



Work Session Meeting Agenda
2 Park Drive South, Great Falls, MT
Virtual Meeting by Zoom
October 19, 2021
5:30 PM

Due to the COVID-19 health concerns, the format of the City Commission meeting will be held in a virtual video-conferencing environment. All City Commission members and City staff will attend the meeting via a remote location, using a virtual meeting method.

In order to honor the Right of Participation and the Right to Know (Article II, Sections 8 and 9 of the Montana Constitution), modifications have also been made for public participation.

To attend and participate in the virtual meeting utilizing Zoom, attendees must register in advance for the Commission Meeting at: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_dfhwq_8_SbWW4yQw4T4_8A

For all other participation options, Please see **Public Participation Guide for City Commission Meetings**.

CALL TO ORDER

PUBLIC COMMENT

(Public comment on agenda items or any matter that is within the jurisdiction of the City Commission. Please keep your remarks to a maximum of five (5) minutes. Speak into the microphone, and state your name and either your address or whether you are a city resident for the record.)

WORK SESSION ITEMS

1. Neighborhood Council Updates - Neighborhood Council #6.
2. Discussion on Proposed Large Vehicle Parking Ordinance - Jeff Hindoién.

DISCUSSION POTENTIAL UPCOMING WORK SESSION TOPICS

ADJOURNMENT

City Commission Work Sessions are televised on cable channel 190 and streamed live at <https://greatfallsmt.net>. Work Session meetings are re-aired on cable channel 190 the following Thursday morning at 10 a.m. and the following Tuesday evening at 5:30 p.m.

Wi-Fi is available during the meetings for viewing of the online meeting documents.

UPCOMING MEETING SCHEDULE

Special Work Session -- Tuesday November 2, 2021 4:00 p.m.

Work Session -- Tuesday November 2, 2021 5:30 p.m.

Commission Meeting -- Tuesday November 2, 2021 7:00 p.m.



Commission Work Session Date: October 19, 2021

**CITY OF GREAT FALLS
COMMISSION INFORMATION**

Item: Ordinance 3230, “An Ordinance Amending Title 10 of the Official Code of the City of Great Falls (OCCGF) to Prohibit the Long-Term Parking and/or Storage of Recreational Vehicles, Utility Trailers or Vessels in Residential Districts”

Information

Requested: Draft Amendment Language

Provided By: City Attorney

Background: The Commission took action at its August 17, 2021 meeting to accept proposed Ordinance 3230 on first reading and to set a public hearing to be held in conjunction with the second reading consideration of the ordinance at its September 7, 2021. Both prior to and during that public hearing on September 7th, the Commission received public comment (in both written and testimonial form) both in favor of and opposed to the adoption of the proposed ordinance.

At the conclusion of that public hearing, the City Attorney’s Office advised the Commission that the proposed ordinance raised no legal concerns relative to either Title 61 or Title 7 of the Montana Code Annotated. After discussion regarding the option of postponing the second reading consideration of the ordinance for purposes of developing possible amendments, the Commission took action to postpone further consideration of ordinance until its October 19, 2021 meeting.

DRAFT AMENDMENT LANGUAGE

Based on the Commission’s discussion at the September 7th meeting and on input provided by individual Commissioners since then, the following are possible motions to amend the proposed Ordinance for the Commission’s consideration when it resumes further consideration of the proposed Ordinance on the 19th:

A. Effective Date

Comments have been provided regarding a delayed effective date. Under the current language, the ordinance would become effective thirty (30) days after final adoption by the Commission.

“I move that Section 2 of proposed Ordinance 3230 be amended to provide for a delayed effective date of _____, 20__”

B. Allowable Parking Period

Comments have been received regarding possible adjustments to the amount of time a recreational vehicle, trailer or vessel may be temporarily parked upon the public right-of-way for the purpose of loading and

unloading. The current language of the proposed Ordinance allows for temporary parking for no more than thirty-six (36) hours in a seven (7) day period.

“I move that Section 10.9.310(B) of Section 1 of proposed Ordinance 3230 be amended to provide for a temporary parking period of _____ hours in a _____ day period.”

It should be noted that the proposed Ordinance, as currently structured, provides a twenty-four (24) hour grace period / notification period – in addition to the temporary parking period - that must lapse before any parking citation can be issued.

The temporary parking period in the proposed ordinance (36 hours / 7 day time period) was based on a review of similar parking ordinances in other jurisdictions. (Examples: Butte-Silver Bow Municipal Code (§ 10.52.070) – 48 hour/7 day period; Costa Mesa CA (48 hrs up to 72 w/ extension); Buena Park CA (48 hrs for loading/unloading with police permit; Greeley CO (48 hrs)).

C. Exception for Construction / Service Activities

Comments have been provided regarding the possible need for an exception to allow the presence of trailers for contractors or other service providers.

“I move that Section 10.9.310(B) of Section 1 of proposed Ordinance 3230 be amended to include an additional exception as follows:

The time limits contained in this section do not apply to trailers that are being used in the course of providing commercial construction or other services in the location where the trailer is parked.”

D. Extension of Time Period By Permit

A comment was provided regarding a possible need to keep an RV, trailer or boat in the public right-of-way for more than the allowed temporary parking period and an opportunity to apply for and secure an extension.

“I move that Section 10.9.310(B) of Section 1 of proposed Ordinance 3230 be amended to include an additional exception as follows:

The time limits contained in this section do not apply if the owner has (a) secured an extension permit from the _____ Department and (b) the recreational vehicle, trailer or vessel is parked in compliance with the terms of the extension permit. An extension permit may be granted by the _____ Department where the owner is able to demonstrate that the need for the extension is unavoidable and unlikely to recur, and may provide for an extended parking period of up to _____ days.”

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E. Fine Amounts

Comments and/or questions have been raised regarding the potential fine amounts for any citations that might be issued under the proposed Ordinance. The penalty portion of the proposed Ordinance (10.9.330) currently states that a violation will result in “receiv[ing] a parking citation with fines as set forth by City Commission Resolution.” The current City Commission Resolution regarding parking fines (Resolution No. 10420 [July 20, 2021]) establishes a \$20 fine amount for non-specified Title 10 OCCGF violations. The Commission could take action in the future to adopt different fine amounts for violations of Ordinance 3230 if the Commission chooses to enact it. However, without further Commission action on the fine resolution, that residual \$20 fine amount would apply to any violations of proposed Ordinance 3230 if enacted.