

**JOURNAL OF COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS**  
**February 17, 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 City Manager Greg Doyon and Deputy City Manager Jeremy Jones, Public Works Director Chris Gaub, Finance Director Melissa Kinzler, City Attorney David Dennis, Police Chief Jeff Newton, and Deputy Clerk Darcy Dea.

**AGENDA APPROVAL**

There were no proposed changes to the agenda by the 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.**

**Judy Mortensen**, City resident, expressed appreciation to the present federal administration, Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency, local and state law enforcement for enforcing laws and protecting citizens.

**Jeni Dodd**, City resident, expressed disappointment that the Park and Recreation Advisory Board was not notified of the October 7, 2026 Work Session proposal from Enbar to redirect \$425,000 from the approved Park and Recreation budget to Centene Stadium repairs. She noted that on November 4, 2026, the City Commission voted 4–1 to adopt Resolution 10610 approving the budget reallocation at Enbar’s request. Ms. Dodd stated that the Advisory Board was not given the opportunity to provide input or recommendations to the City Commission or City Manager as required under OCCGF Sections 2.11.020 and 2.11.050, and

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she opined that the Commission failed in its duties by proceeding without receiving an advisory opinion from the Board.

**Stuart Lewin**, City resident, provided a handout regarding the Missouri River Citizens Corridor Plan (MRCP). He suggested incorporating the goals and language of the MRCP as guiding principles in the development of the new Growth Policy Plan. Mr. Lewin emphasized the community's responsibility in fostering a clean and healthy environment and stated that the river is the community's most important resource. He further noted that the MRCP identifies five Superfund sites located within the bend of the river.

**James Rickley**, City resident, President of the Eagles Manor Residents Council and Vice-Chair of Neighborhood Council 6, addressed concerns regarding the sale of Eagles Manor and subsequent changes in operating conditions. He reported that food service, on which many residents rely, will be discontinued after June 30, 2026, creating significant challenges for residents and raising potential fire and safety concerns. He also noted that the new owners have removed the 55+ designation, allowing broader occupancy within legal limits based on unit size. Additional concerns included a reported increase in crime in the area over the past two months, particularly assaults, as well as unresolved questions related to zoning, the lot split, and changes to contractual services. He concluded by stating that the Council looks forward to working with the new owners and the community to identify viable solutions.

Written correspondence was received from **Jenny Yoder**, via February 3, 2026 email, alleging a complaint of misconduct against Mayor Cory Reeves for making a public Facebook post expressing his displeasure with the discovery of a planned effort of community members to attend the February 3, 2026 City Commission meeting to discuss concerns over the extent of the City's cooperation with ICE agents, that included a screenshot of a citizen's personal information.

## NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS

### 2. MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Art Taft, Neighborhood Council 1, reported that NC 1 met at the new location at Faith Lutheran Church and there was a healthy number of Fox Farm residents in attendance.

Penny Paul, Representing Montana Tobacco Use and Prevention program, presented current rules and regulations pertaining to Clean Indoor Air Act. Ms. Paul discussed tobacco use among the youth of the community as well as the impact of tobacco use in Montana.

Planning and Community Development Senior Transportation Planner Andrew Finch presented an update on the City Growth Policy draft and noted that the deadline for public comment is February 26, 2026.

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Public Works Street and Traffic Manager Eric Boyd presented potential solutions for Linden Drive. Residents are concerned with pedestrians and parking for persons accessing the Meadowlark Park playground and being able to cross the street to the park safely. This topic will be revisited at a future meeting.

Cari Yturri spoke on behalf of Family Promise and provided a report on the unhoused population of Great Falls, including 242 children.

NC 1 voted 5-0 to change the current by-laws to reflect the change in meeting location and an agenda item pertaining to traffic concerns in the Fox Farm Area was tabled as the citizen wishing to discuss the issue could not attend.

NC 1 meetings are the second Tuesday of the month with the next meeting scheduled for March 10, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

### BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

#### 3. MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

None.

#### 4. APPOINTMENT TO THE SUPER TIF ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

Mayor Reeves reported that the City Commission established the Super Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Advisory Committee on October 21, 2025, through Resolution 10609. During the meeting on December 16, 2025 the City Commission appointed four members to the Committee. Cascade County Commissioners recommended Commissioner Joe Briggs to serve as the representative for Cascade County Government. The City Commission chose not to appoint elected officials to the Committee and asked for the County to consider recommending a non-elected person to serve on the Committee. The County Commission has not provided an alternative recommendation.

On February 6, 2026, the City advertised for citizens interested in serving as the representative of Cascade County with the stipulation that the citizen must be an employee of Cascade County.

All committee members, including those recommended by Cascade County and Great Falls Public Schools, must be formally appointed by the City Commission.

**Commissioner Wilson moved, seconded by Commissioner Schreiner, that the City Commission appoint Don Ryan to a four-year term through December 31, 2029, as the representative from Cascade County government.**

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

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Commissioner McKenney expressed support of appointing Don Ryan to the Super TIF Advisory Committee because of his experience serving on the Great Falls School Board, as a Montana State Senator and Cascade County Commissioner.

Commissioner Tryon expressed support of appointing Don Ryan because the Super TIF Advisory Committee is an advisory committee and not a decision-making committee.

With no further discussion, Mayor Reeves called for the vote.

Motion carried 5-0.

### CITY MANAGER

#### 5. MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

City Manager Greg Doyon highlighted the following:

- Information Technology (IT) Director Todd Feist recently became the first Certified Government Chief Information Officer in Montana. The goal of the one-year program is to equip IT executives with the skills needed to lead modern digital government initiatives.
- Public comment for the Draft Growth Management Policy can be emailed to [futuregreatfalls.com](mailto:futuregreatfalls.com) until February 28, 2026.
- Comments for the Strategic Capital Investment Reserve (SCIR) can be emailed to [SCIR@greatfallsmt.gov](mailto:SCIR@greatfallsmt.gov) until February 27, 2026 and an open house will be on February 25, 2026 in the Civic Center at 12:00 p.m.

### CONSENT AGENDA

6. Minutes, February 3, 2026, City Commission Meeting.
7. Contracts List.
8. Total Expenditures of \$2,235,609 for the period of January 15, 2026 through January 28, 2026, to include claims over \$25,000, in the amount of \$1,767,183.
9. Approve the purchase of one new 2026 Cat 308 Excavator from Tractor and Equipment Co. for \$128,700 through the city's membership with Sourcewell.
10. Award a contract in the amount of \$1,352,990 to Capcon LLC for the 9th St NE Water Main Replacement project as part of the 2026 Annual Capital Improvement Plan and authorize the City Manager to execute the contract documents. **OF 1848.0**

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11. Approve the Professional Services Agreement with L'Heureux Page Werner Architecture in the amount of \$210,970 for the Public Works Administration Addition and Remodel Design Phase and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement documents. **OF 1814.4**

**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.

Hearing none, Mayor Reeves called for the vote.

Motion carried 5-0.

## PUBLIC HEARINGS

## OLD BUSINESS

12. **TERMINATION OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR ENGINEERING/ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES WITH L'HEUREUX PAGE WERNER ARCHITECTURE (LPW) FOR THE CENTENE STADIUM SEAT AND NET UPGRADES PROJECT. OF 1862.0**

City Manager Greg Doyon reported that on January 20, 2026, the Commission approved a Professional Services Agreement (PSA) with LPW Architecture for engineering/architectural services for the Centene Stadium Seat and Net Upgrades Project. During the February 3, 2026, City Commission meeting, Commissioner Tryon voiced concerns about a potential conflict of interest between the Great Falls Baseball Club owner and LPW. Purchasing seats was not the issue of concern, it was the previously approved Professional Services Agreement.

The Legal Department determined that there appeared to be a conflict of interest and upon being informed of the issue, it was determined that the appropriate action would be to discontinue that agreement.

There has been no payment made to LPW and Staff informed LPW the contract would be brought back to the Commission to exercise the termination provision. The project will still require independent professional oversight, so staff will return with a new PSA and the purchase of seats at a future meeting for Commission consideration.

While the potential concern was not identified as early as it could have been, tonight's action resolves that matter and allows the project to proceed accordingly.

**Commissioner Tryon moved, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, that the City Commission terminate a Professional Services Agreement with L'Heureux Page**

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### **Werner Architecture pertaining to engineering/architectural services for the Centene Stadium Seat and Net Upgrades Project.**

Mayor Reeves asked if there were any comments from the public.

**Jeni Dodd**, City resident, commented that City Manager Doyon clarified her concerns about a payment being made to LPW. Ms. Dodd expressed concern that the City Manager and Staff recommended payment toward a contract with LPW and the Commission approved payment at the January 20, 2026 Commission meeting despite the potential conflict of interest. She further expressed concern that there was no link to the check register for total expenditures on the February 17, 2026 agenda.

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

Commissioner McKenney commented that he reads the agenda packets and missed the potential conflict of interest; however, human error happens and the City is taking the proper action tonight to correct the issue.

Commissioner Tryon explained that he missed the potential conflict of interest with the LPW agreement on the January 20, 2026 consent agenda; however, he caught it at the February 3, 2026 Commission meeting. This was an honest mistake and not a nefarious attempt to deceive the public or work a good ol' boy's deal.

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

Motion carried 5-0.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **13. CITY OF GREAT FALLS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS – NATURAL GAS SUPPLY.**

Finance Director Melissa Kinzler reported that the City has a current natural gas supply contract with Energy West Resources. Energy West Resources was sold to NorthWestern Services as of July 1, 2025. Under this current contract NorthWestern Services extended the contract until March 31, 2026. The City's energy supply consultant Jim Morin recommended that the City seek competitive proposals for the natural gas supply to provide certainty in the City's natural gas supply expenses and allow the City to competitively bid for gas supply in the future. Stability and known costs are important to the City's financial stability.

The Request for Proposal was issued January 28, 2026. The indicative pricing proposal was due February 11, 2026 with the final proposal due February 17, 2026. Four licensed natural gas marketing firms were solicited, including Jefferson Energy Trading Company, Summit Energy, Commercial Energy and NorthWestern Energy Supply Services Inc. Summit Energy and Jefferson Energy Trading Company were the only two respondents. Mr. Morin analyzed the two proposals and recommended that the City accept the proposal from Summit

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Energy for a period of 39 months for the base load fixed price option for natural gas supply to the City.

**Commissioner Wilson moved, seconded by Commissioner Tryon that the City Commission accept a proposal from Summit Energy for a period of 39 months through June 30, 2029 for Base Load Fixed price option for natural gas supply to the City of Great Falls and authorize the city manager to execute the necessary supply agreements.**

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 McKenney commented that Mr. Morin has a proven track record and his recommendations have always been spot on.

Commissioner Tryon commented that the Commission does not rubber stamp things and relies on the expertise of consultants and City staff with regard to their recommendations. Mr. Morin is an expert in his field who made a studied recommendation.

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

Motion carried 5-0.

## **ORDINANCES / RESOLUTIONS**

### **CITY COMMISSION**

#### **14. MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CITY COMMISSION.**

None.

#### **15. 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 February 17, 2026, at 7:37 p.m.**

Motion carried 5-0.

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Mayor Cory Reeves

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Deputy City Clerk Darcy Dea

**Minutes Approved: March 3, 2026**