

JOURNAL OF COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS
January 20, 2026 -- Regular City Commission Meeting
Civic Center Commission Chambers, Room 206 -- Mayor Reeves Presiding

CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL/STAFF INTRODUCTIONS:

City Commission members present: Cory Reeves, Joe McKenney, Rick Tryon, Shannon Wilson, and Casey Schreiner.

Also present were Deputy City Manager Jeremy Jones, Planning and Community Development Director Brock Cherry, Finance Director Melissa Kinzler, Interim Deputy City Manager Bryan Lockerby, City Attorney David Dennis, Police Chief Jeff Newton, and City Clerk Lisa Kunz.

AGENDA APPROVAL

There were no proposed changes to the agenda by the Deputy City Manager or City Commission. The Commission approved the agenda as presented.

CONFLICT DISCLOSURE/EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS

None.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

1. MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Ben Forsyth, City resident, commented that during this evening's work session, he provided the Commission with a list of laws he believes the City is violating regarding marijuana policy. He expressed concern about what he described as serious harms caused by marijuana and emphasized that, in his view, existing laws are not being used to prevent those harms. Mr. Forsyth clarified that he is not advocating for eliminating marijuana entirely but instead supports the use of specific forms of medical marijuana that he claims are very low in harmful chemicals and do not cause harm. Mr. Forsyth requested a meeting with the commission to discuss this issue in depth, stating that he believes people are suffering and that failing to address the topic contributes to that suffering.

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NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS

2. MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

None.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

3. MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

None.

CITY MANAGER

4. MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Deputy City Manager Jeremy Jones reported the first parking summit was held last Friday with about 18 participants attending in person and additional attendees participating online. The meeting was facilitated by Mark Willmarth and organized into small group discussions, which produced recommendations for future consideration. Staff are currently compiling and reviewing the feedback to identify common themes. A second summit meeting is scheduled for next Friday.

Deputy City Manager Jones also noted that City Manager Greg Doyon was absent from the meeting due to his attendance at the Leadership Montana Masters Class.

CONSENT AGENDA

5. Minutes, January 6, 2026, City Commission Meeting.
6. Total Expenditures of \$6,810,503 for the period of December 18, 2025, through December 31, 2025, to include claims over \$25,000, in the amount of \$6,305,319.
7. Contracts List
8. Approve the cancellation of City of Great Falls checks that remain outstanding and unpaid for a period of one (1) year or longer as authorized by § 7-6-4303, MCA, and authorize redistribution to the General Fund and the Municipal Court Unclaimed Restitution Fund.
9. Approve Amendment No. 1 to the Memorandum of Agreements with the Montana Department of Transportation for the 9th St NW and Watson Coulee Rd. projects and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement documents. **OF 1739.2**

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- 10.** Approve the final payment for the Mansfield Theater Seating Project, in the amount of \$47,215.98 to Wadsworth Construction, and \$476.93 to the State Miscellaneous Tax Fund, and authorize the City Manager to make the payments. **OF 1833.0**
- 11.** Approve the final payment for the 5th Street and 10th Avenue South Storm Drainage Crossing project in the amount of \$44,857.95. This comprises \$44,409.37 to Ed Boland Construction and \$448.58 to the State Miscellaneous Tax Fund and authorizes the City Manager to make the payments. **OF 1811.2**
- 12.** Approve the final payment for the South Great Falls Storm Drain Middle Basin project in the amount of \$86,306.84. This comprises \$85,443.77 to United Materials of Great Falls and \$863.07 to the State Miscellaneous Tax Fund and authorizes the City Manager to make the payments. **OF 1820.0**

Commissioner McKenney moved, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, that the City Commission approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Mayor Reeves asked if there were any comments from the public. Hearing none, Mayor Reeves asked if there was any discussion amongst the Commissioners.

There being no discussion, Mayor Reeves called for the vote.

Motion carried 5-0.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

13. BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (BID) FY 2026 BUDGET AMENDMENT.

Mayor Reeves declared the public hearing open and asked for presentation of the agenda report.

Executive Director Kellie Pierce reported that the BID received notice that, due to an increase in property values in the district, the actual amount of assessments levied was higher than the approved budget by an amount of \$76,256. The BID board of directors approved the budget amendment for funds to be allocated to special projects in the current fiscal year.

Last year the increase in assessments was used for new holiday décor for Central Avenue and added a part-time employee to help with outside tasks such as graffiti removal, trash cleanup in alleyways, and maintaining weeds and trees.

The BID is grateful that the properties within the district are improving and that the BID can add additional services to the downtown district.

Mayor Reeves asked if there were any questions of Executive Director Pierce. Hearing none, Mayor Reeves asked if there were any comments from the public in support of the Business Improvement District (BID) FY 2026 Budget Amendment.

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Sherrie Arey, Executive Director for NeighborWorks Great Falls and Treasurer of BID, expressed support for the proposed budget amendment, noting the BID's efforts to remain within budget while achieving visible improvements in the downtown area. She highlighted enhancements made towards downtown beautification, including lighting and murals, and stated that these investments have contributed to a safer and more inviting environment. She shared personal observations that improved lighting and public art have reduced transient activity and increased positive downtown use.

Mayor Reeves asked if there were any comments from the public in opposition to the Business Improvement District (BID) FY 2026 Budget Amendment. No one responded.

Mayor Reeves closed the public hearing and asked the will of the Commission.

Commissioner Tryon moved, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, that the City Commission approve the FY 2026 Business Improvement District (BID) Budget Amendment.

Mayor Reeves asked if there was any discussion amongst the Commissioners.

Commissioner McKenney noted that Great Falls has a healthy downtown that continues to get better. He expressed appreciation for all the work of the folks that are making the investment and taking a risk for the community.

Commissioner Wilson commented that she is impressed with all that the BID can do with the assessment funds. This past year the BID funded the American Legion Post 3's request to extend the United States flags that are put up along Central Avenue to 8th Street during patriotic holidays.

There being no further discussion, Mayor Reeves called for the vote.

Motion carried 5-0.

14. RESOLUTION 10611, DECLARING CERTAIN PROPERTY LOCATED AT 816 3RD AVENUE SOUTH, LOT 005, BLOCK 424, GREAT FALLS ORIGINAL TOWNSITE, CASCADE COUNTY, MONTANA, A NUISANCE, ORDER THE NUISANCE BE ABATED, AND AUTHORIZE CITY STAFF TO FORCE ABATEMEN TIF NECESSARY.

Mayor Reeves declared the public hearing open and asked for presentation of the agenda report.

Planning and Community Development Director Brock Cherry reported that this resolution addresses long-standing property maintenance and safety violations at 816 3rd Avenue South, consisting of unsafe living conditions, lack of utilities, accumulation of junk and debris, temporary shelters, and illegally parked vehicles.

The City has received complaints about the property since 2007, and records indicate approximately 300 police calls for service dating back to 1997.

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Staff acknowledged ongoing neighborhood concerns and emphasized the importance of due process and respect for property rights. Over many years, the City has attempted to work with the property owner through notices, compliance deadlines, direct contact, prior abatement, and participation in city-supported improvement programs, none of which resulted in sustained compliance.

On October 7, 2025, Building Safety, Fire Rescue, and Police executed a warrant to assess the property. The building official determined the structure was uninhabitable and ordered it vacated due to unsafe conditions and lack of utilities. As of late December 2025, violations remain unresolved.

Staff determined the property meets the definition of a nuisance under city code and recommends abatement, which may include removal of debris, vehicles, temporary shelters, and the razing of the residential structure. Director Cherry noted that, this approach differs from past efforts, explaining that leaving structures in place can create an attractive nuisance. While recognizing the human impact and costs associated with abatement and demolition, he also noted that the property owner would be held financially responsible through liens, although collection is uncertain. All required notices were provided to the property owner and the public.

Mayor Reeves asked if there were any questions of staff.

Commissioner Tryon asked whether anyone was currently living at the property.

Director Cherry responded that no one is living there and that the property is posted with no-trespassing signs. Director Cherry added that staff has coordinated with the property owner and social service providers to avoid compounding housing issues, while emphasizing that failure to take action would allow the property to remain an attractive nuisance and lead to illegal occupancy.

Commissioner Schreiner commented that razing the property gives him pause. He expressed concern about demolishing the structure, noting that it may currently provide shelter, particularly during winter. He inquired whether demolition would automatically occur if the resolution were approved, or if that decision would be made later as part of the abatement process.

Director Cherry responded that the intent is to coordinate sooner rather than later with contractors and other entities that can raze the property.

Commissioner Schreiner inquired if razing was due to a structural issue or to mitigate the opportunity for more bad behavior to occur at this property.

Director Cherry noted that the building official deemed it uninhabitable in its current state. There are other components that contribute to inhabitability that he could follow up with in an email with more description to the City Commission.

Commissioner Schreiner inquired about the timeframe.

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Director Cherry responded that staff is moving quickly, especially given the feedback from neighboring residents. If the weather cooperates, he hopes to see progress in the near future.

Mayor Reeves asked if there were any comments from the public in support of Resolution 10611.

Lori Nelson, City resident, commented that she has lived across the alley from this property since 1985. She expressed serious concerns about ongoing safety, health, and quality-of-life issues related to the property. She stated that the property has effectively become a homeless encampment, with frequent congregating, trailers and vehicles on-site, and repeated incidents involving drug paraphernalia, shell casings, public urination and defecation, harassment, and threats.

Ms. Nelson reported that her family and pets do not feel safe using their own yard, that police are called frequently but issues persist, and that individuals often hide when law enforcement arrives. She described ongoing fighting, intimidation, and disturbances, creating an unsafe environment for children and residents. She also stated that the condition of the property repeatedly deteriorates shortly after cleanup efforts.

Ms. Nelson expressed concern that the situation has significantly reduced her property value, prevents her from making home improvements or selling her home, and has negatively impacted what was once a safe, stable neighborhood. She emphasized that the structure no longer functions as a home and has had many years and opportunities to be brought into compliance without success. She urged the City Commission to take immediate action to address the situation.

Written public comments in support of Resolution 10611 were submitted from:

Kaeli Gaquer, neighbor of 816 3rd Avenue South, commented on violent and criminal activity at the property, including assaults, drug use, and vandalism, creating a persistent safety risk. Despite repeated police involvement, the situation remains unresolved, and the property owner has not been held accountable. Ms. Gaquer urged the City Commission to take decisive action immediately to protect the community and prevent further escalation.

Sonja and Edmond Albert, neighbors of 816 3rd Avenue South, report ongoing and escalating issues associated with the property at 816 3rd Avenue South, which have persisted for several years. These conditions have caused significant stress, fear, and health deterioration, due to living in a state of constant anxiety inside their own home. Mr. and Mrs. Albert urged the Commission to take decisive, enforceable measures to address the situation, ensure accountability, and restore safety for all residents in the neighborhood.

Mayor Reeves asked if there were any comments from the public in opposition to Resolution 10611. Hearing none, Mayor Reeves closed the public hearing and asked the will of the Commission.

Commissioner Tryon moved, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, that the City Commission adopt Resolution 10611, declaring certain property located at 816 3rd

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Avenue South, Lot 005, Block 424, Great Falls Original Townsite, Cascade County, Montana, a nuisance, order the nuisance be abated, and authorize City staff to force abatement if necessary.

Mayor Reeves asked if there was any discussion amongst the Commissioners.

Commissioner Tryon spoke in support for this motion, citing testimony received during the meeting and communications from neighboring residents. The situation is intolerable. The property owner has had many years to correct the issues but has failed to do so. He emphasized that the ongoing nuisance is unfair to nearby residents and harmful to the broader community when this type of nuisance and abuse goes on for years.

Commissioner Tryon affirmed support for private property rights, while stressing that such rights carry responsibilities to comply with community rules, ordinances, and standards. Property rights do not override obligations to neighbors or the community and concluded that prompt action is necessary, and he urged timely resolution.

Commissioner Wilson commented that this property is within a couple blocks of her neighborhood. She truly feels for the people that are adjacent to this property and on that block. She also expressed support for the motion.

Commissioner McKenney spoke in support for the proposed action, concurring with prior comments from fellow commissioners and staff. While acknowledging the importance of private property rights, he emphasized the responsibility of elected officials to represent the community and prioritize policy, budget, and health and safety considerations.

Commissioner McKenney noted that the property no longer functions as a home but has effectively become a long-standing homeless encampment, reportedly for more than a decade. Despite multiple opportunities and engagement with appropriate agencies, the property owner has not made necessary improvements, and conditions have continued to deteriorate. He concluded that, based on health and safety concerns, approval of the action is necessary and stated his intention to vote in favor.

Commissioner Schreiner commented that he also intends to vote in favor. He acknowledged support for mitigating the situation for the affected neighborhood, noting that residents have endured the conditions for many years. However, he expressed concern that the underlying issue may be displaced rather than resolved, potentially impacting another neighborhood. He appreciated staff's commitment to exploring additional actions and emphasized the need for a long-term solution to address the broader challenges faced by the affected individuals and the community as a whole.

There being no further discussion, Mayor Reeves called for the vote.

Motion carried 5-0.

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15. LEASE AGREEMENT OF CITY OWNED PROPERTY LOCATED AT 410 16TH STREET SW IN COMMUNITY HALL PARK WITH THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF CASCADE COUNTY FOR A COMMUNITY GARDEN PROGRAM.

Mayor Reeves declared the public hearing open and asked for presentation of the agenda report.

Interim Deputy City Manager Bryan Lockerby reported this item is a community garden that started in 2012 on city owned property that runs parallel to Interstate 15. A 501C3 group took that over and planted apple trees and fruit orchards, and had bees. In 2019, another group took over a portion of that property, and they both aged out. The Boys and Girls Club took over in 2023 and 2024. The renewal was reviewed by the Park and Recreation Advisory Board, which recommended that a five-year term be approved.

Mayor Reeves asked if there were any questions of staff. Hearing none, Mayor Reeves asked if there were any comments from the public in support of or in opposition to the lease agreement. No one responded.

Mayor Reeves closed the public hearing and asked the will of the Commission.

Commissioner Wilson moved, seconded by Commissioner Tryon, that the City Commission approve a lease agreement of City owned property located in Community Hall Park with the Boys and Girls Club of Cascade County for a community garden project.

Mayor Reeves asked if there was any discussion amongst the Commissioners.

Hearing none, Mayor Reeves called for the vote.

Motion carried 5-0.

16. RESOLUTION 10613, ESTABLISHING GREAT FALLS POLICE DEPARTMENT FINGERPRINT FEES.

Mayor Reeves declared the public hearing open and asked for presentation of the agenda report.

Police Chief Jeff Newton reported that the Great Falls Police Department has historically performed fingerprinting services for members of the public due to their employment and/or licensing requirements. The Great Falls Police Department has done this as a community service and have charged a nominal fee of \$15.00 to do so. Currently, when an individual is fingerprinted, they receive two fingerprint cards but are only fingerprinted once.

The Great Falls Police Department received notice from the Criminal Justice Information Network, who is governed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, that their policy regarding fingerprinting is changing effective January 2026. According to the new directive from the Criminal Justice Information Network and the Federal Bureau of Investigations, agencies who provide fingerprinting services will be required to fingerprint individuals twice - meaning each

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fingerprint card provided to the individual will now need a separate fingerprinting process, which increases the costs in terms of staff time and supplies.

The Great Falls Police Department records bureau staff currently fingerprints private individuals upon request, Sexual and Violent Offender Registrants and those charged with crimes in Municipal Court. The fees to fingerprint/process registered offenders is currently \$25 and will remain the same.

Currently, the Police Department spends about \$500 annually for fingerprint supplies.

Staff recommends that the City Commission conduct a public hearing on Resolution 10613 and adopt an increase in fees for fingerprinting individuals at the Police Department from \$15.00 to \$25.00.

Mayor Reeves asked if there were any questions of staff.

Commissioner Tryon received clarification that there will not be an increase to the fiscal impact if the Resolution is adopted.

Mayor Reeves asked if there were any comments from the public in support of or in opposition to 10613. No one responded.

Mayor Reeves closed the public hearing and asked the will of the Commission.

Commissioner Wilson moved, seconded by Commissioner Schreiner, that the City Commission adopt Resolution 10613.

Mayor Reeves asked if there was any discussion amongst the Commissioners.

Commissioner Wilson noted that fees need to reflect what the services actually cost.

There being no further discussion, Mayor Reeves called for the vote.

Motion carried 5-0.

17. ORDINANCE 3283, AMENDING TITLE 10, CHAPTERS 9 AND 10 OF THE OFFICIAL CODE OF THE CITY OF GREAT FALLS (OCCGF) PERTAINING TO ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATION OF THE CITY'S PARKING SYSTEM; AND RESOLUTION 10612 ESTABLISHING THE RATES, FEES, AND PENALTIES ASSOCIATED WITH TITLE 10 OF THE OFFICIAL CODE OF THE CITY OF GREAT FALLS (OCCGF) PERTAINING TO THE CITY'S DOWNTOWN PARKING SYSTEM.

Mayor Reeves declared the public hearing open and asked for presentation of the agenda report.

Planning and Community Development Director Brock Cherry reported that the public hearing for Ordinance 3283 and Resolution 10612 regarding changes to downtown parking regulations

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and fee increases was not properly advertised for the current meeting and must therefore be vacated and rescheduled. All notice requirements have now been satisfied, and the public hearing has been properly advertised for February 3, 2026. Staff has implemented procedural changes to prevent a recurrence.

During review of the proposed rate increase, staff determined that existing coin meters are outdated and cannot be reprogrammed to support higher rates. The original equipment provider indicated that updating the system would require entering into a significant exclusive contract, which staff does not recommend given upcoming discussions on long-term parking strategy. If the City Commission proceeds with the public hearing on February 3, 2026, staff will revise the financial impact analysis to reflect these limitations that fees cannot be increased to \$1.50 for all on street parking.

Staff recommends vacating tonight's hearing and scheduling a joint public hearing on the ordinance and resolution for February 3, 2026.

Mayor Reeves asked if there were any questions of Director Cherry.

Commissioner Tryon inquired if there was a structural or communication problem between departments that led to this being the second time the Commission was asked to vacate and reset public hearings.

Director Cherry responded that process changes have been made and staff will have the necessary paperwork done and everything scheduled at the time of first reading. Before, staff waited on City Commission action to set the public hearing before proceeding with the necessary public hearing paperwork.

Mayor Reeves asked if there were any comments from the public in support of or in opposition to 10613. No one responded.

Mayor Reeves closed the public hearing and asked the will of the Commission.

Commissioner Wilson moved, seconded by Commissioner Tryon, that the City Commission vacate the public hearing set for January 20, 2026, and set the joint public hearing for Ordinance 3283 and Resolution 10612 for February 3, 2026.

Mayor Reeves asked if there were any comments from the public or discussion amongst the Commissioners.

Commissioner McKenney received clarification that the Legislature did make changes to the public notification statutes but was not the cause of the public hearing not being noticed in this instance.

Commissioner McKenney noted that since the prices on the meters cannot be raised and will be different than what the Commission previously approved, will a staff amendment be offered at the February 3rd meeting.

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Director Cherry explained that staff confirmed that parking rates cannot be increased on existing coin meters due to their outdated technology. While rate changes for the mobile app and kiosks can be implemented easily, the coin meters cannot be reprogrammed. Updated financial impacts will be presented assuming coin meter rates remain unchanged and noted that one alternative would be removal of coin meters and replacement with kiosks. Additional concerns with coin meters include exposure to weather, contamination of collected funds, and higher labor costs for cash handling. Although approximately 50% of users continue to utilize coin meters, Director Cherry emphasized that retaining them as part of the downtown parking system carries ongoing costs. Staff will return on February 3 with proposed amendments and options for Commission consideration.

Mayor Reeves requested clarification about the action to be taken on February 3rd being a temporary fix and whether it will be brought back before the Commission around April after the meetings with various community partners about a permanent fix.

Director Cherry responded that the proposed action is a temporary measure intended to stabilize the parking program until the Commission provides long-term direction. The purpose is to reduce ongoing financial losses and generate limited revenue to offset the current deficit, estimated at approximately \$80,000 to \$100,000. While staff is working closely with community stakeholders and moving as quickly as possible, implementation of new parking equipment and systems will still require significant time, potentially six months to a year. The duration of the temporary measure will be determined by the Commission.

Mayor Reeves called for the vote.

Motion carried 4-1 (Commissioner Schreiner dissenting).

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

18. ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL REPORT (ACFR) AND AUDIT REPORTS, FISCAL YEAR 2025.

Finance Director Melissa Kinzler reported that the City has completed its annual financial audit for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025. This is the first year of a 3-year audit contract with Eide Bailly, LLP. The City's Audit Committee met on January 14, 2026. The Audit Committee is comprised of one City Commissioner, the Mayor, two citizens, the City Manager, and the Finance Director. Members of the Audit Committee received a copy of the FY 2025 ACFR and the Independent Auditor's Report. The Audit Committee also reviewed the Corrective Action Plan and approved both the Independent Auditor's Report and the Corrective Action Plan.

The ACFR identifies room for improvement regarding the reporting of the City's capital assets, the timing and reconciliation of Federal Grant Revenues and its accrued payroll. All

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areas have been reviewed with the auditor and new processes have already been established to correct these areas.

Staff recommends the City Commission accept the City of Great Falls Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 ACFR and authorize staff to submit the related reports to other government agencies and financial institutions as necessary.

Commissioner McKenney moved, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, that the City Commission accept the Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) and Independent Auditors' Reports included in the ACFR.

Mayor Reeves asked if there were any comments from the public or discussion amongst the Commissioners.

Hearing none, Mayor Reeves called for the vote.

Motion carried 5-0.

ORDINANCES / RESOLUTIONS

CITY COMMISSION

19. APPOINTMENT OF MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE TO FILL THE DEPARTMENT A VACANCY.

Mayor Reeves reported that, in accordance with § 7-4-4111(3), MCA, the vacancy occurred upon Municipal Court Judge Steven B. Bolstad's submission of his written resignation on December 1, 2025, with an effective date of 12:01 a.m. on January 1, 2026. Upon notice of his resignation, the City Commission was legally obligated to appoint a judge to serve the remainder of the current term.

On December 19, 2025, the City issued a press release announcing that applications would be accepted to fill the vacancy through 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 8, 2026. By the stated deadline, the City Clerk received three Municipal Court Judge Interest Applications.

At the Special Work Session held January 16, 2026, the City Commission interviewed the three applicants: Cassidy Blomgren, Theresa Diekhans and Cayle Halberg. Each applicant was asked the same questions. Following the interviews, the Commission deliberated and discussed the applicants' responses.

Municipal Court Judge Steve B. Bolstad was re-elected to a four-year term beginning January 1, 2024. The next municipal election will be held in November 2027. Pursuant to the applicable statutes, the selected applicant will serve the unexpired portion of the term through December 31, 2027. The position will appear on the ballot at the November 2027 municipal election. The selected applicant may file for election at that time and, if elected, will begin serving a four-year term.

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Commissioner Wilson moved, seconded by Commissioner Tryon, that the City Commission appoint Cassidy Blomgren as Municipal Court Judge for Department A to serve the unexpired portion of the term through December 31, 2027, at a beginning salary of \$119,859.75.

Mayor Reeves asked if there were any comments from the public. Hearing none, Mayor Reeves asked if there was any discussion amongst the Commissioners.

Commissioner Tryon commented that all three applicants were qualified to varying degrees. It was a tough decision. The other two applicants will have the opportunity to run for the position in November 2027 with a competitive campaign and election at that time for the people to decide.

Commissioner Schreiner commented that there's a piece to elections that the appointment process doesn't have and that is the people that elect you. That was a little different in this situation. The Commission received letters of recommendation pretty overwhelmingly from the public that included folks in the legal area as well as private businesses for Cassidy. He will support the motion. It makes sense that, with all the public input received, this is the move that supports the will of the people.

City Attorney David Dennis requested that the motion be altered to provide for an effective date of January 30, 2026, which allows the Commission to make the appointment within the 30-days required by law, but also allows the candidate to wrap up the duties of their current position.

Commissioner Wilson moved, seconded by Commission Tryon, that the City Commission amend the main motion to include the effective date of January 30, 2026.

Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Reeves called for the vote on the Amended Motion that the City Commission appoint Cassidy Blomgren as Municipal Court Judge for Department A to serve the unexpired portion of the term through December 31, 2027, at a beginning salary of \$119,859.75, with an effective date of January 30, 2026.

Amended Motion carried 5-0.

20. MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CITY COMMISSION.

None.

21. COMMISSION INITIATIVES.

None.

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, **Mayor Reeves moved, seconded by Commissioner Tryon, to adjourn the regular meeting of January 20, 2026, at 7:54 p.m.**

Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Cory Reeves

City Clerk Lisa Kunz

Minutes Approved: February 3, 2026