

GOVERNMENT REVIEW STUDY COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11, 2025
5:30 PM

1) Call to Order

Commissioner Chair McDowell called the meeting to order. Commissioners present were Alessi, Dugan, Whitman, Wurster, Ex-officio Howke and City Attorney Jacobs.

2) Communications from the Public - (This time is set aside for the public to comment on items that are either on the agenda, but not a public hearing or on items not on the agenda. City officials do not respond during these comments but may respond or follow-up later on the agenda or at another time. The presiding officer has the option of limiting such communications to three minutes depending on the number of citizens who want to comment and the length of the meeting agenda)

None

3) Review of the draft Tentative Report

Commissioners McDowell and Wurster drafted the tentative report that is provided in the packet. After some discussion, the Commissioners removed the draft language under Appendix A, statutes 7-3-301 thru 7-3-318, since those are for cities that do not have a Charter form of government. The Commissioners agreed the City Charter should be Appendix A, and Appendix B should be the recommendations.

The recommendation to repeal Section 2.01(5)(a)(b), M.C.A 7-3-704(1) requires the Charter to provide grounds for removal of City Councilors. These should remain in the Charter.

Recommendation #3 After some discussion the Commissioners agreed upon School District #44 for the residency allowed for boards and committees.

Recommendation #1 include replace “all” with “majority” as it pertains to qualifications for committee appointments.

Introduction Letter: The Commissioners agreed to remove “Review” to read Local Government Study Commission. Paragraph 2; provide numbers for the 1) no change; 2) propose and amendment to the existing form of government; 3) or offer an alternative form of government... Include language included in ordinances pertaining to public hearings in the 3rd paragraph.

Remove town and replace with city in Introduction and Report Summary. Include the graphs from the Community Survey at the end of the Report Summary. Commissioner Dugan will provide a Minority Report, so he asked to include a sentence to read “This recommendation held by majority but not unanimous as found on the Minority Report”.

Commissioners discussed appending the survey to the Final Report.

4) Public Comment

None

5) Communication to or from Study Commissioners

None

6) Next meeting: July 2, 2025, Public Hearing – Tentative Report

7) Adjournment

Commissioner Chair McDowell adjourned the meeting at 6:36pm.



Kevin McDowell - Chair

Attest:



Michelle Howke, Whitefish City Clerk