



MEETING OF THE BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS

5/11/2021 - Minutes

FUTURE COMMISSION MEETINGS:

MISSION STATEMENT

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF CITY COMMISSION

1. Proclamation recognizing May 9-15, 2021 as Law Enforcement Memorial Week.
2. Proclamation Recognizing May 16-22, 2021 as National Public Works Week.
3. Public comment (restricted to items on the Consent Agenda and Regular Agenda, excluding public hearing items).

1. Josh Askvig, State Director of AARP spoke in support of Item 8.
2. The Downtowners Association wrote a letter of support for Items 8 and 9.
<https://bismarcknd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/37605/The-Downtowners-Association-Support-on-Regular-Agenda-Items-8-and-9>

4. CONSENT AGENDA

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

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

- A. Consider approval of minutes.
- B. Consider approval of expenditures.
- C. Consider approval of personnel actions.
- D. Consider the request for approval from the Administration Department for the following:
- E. Consider the request for approval from the Airport for the following:
- F. Consider the request for approval from the Attorney for the following:
- G. Consider the request from the Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health Department for the following:
- H. Consider the request for approval from the Community Development Department for the following:
- I. Consider the request for approval from the Engineering Department for the following:

<https://bismarcknd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/37606/SI550-Protest-Summary-for-Commission>

- J. Consider the request for approval from the Event Center for the following:
- K. Consider the request for approval from the Fire Department for the following:
- L. Consider the request for approval from the Police Department for the following:
- M. Consider the request for approval from the Public Works - Service Operations Department for the following:

5. REGULAR AGENDA

- 6. Receive a presentation from Dakota West Arts Council on activities and projects. Molly McLain, Executive Director of Dakota West Arts Council provided an update on recent activities and projects. The Commission received the report.
- 7. Receive an update regarding the Bismarck Mandan Chamber EDC's efforts. Brian Ritter, President and CEO of the Bismarck Mandan Chamber EDC provided an update on recent activities and projects. The Commission received the report.
- 8. Consider the request from the Community Development Department to apply to become part of the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities.

Ben Ehreth, Community Development Director provided an overview of the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities. Ehreth requested the ability to participate in the AARP program. There is no cost to the City to participate. Benefits include a more livable community, policy changes to benefit all ages, public recognitions, and technical resources from AARP.

Commissioner Zenker made a motion to approve as presented. Commissioner Marquardt seconded the motion.

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

- 9. Receive a presentation from Leadership Bismarck Mandan on Ride Share Signing Pilot Project.

Gabe Schell, City Engineer presented information on the Chamber Leadership Project. The proposed pilot project would identify existing loading zones as being ride-share friendly and affix a sign at these loading zones to communicate their usage to both passengers and drivers. This pilot project would also include coordination with ride share providers to bring attention to these locations for pick up/drop off instead of stopping in the middle of the street. The proposed locations have been reviewed by the City Traffic Engineer and would be compatible with the intent of the pilot program. Sean Cleary, a member of the project group provided information on behalf of the project team.

Commissioner Zenker made a motion to approve as presented. Commissioner Marquardt seconded the motion.

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

- 10. Consider the request from the Engineering Department to discuss approval of the

Temporary License to Premises Agreement for the June 12, 2021, Medieval Rush event.

The event was held in and around the Community Bowl in 2020 with permission from the City of Bismarck to use portions of bare land owned by the City for the course. Recreation Athletic Wellness, LLC is proposing host the event again this year on June 12, 2021 with a similar course layout. The proposed route does not utilize any existing mountain bike trail. An additional modification from the 2020 course is the inclusion of up to four dig areas with maximum depth of three feet in previously disturbed parking areas to incorporate a mud feature as part of the event. All areas would be restored to their previous or improved condition and a licensed and bonded excavator is required to perform the excavations. Tanner Schweitzer, with Recreation Athletic Wellness LLC provided additional information to the Commission.

Commissioner Splonskowski made a motion to approve as presented. Commissioner Zenker seconded the motion.

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

11. Public hearing on Ordinance 6460 to amend Ordinances 5-03-03 and 5-03-06 regarding Public Dances.

Commissioner Zenker made a motion to approve as presented. Commissioner Marquardt seconded the motion.

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

12. Receive the 2020 Crime and Traffic Analysis Report from the Police Department.
The Commission received a report from Police Chief Draovitch and Deputy Chief Ziegler, relating to crime statistics in 2020 and the increasing presence of dangerous narcotics in our community. Chief Draovitch cited an increase in crime due in part to the increase drug activity in the region. The Chief advised that we educate kids to help them make the right decisions early on in life.
13. Receive an update from the Public Health Director regarding the COVID-19 Emergency Shelter operations and determine future operations.

Renae Moch, Public Health Director, provided the Commission with three options to consider regarding the future of the Emergency COVID Shelter Operations. Janelle Combs, City Attorney, informed the Commission of the 17 day notice to end the contracts associated with the Emergency Shelter. Director Moch noted option two is preferred by City staff; end current COVID-19 emergency shelter operations and contracts. A shelter management service provider takes on oversight, coordination, administration and financial management of "as-needed" emergency shelter operations.

Commissioner Guy made a motion to move forward with option two and approve as presented. Commissioner Splonskowski seconded the motion.

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

14. Discussion on how the new Police Department and Public Health facilities will be financed.

Commissioner Marquardt provided an overview of options A-D as outlined at the April 27, 2021 meeting. Commissioner Guy suggested the City leave its options open to consider a greenfield site to construct a new Public Health facility. Commissioner Guy inquired if there is a contingency plan if the sales tax vote is not approved. She continued by saying she

does not prefer plan A or plan B because they could result in raising property taxes. Commissioner Guy closed by saying she prefers plan C for the Police Department and plan D for Public Health. Commissioner Splonskowski noted that he does not like plan A. Commissioner Zenker spoke in favor of plan A but with reservations about voter preference. Commissioner Zenker also spoke in favor of moving ahead with a new Police Station noting the report that had just been provided by the Police Chief previously at this meeting.

Commissioner Marquardt made a motion to move forward in 2021 to purchase and renovate a building or to look for a greenfield and construct new using the existing building construction funds for Bismarck Burleigh Public Health only. Commissioner Guy seconded the motion.

Upon roll call vote, Commissioner Guy, Commissioner Marquardt, Commissioner Splonskowski, and Mayor Bakken voted aye. Commissioner Zenker voted nay. M/C

<https://bismarcknd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/37518/Space-Needs-Options-PDF>

15. Receive an updated listing of members of the Special Assessment Task Force.

Keith Hunke, City Administrator presented information regarding the task force membership. Hunke noted that members that had participated in the past have been contacted and asked to participate again. Hunke noted that there is one known vacancy that has resulted from an individual that has moved away from Bismarck. Hunke noted that the previous co-chairs were Commissioner Guy and Commissioner Shawn Oban. Hunke closed by stating that City Administration would like to call for volunteers to fill this vacancy.

Commissioner Marquardt made a motion to move forward with nominating Commissioner Splonskowski as co-chair of the Special Assessment Task Force. Commissioner Splonskowski seconded the motion.

Commissioner Marquardt amended his motion to move forward with nominating Commissioner Splonskowski as co-chair of the Special Assessment Task Force, and to utilize the process seeking applicants as done in the past to fill the vacancy. Commissioner Splonskowski seconded the amended motion.

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

Other Business

Commissioner Zenker noted that the construction industry is vulnerable right now and departments with projects need to bring them to the Commission as soon as possible.

Adjourn

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