

Helena Civic Center
PO Box 272, Helena MT 59624

CIVIC CENTER BOARD

SPECIAL MEETING

Tuesday, August 6, 2019 at 4:00 PM in the lobby

AGENDA - SPECIAL MEETING

1. Roll Call; Call to Order
2. Minutes of Special Meeting, July 23, 2019
3. HEADS UP HELENA content and disbursement
4. DISCUSSION on City Commission Meetings August 12th and 26th and opportunities for comment by citizens
5. Public Comment
6. Adjourn

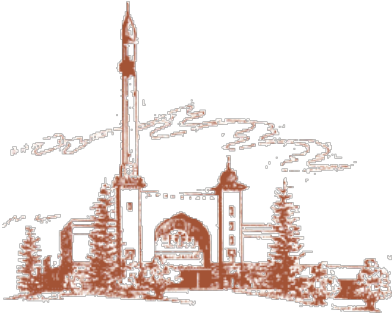
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(406) 447- 8490; TTY Relay Service 1-800-253-4091 or 711

citycommunitydevelopment@helenamt.gov

316 North Park, Avenue, Room 440, Helena, MT 59623



HEADS UP HELENA

Save the Civic Center

The City Manager is in the process of moving the Civic Center operations division from the Community Facilities Department to the Parks, Recreation and Open Lands Department. To accomplish this an ordinance must be changed by the City Commission. The changes of this ordinance provide the **ONLY PUBLIC HEARING** that is required for the City Manager to make this and FUTURE changes to the Civic Center as noted below.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! YOUR HELP IS NEEDED – AN OVERWHELMING ATTENDANCE AT THESE TWO 6 PM CITY COMMISSION MEETINGS August 12 and August 26 IS THE VERY BEST WAY TO HELP. If you can't attend, email your concerns to the Mayor and Commissioners (email addresses below).

- There is no advantage to either the Civic Center Division or the Parks Department with this move. As a matter of fact, it is a disadvantage to both. The Parks Department does not provide any support to the Civic Center with knowledge, experience, budget or personnel.
- The Parks Department receives a division they know nothing about and have no way to support and the Civic Center Division is removed from the only support the City can provide by leaving the Community Facilities Division.
- A \$50,000 study was completed 2 years ago, and this was not the recommendation of the City Commission and the Civic Center Board – what changed in 2 years?
- This is the first step of many the City Manager has proposed.
- Next is the relocation of Civic Center Administration staff to a building 2 blocks away.
- Then the City Manager has proposed the privatization of the operation of the Civic Center.
- Will this move cause the Civic Center to fall into disrepair and will the City find repairs too costly?
- The funding of the Civic Center is 1.6% of the General Fund for fiscal year 2019-2020.
- More \$\$ will be spent to operate the City pool for 10 weeks than to operate the Civic Center for 12 months.
- The Civic Center Board has raised over TWO MILLION DOLLARS in the last 20 years for renovations and upgrading the building with the belief the City would continue to operate the building.
- All these moves are against the recommendations of the Civic Center Advisory Board
- This ordinance will be voted on by the City Commission at regular commission meetings on August 12 and August 26. These 2 meetings are the **ONLY OPPORTUNITY** to derail this ordinance change and possibly the next steps the City manager has proposed. Meetings are held at 6:pm at the City/County building on the 3rd floor. Changing the ordinance is the beginning of a slippery slope no one wants to have to clean up later. These people are voted to serve by us. They are expected to DO NO HARM!

Mayor Wilmot Collins – wcollins@helenamt.gov Commissioner Andres Haladay – ahaladay@helenamt.gov

Commissioner Kali Wicks – KWICKS@helenamt.gov Commissioner Ed Noonan – enoonan@helenamt.gov
Commissioner Heather O'Loughlin - holoughlin@helenamt.gov