

City of Lewistown Study Commission

January 21, 2015

Lewistown Public Library Meeting Room

Attendees included Dick Krillenberger, John Sturtz, Frank Gremaux, Melody Scott, Steve Williams, Dick Ellstead, Charlie Denison, Gayle Doney and Darryl McKenzie .

Melody Scott performed the duties of recording secretary.

Call to Order: Krillenberger called the meeting to order at 11:02 AM.

Disposition of Previous Meeting Minutes:

Ellstead moved to approve the January 14, 2015 and January 16, 2015 minutes as printed. Krillenberger seconded the motion.

Interview of Lewistown Fire Chief Kucera:

Kucera was unable to attend the meeting.

Open Public Participation:

Steve Williams asked about the direction and topics the commission plans to cover. Krillenberger responded that the committee is talking about the city government. Williams questioned if there would be public meetings and where the input to the committee will be coming from. Krillenberger said that the input will come from the meetings with the department heads and public comment at open public participation. Williams shared his opinion on the Lewistown income and the impact that has had on small income businesses. He also passed along his thoughts on the local government.

Committee Member Comments:

Ellstead thanked Williams for his input. Krillenberger shared that he feels the night meetings will help promote public input. Williams offered to help promote the study commission's meetings. Discussion followed about the idea of doing a mail out survey. Sturtz feels the commission should wait until later to do the survey. Ellstead suggested placing the survey in the newspaper. Doney mentioned that Don Clark in Bozeman has surveys available that the commission could modify to fit their needs. Ellstead suggested contacting other Montana cities to discuss their forms of government. Doney recommended using the government profile chart to help select which cities the committee would talk to based on size or mill value for example. Ellstead suggested creating a committee to form a list of uniform questions to ask the department heads. Since she had missed some of Williams's comments, Doney asked Williams on his take on the city mayor vs. manager form of government. Williams talked about the loss of local businesses on Main Street due to lack of income and the effect of nepotism on business. Williams encouraged various ideas of how to build tourism to Central Montana. Doney asked Williams whether he was looking at the charter or certain people in the local government leadership. Ellstead reminded that while the commission did not yet have answers, they were hopeful to make the right decision in the future. Gremaux shared his thoughts on the need to have a full time person as manager or mayor. Past mayors were part time due to the pay they received. Doney reminded that are lots of factors involved, even on a national level, that affect Lewistown in ways we may not see. Krillenberger stepped in to pause the back and forth discussion and encourage participants to keep their comments concise.

Gremaux asked if anyone on the commission had read the charter. Krillenberger is the only one who has. All commission members will receive a copy of the charter to read.

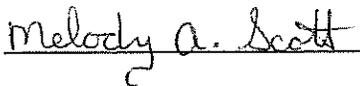
Upcoming meeting dates, times and locations were mentioned. The Fire Chief will be re-scheduled for a later date.

Doney said that some discourse is normal and fine. She also encouraged the current study commission members to read the results from the last study commission.

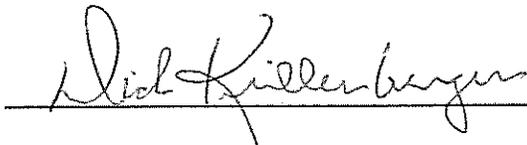
Discussion followed on whether minutes from the study commission meetings would be available online. Scott will check into whether this is a possibility.

Announcements: The next meeting will be January 23, 2015 at the Civic Center.

Adjournment: Meeting dismissed by Krillenberger at 11:45am.



Melody A. Scott, Recording Secretary



Dick Krillenberger, Chairman