placed on the agenda with the goal the County and other entities, that use the Tom Baker Meeting Room for public meetings, could improve their remote access abilities for the general public and their board members.

Commissioner Armstrong stated he would like to see remote access standardized for all public entities using the Baker Meeting Room. Commissioner Armstrong said he is reviewing available technology and will bring back his findings at a future meeting.

Chairman Marquardt and Administrator Keith Hunke stated the City has used MS Teams for internal city employee meetings and advisory committee meetings, and Zoom for City Planning and Zoning Commission meetings and City Commission meetings, and recently updated the technology in the Tom Baker Room in 2020, such as getting rid of the old analog equipment.

Administrator Keith Hunke further explained the City's remote options.

Other Business

Park Board Commissioner Wayne Monson stated the Park's district is reaching out to the general public with a survey to develop a better understanding of why their Parks & Recreation Center project was voted down in the June 2020 Primary Election.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

The next ITG Meeting will be on May 27, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.