



# Livingston City Commission Minutes

June 20, 2023

5:30-8:30 PM

City – County Complex, Community Room, and Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82249971942?pwd=VXVmOW1hSndLKzQ4L3l1MVByeFpldz09>

Meeting ID: 822 4997 1942 **Passcode 066427** Call in: (669) 900-6833

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## 1. Call to Order

Chair Nootz called the meeting to order at 5:34pm

## 2. Roll Call

City Commission in attendance at start of meeting: Chair Nootz, Vice-Chair Kahle, Commissioner Friedman and Commissioner Lyons.

Commissioner Schwarz joined the meeting during discussion of Item 9A at approximately 5:44pm.

Staff in attendance City Manager Grant Gager, Police Chief Dale Johnson, and Recording Secretary Faith Kinnick.

## 3. Public Comment

Tim Stevens commented on the underpass mural and his appreciation of the student's work.

## 4. Consent Items

**A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JUNE 6, 2023, REGULAR MEETING.**

**B. RATIFY CLAIMS PAID 05.24.2023-06.13.2023.**

**C. OPEN CONTAINER SPECIAL EXCEPTION REQUEST, OWL LOUNGE HOSTS ANNUAL PBR AFTERPARTY ON JULY 15, 2023.**

**D. CONSIDERATION OF AGREEMENT 20020 FOR SOLID WASTE HAULING AND DISPOSAL SERVICES.**

**E. CONSIDERATION OF AGREEMENT 20021 FOR AGREEMENT WITH STAFFORD ANIMAL SHELTER.**

Motion to approve all consent agenda items was made by Commissioner Lyons and seconded by Commissioner Kahle. The motion passed unanimously by the four members present.

## 5. Proclamations

**A. A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LIVINGSTON DECLARING JUNE 18-24TH AS NATIONAL POLLINATORS WEEK IN LIVINGSTON.**

Chair Nootz read the proclamation. The City Manager offered his support for the proclamation and pollinators. Commissioner Kahle offered her support of pollinators, as well.

## 6. Scheduled Public Comment

## 7. Public Hearings

## 8. Ordinances

## 9. Resolutions

### **A. RESOLUTION NO. 5092: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LIVINGSTON, MONTANA, DESIGNATING LIVINGSTON MONTANA AS A BEE CITY USA® AFFILIATE.**

Chair Nootz called on the City Manager to introduce the item. The City Manager noted the work to arrive at this resolution and its conformance with the Growth Policy.

Vice Chair Kahle moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Lyons seconded the motion.

Public Comment was offered by:

- Sarah Boyle expressed support for the Resolution.
- Connor Cavigli, Chair of the Parks and Trails Committee, expressed his support for the resolution.

Commissioner Schwarz joined the meeting.

Commissioner Lyons, Vice Chair Kahle and Chair Nootz expressed their support for bees.

The Item was approved unanimously by the five Commissioners present.

### **B. RESOLUTION NO. 5093: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LIVINGSTON, MONTANA, OBJECTING TO A MAIL BALLOT ELECTION FOR THE CITY'S MUNICIPAL ELECTION, AND CALLING FOR AN ELECTION TO BE HELD.**

Chair Nootz called on the City Manager to introduce the item. The City Manager described the planned November 2023 election and possible inclusion of a referendum question regarding the Community Wellness Center and recommendation for in-person polling.

Commissioner Schwarz moved to approve the Resolution and Vice Chair Kahle seconded the motion.

Public Comment was offered by:

- Martiza Reddington, County Clerk and Recorder, offered comments regarding the conduct and cost of in-person elections and noted recent turn-out of mail-only elections.
- Patricia Grabow offered her support for an in-person election.

The Commission discussed the conduct of elections with the County Clerk and Recorder including clarifying how both in-person and mail-in elections are conducted and how voters of different status (e.g. absentee, active, registered) participate in each. The Commission and Manager discussed the coming election and staff considerations related to its form.

The motion was approved by the Commission by a 4-1 vote with Commissioner Lyons voting against the Resolution.

## 10. Action Items

### **A. INTRODUCTION OF CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED FY 2024 BUDGET.**

**(Starts at Video Mark 44:00)**

Chair Nootz called on the City Manager to introduce the item. The City Manager introduced the recommended budget and provided a summary of the process through which the budget was created. The City Manager reviewed the budget by each department. The Commission asked questions regarding certain staffing levels, programs and projects of the City. Through the discussion, the Commission offered suggestions for additional items of consideration including: (1) funding an energy action plan, and (2) funding in-person elections at the level recommended by the County Clerk and Recorder.

Vice Chair Kahle moved to take a 10-minute break, seconded by Commissioner Lyons. Unanimously approved.

Public Comments were offered by:

- Joe Phelps offered comments on the process of water and sewer rate setting.
- Tim Stevens commented on the process of including the advisory committees in the budget process and also the water rates.

The City Commission consented with conducting the first reading of the Budget Resolution at the July 18, 2023, meeting.

**B. UPDATE ON COMMUNITY WELLNESS CENTER PROJECT.**

**(Starts at Video Mark 2:16:00)**

Chair Nootz called on the City Manager to introduce the item. The City Manager provided an update on the Community Wellness Center project including a summary of recent poll results and the project's location, layout, capital fundraising and operating plans. The City Manager also provided information on the coming approval processes.

Vice Chair Kahle moved to take a 10-minute break and extend the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Lyons. Unanimously approved.

Public Comments were offered by:

- Joe Phelps offered comments on the wellness center and possible options.
- Jeanne Tatum offered comments on the aquatic features of the building.
- James Willich offered comments on behalf of Alain Kennedy regarding the current civic center. On his own accord, Mr. Willich offered his support for the project and roller skating.
- Andrew Field offered comments regarding the project and current Civic Center location.
- Dennis Glick offered comments on the Yellowstone River and project process.
- Tim Stevens commented on the outreach and evaluation processes moving forward.
- Patricia Grabow expressed her perspective on the project and Sacajawea Park

11. City Manager Comment

The City Manager thanked the community for participating.

12. City Commission Comments

The Commissioners provided their comments and thanks to the community.

13. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Lyons and second by Friedman, unanimously approved.