

CITY OF CUT BANK

PURSUANT TO MCA 7-3-171

IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THAT THE PRESENT FORM OF CITY GOVERNMENT, THE COMMISSION EXECUTIVE FORM, NOW USED IN CUT BANK IS THE MOST EFFICIENT FOR A CITY THE SIZE OF CUT BANK. IN THE OPINION OF THE ELECTED AND APPOINTED CITY REVIEW BOARD MEMBERS THIS FORM OF GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE RETAINED.

IN AS MUCH AS THERE ARE NO RECOMMENDATIONS TO BE PRESENTED TO THE VOTORS OF CUT BANK WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE PUBLIC FOR THIER INTEREST AND COMMENTS IN OUR PAST MEETINGS.

Mike Burns

CHAIRMAN
MIKE BURNS

Lloyd M. Jacobsen

MEMBER
LLOYD JACOBSEN

Phil Cheety

EX-OFFICIO
PHIL CHEETY

CITY OF CUT BANK LOCAL GOVERNMENT STUDY COMMISSION

FINAL REPORT

February 29, 1996

To the Citizens of Cut Bank, Montana:

The City of Cut Bank Local Government Study Commission elected by the voters on November 8, 1994 and also appointed by the City Council of the City of Cut Bank present this final report to the citizens of this city.

The purpose of the study commission, as defined by state law, is "to study the existing form and powers of our city government and procedures for delivery of local government services and compare them with other forms available under the laws of the state". If some change is deemed necessary, the study commission may submit such proposed change to the electors of the city.

In the conduct of their review the study commission has sought advice and information from the citizens of the city. Opinions and recommendations were solicited from local government officials, community leaders, and citizens. All meetings of the study commission were open to the public.

As a result of discussions held with the people and groups mentioned, the City of Cut Bank Study Commission is recommending that the following be submitted to the voters of the City of Cut Bank at the next general election. The Study Commission is submitting to the voters the choice of whether the current ward district for election of alderman needs to be changed to an at-large election. The proposed ballot language as specified in Montana Codes Annotated 7-3-150 to read:

VOTE FOR ONE:

For the existing form of government. The election of alderman for the City of Cut Bank to be elected by wards or districts.

For the election of alderman for the City of Cut Bank to be elected at-large or city-wide.

RESOLUTION NO. 96-11

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CUT BANK, MONTANA, REFERRING A PROPOSED CHANGE IN THE FORM OF CITY GOVERNMENT TO A VOTE OF THE PEOPLE.

WHEREAS, the City of Cut Bank Local Government Study Commission has prepared and submitted its final report, dated February 29, 1996, to the citizens of Cut Bank, Montana, which contains the following recommendations:

"As a result of discussions held with the people and groups mentioned, the City of Cut Bank Study Commission is recommending that the following be submitted to the voters of the City of Cut Bank at the next general election. The Study Commission is submitting to the voters the choice of whether the current ward district for election of alderman needs to be changed to an at-large election. The proposed ballot language as specified in Montana Codes Annotated 7-3-150 to read:

VOTE FOR ONE:

For the existing form of government. The election of alderman for the City of Cut Bank to be elected by wards or districts.

For the election of alderman for the City of Cut Bank to be elected at-large or citywide."

WHEREAS, §7-3-192 M.C.A. 1995 provides that an alternative plan of government recommended by Study Commission must be submitted to the voters as provided in §7-3-149. The election must be held in conjunction with any regularly scheduled election.

WHEREAS, §7-3-149 M.C.A. 1995 provides, in part:

"(1) The governing body shall call a special election on the question of an alternative form of government to be held at the next regular or primary election that is at least 75 days after the call and the date of filing with the records and administrator under 7-3-146. The records administrator shall prepare and print notices of the election."

WHEREAS, the City of Cut Bank is a form of government known as the "Commission-Executive Government" as provided by §7-3-201 through §7-3-224 M.C.A. 1995, and §7-3-218 M.C.A. provides, among other things, that the commission shall be "(1) elected at large;" or "(2) elected by districts in which candidates must reside and which are apportioned by population."

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CUT BANK, MONTANA:

1. REFERENCE OF PROPOSED CHANGE TO A VOTE OF THE PEOPLE. That the proposed change shall be, and it is hereby, referred to a vote of the people at a special City election to be held at the forthcoming general election on Tuesday, November 5, 1996, pursuant to the provisions of §7-3-149 and §7-3-192 M.C.A. 1995.

2. BALLOT PROPOSITION. The submission of the proposed change to a vote of the people on the ballot shall be in the following form:

"SHALL THE METHOD OF ELECTING ALDERMEN FOR THE CITY OF CUT BANK BE CHANGED FROM ELECTION BY DISTRICTS IN WHICH CANDIDATES MUST RESIDE AND WHICH ARE APPORTIONED BY POPULATION TO ALDERMEN BEING ELECTED AT LARGE."

VOTE FOR ONE:

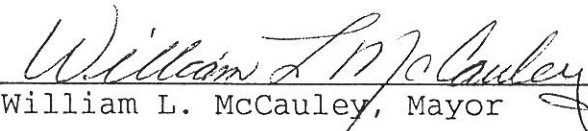
For the existing form of government. The election of alderman for the City of Cut Bank to be elected by wards or districts.

For the election of alderman for the City of Cut Bank to be elected at-large or citywide."

PASSED by the City Council and APPROVED by the Mayor this 19th day of August, 1996.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:


William L. McCauley, Mayor


Mary Embleton, City Clerk