

City of Lewistown Study Commission  
May 26, 2015  
Lewistown City Complex

Attendees included Dick Krillenberger, Melody Scott, Gayle Doney, Darryl McKenzie, Alexandra Dunnington, Dick Ellestad, and Butch Sturtz.

Melody Scott performed the duties of recording secretary.

**Call to Order:** Krillenberger called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call of Members Present**

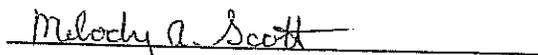
**Disposition of Previous Meeting Minutes:** Krillenberger moved for approval of the May 8, 2015 minutes. Ellestad so moved.

**Budget-Paid Expenses and Current Balance:** No current figures were available for report. Scott mentioned that the bill for publishing the time line came to \$109.90 and has been submitted to the city for payment.

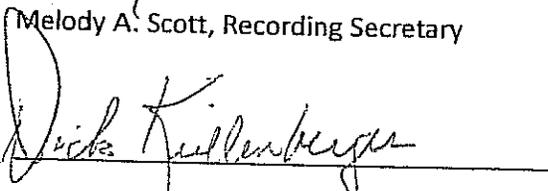
**Interview of City Commissioners:** Krillenberger asked Diana Hewitt what she felt about the city commissioners. Hewitt replied that when the government form changed, she was raising kids and didn't pay much attention to what was going on in local politics. But she felt that the local citizens must have felt the city was poorly run since they voted for the change. Discussion of the city charter followed. Hewitt informed the study commission that part of the city charter is based off of section five, article two of the state constitution. The city charter also mimics the Fergus county charter, almost for verbatim. Discussion was had on the lack of participation and interest in the local political system. Sturtz encouraged the public to attend the city commission meetings. How to educate and provide more information to the public was also discussed.

**Open Public Participation and Committee Member Comments:** Ellestad shared what he had learned from Miles City. The town is looking at getting a city charter. There have been additions of an interstate, and Walmart plus a fire that have caused the downtown to suffer. The Helena and Great Falls down towns were also discussed. Interstate can help promote traffic to a town. Lewistown is in the middle of the state so you have want to come here. The rise of internet has really hurt the Lewistown downtown. But no town has a magic pill to good economy. Discussion followed on the lost opportunities Lewistown has had such as the addition of a prison and a college. Lewistown has a hard time accepting change. Neither the mayor or the manager form will change that fact.

**Adjournment:** Meeting dismissed by Krillenberger.



Melody A. Scott, Recording Secretary



Dick Krillenberger, Chairman