

**WHITEFISH LOCAL GOVERNMENT STUDY COMMISSION  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER CONFERENCE ROOM  
WEDNESDAY APRIL 22, 2015**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Ken Williams called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Members present were Turner Askew, Rebecca Norton and Vanice Woodbeck, recording secretary. Charlie Abell was in the audience.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES APRIL 1, 2015**

Rebecca had some corrections to the minutes that she gave to the secretary. **Rebecca made a motion, seconded by Ken, to adopt the minutes of April 1, 2015 as amended. The motion passed unanimously.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Charlie Abell asked how he could get a copy of the minutes. Vanice said he could go to the website or she will send him a copy of the minutes. Charlie feels that the Council and city are removing themselves from the people. Charlie asked when the meetings are and how to get it out to the public so everyone would know. Rebecca said she would write up an editorial for Ken to look at and put it in the Pilot and also the Interlake. Vanice will make sure it is also on the website.

Rebecca and Charlie do not feel that a 4:00 p.m. meeting time works well for the public. Ken said when they have their Public Hearing it will be in the evening.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**a. What questions for inserts into the water bills for staff and City Council.**

The commissioners and Charlie Abell worked on the inserts for the water bills, staff and City Council. After some discussion on what questions should be asked and how many they decided on this:

Whitefish Local Government Study Commission Survey

Montana is the only state in the nation that allows its cities and counties to review and update their form of government. This occurs every 10 years through a Local Government Review Commission. Whitefish has its own Charter which gives us self-governing powers. We have selected a mayor/council form of government with a paid City Administration.

This insert requests your comments on what works for Whitefish and what needs improvement. Please take a moment to fill this out. We'd like it back by June 30, 2015 to help us compile public comment.

1. Do you think our current form of government is appropriate for Whitefish? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_.
2. In the past we've had wards with councilors elected to represent specific parts of the City. Should we reconsider this? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_.
3. Are you a City resident? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_.

4. Do you have any ideas that would improve our town. Share them here: \_\_\_\_\_

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Thank you for contributing to our Public process.

Your Local Government Review Study Commission.

Responses can be mailed to: City of Whitefish, P.O. Box 158, Whitefish, MT 59937

E-mailed to [vwoodbeck@cityofwhitefish.org](mailto:vwoodbeck@cityofwhitefish.org)

Fax to 863-2419.

The commission also wanted to ask staff and City Council 3 additional questions of:

What works?

What does not work?

Do you have suggestions that we should consider?

#### **COMMENTS**

- a. **Public Comments:** None.
- b. **Commission Comments:** Ken reminded everyone that they will be meeting with the City Council at the May 4, 2015 work session at 5:00 p.m.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Turner made a motion, seconded by Ken to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.