

Billings City Administrator Weekly Report

October 3, 2021

1. **Violent Crime Reduction Partnership** – Wednesday afternoon, Attorney General Knudsen and Budget Director Kurt Alme’s offices sat down with representatives from the City and County to discuss a \$4,000,000 investment to reduce violent crime in Billings. As we know too well, Billings violent crime rates essentially doubled during the pandemic. Over the next few weeks, we will be discussing details and bringing forward a Resolution for Council consideration prior to a critical legislative committee meeting in late October. The State is asking Yellowstone County and the City to commit \$1,000,000 of ARPA dollars to match \$2,000,000 from the State. These one-time dollars must comply with ARPA rules and must be spent within three years.
2. **Marijuana Dispensary Debate** - Monday’s Downtown Noon Rotary club hosted a point, counter-point discussion between Council Members Pam Purinton and Danny Choriki. The discussion was meant to inform Rotary members of the upcoming City marijuana ballot measure.
3. **Heights Water District (HWD)** – A small group met Thursday with two HWD board members and their newly hired attorney. The goal is to resolve the ongoing dispute dating back to 2018. The city underbilled the district nearly \$3,000,000 for water they received over the previous three years. We are also discussing the contract between the two parties. We will be meeting again this Friday.
4. **Vaccination Clinic at the Billings Public Library** – The Billings Public Library, in partnership with RiverStone Health, held a vaccination clinic in the Community Room on Wednesday, September 29, 2021 from noon to 2:00 PM. There were 196 people who received the FDA approved Pfizer vaccination.
5. **COVID 19** – City leadership has been hit hard this past week by the virus. All were quite ill, none were hospitalized, thankfully, all are recovering.
6. **Public Safety Mill Levy Presentation**
 - Mission Ridge Retirement Home, September 28 at 3:00 PM
 - Heights Task Force, September 28 at 7:30 PM
 - Water Reclamation Facility, Engineering Division, Solid Waste and Street Divisions
 - Billings Association of Realtor, September 30 at 8:40 AM
 - Administration, Human Resources & Finance Departments
 - Billings Gazette Editorial Board, September 30 at 4:00 PM
 - Billings Library Staff, October 1 at 8:00 AM
 - League of Women Voters, October 5 at 12:00 PM
 - Wyndstone Retirement Homes, October 5 at 3:00 PM
 - Building, PCSD and IT Departments, October 6
 - Municipal Court, Parking, Parks, ARFF, October 7

- North Park Task Force, October 7 at 7 PM
- Airport Building, Facilities and Police Briefing, October 8

Happy Sunday!