

Council Committee

DATE: September 10th, 2025
TIME: 4PM
PLACE: City Hall Rimrock Room

Mayor/Council: Mayor Cole, Roy Neese, Kendra Shaw, TJ Rogers, Jennifer Owen, Mike Boyett
Staff: Wyeth Friday, Jessica Fust. Rep James Reavis, Mike Yakawich, Larry Brewster, Dennis Lenz. There were no public attending.

ADJOURN TIME: 5:02pm

Minutes

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY AGENDA OR NON-AGENDA ITEM (3 Min.)

TOPIC #1	Discussion concerning the Montana State Mental Health Facility
NOTES/OUTCOME	<p>This was a discussion between Billings local council members and four Montana State Representatives. We found that Laurel and Columbus were interested in the location of this facility. It will be a forensic unit which could hold up to 36 patients. The senators discussed the reason behind moving such a facility to Eastern Montana. They stated that Warm Spring and Galen are both overcrowded, having backlogs and need to expand. The thought was the placement of this unit in eastern Montana to save the time and money of transportation from this area to western Montana.</p> <p>Mr. Brewster stated that the 5 locations visited in Billings were off the list of possible locations and will not be considered. Their goal will be a forensic unit either in Billings, Yellowstone County or somewhere around the Yellowstone County area so as to have a good source of employees and services.</p>

	<p>Several issues arose from our discussion.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A need for a plan, which would show the size of the unit, number of patients, number of employees, length of stay for each person, etc 2. A need for a town hall type discussion of the locals in the area where the unit will be placed. 3. There is no money at this time for staffing, but this should be addressed in the next Montana legislative session. 4. A need to consider the workforce and the hiring process. 5. Board of investments will make the decision for the final location of the unit. <p>Finally, it was decided that we meet again in one month to see where the state is in its process and what decisions have been made.</p>
NOTES/OUTCOME	

TOPIC #3	Topics of general discussion/topics for future agendas
NOTES/OUTCOME	

