

PUBLIC NOTICE

City of Hardin Government Study Review Commission Meeting Agenda

May 21, 2025

5:30 p.m. City Council Chambers

Call to Order

Public comment

Agenda

1. Approve Minutes of previous meetings:
 - a. April 16, 2025
2. Discuss individual meetings with outside resources and city officials.
3. Discuss next outreach activities.

Hardin Local Government Review Study Commission

April 16, 2025 Meeting Minutes

At 5:41 p.m., Chairperson Carolyn Dawes called the meeting to order. Present were Commissioners Carolyn Dawes and Jason Stephenson. Randy Mercier was absent. Also present was Jordan Knudsen, ex-officio member.

No members of the public were present, and no public comment was made

Jason moved to approve the minutes from the previous meeting, March 19, 2025, and it was seconded by Carolyn. A voice vote was called, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 1, Discussion of Public Hearing, was called as the first order of business. Carolyn discussed possible future meetings with the Chief of Police, or other business owners to gather more input.

Jason reminded the commission that ordinances couldn't be changed.

Jason then discussed pending legislation in the Montana Legislature, and requested the changes to a self-governing form of government.

Carolyn and Jason discussed whether the commission should recommend a self-governing charges, or whether the recommendation should be to keep the same form as currently used.

Carolyn suggested inviting some city administrators to the next commission meeting.

Carolyn then suggested that the commission should recommend a self-governing charter government with the same mayor/council format.

Jordan and Jason and Jordan then discussed the differences and problems of self-governing versus general powers government.

Jason suggested that the chief of police position should be elected. After a brief review of the Montana Code, Jordan stated that he didn't think that position could be an elected position, but must be appointed.

Jason and Carolyn suggested that each meet with the Chief of Police, the Mayor, and other supervisors within the City to get additional input.

Jason stated that Randy should talk to the City Finance Officer, Carolyn should talk to the Chief of Police, and Jason volunteered to talk to the Mayor. Carolyn agreed.

Carolyn asked when the next meeting was scheduled, Jordan replied May 21, 2025.

No further business was conducted, and Jason moved to adjourn. Carolyn seconded the motion. A voice vote was called, and the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

Approved this _____ day of May, 2025

Carolyn Dawes, Chairperson