

# **Local Government Study Commission #4**

**Monday, December 18th, 2024 @ 5:30 PM**

**Council Chambers – City Hall**

The meeting was called out of recess by DC Orr at 5:30 pm. The pledge of allegiance was performed. DC Orr and Karen Dinkins were all present. Vincent Backen joined at 6:32 pm.

## **1. Timeline:**

- The timeline must be published by 02/04/2025.
- We must conduct one or more hearings. The option to bring community members and the option to bring in council members & the mayor.
- Analyze the current government, what is working and what is not working.

## **2. Budget**

- We need to find out and estimate the cost of the election expense.
- Can we use the city website, or will we have to pay for this?
- Must have recommendation by June of 2026 to be added to the November 2026 ballot. DC will go to the election office and get an idea of the cost.
- Training at Whitefish recommended hiring support staff for meeting minutes, etc.

## **3. Organize minutes for approval**

- Broad discussion with bullet points
- Action items
- Motions

## **4. Public Engagement Plan**

- Hugh will report on commission progress at the City Council meetings.
- Reach out to county and discuss collaborating on Outreach.
- Meeting schedule – consistently
- At the January meeting we need to finalize information for the website, a potential flyer for the water bill and other types of outreaches.

## **5. Bylaws**

- Sample – no action.

## **6. Charter Review**

- Understand the Charter and what we have.
- Discussion about the multiple forms of government and what we have now.

## **7. Public Comment**

- John Bebee – 704 E 9<sup>th</sup>, Libby
  - i. Report not required by statute.
  - ii. Minimum required for LGRC study – three types do not apply.
  - iii. Charter – variable applications represent people.
  - iv. Public engagement – he would encourage social media page where you can have public responses.
  - v. Need to conduct and outreach program, poll taking, newspaper and flyers.
  - vi. He applied for the commission position.

## **8. General Comments from the commission**

- Vincent stated “examine” was used several times by the Attorney General. Also, broad powers were noted frequently. A political discussion ensued.
- DC Orr mentioned that an ethics committee should be convened.

**No Public comment.**

**Adjournment:** Karen Dinkins made a motion to adjourn. Vincent Backen seconded. **Motion carried.** The meeting was adjourned at 6:53pm. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 5:30pm.