



HELENA CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

September 8, 2025, 5:00PM

PRE-COUNCIL: Work Session

A discussion and review of City Council agenda items, projects, department, committee, and board liaison reports, and task assigned for City operations and business.

All Members Present except Andy Healy and Laura Joseph.

1. Review 09/08/2025 Agenda Items

- AP/Bill Payments
- 08/25/2025 Meeting Minutes Review

2. Update from Council Boards and Committee Business

Farmers Market has another pop-up market coming up on October 25, from 8AM-12PM at the Amphitheater. Helena Historic Preservation Committee states that Myers is looking at dates to cut the trees down near the coke ovens. Alice Lobell asked about the annual pumpkin house and if there were any updates on when that would go up. Cathy Hammann spoke for Beautification Board and states that the pumpkins have been ordered, and the order was cut in half this year since there were too many pumpkins last year but does not know a date for delivery at this time. Alice Lobell states that this may not be the section to discuss this but wanted to suggest that the City consider buying the Oversoul building as it could be beneficial to the City in many ways, including a great location for a Teen Center. Hal Woodman agrees that it would be a great idea for the City and he wishes that the City would've bought the property years ago.

Billy Rosener to speak for HOT Board tonight, stating that this will be his final day on HOT Board as he is resigning as a voting member tonight, but will continue to volunteer with the board; also stating that there's been no greater board that he has served on with the City. Reminder for Oktoberfest event on September 20 – gates open at 2:30PM and there will be plenty of events going on that day.

3. Mayor's Update

Mayor not in attendance.

4. Jill Jones – Bee City USA

Resident Jill Jones to present presentation to Council regarding going Bee Friendly in Helena.

5. Review and Discussion of FY26 Budget

Chris Willis proposed to approve the budget with the current pay scale, offering a COLA and step raises for those eligible, and let the new Council look at the possibility of a new pay scale; Lobell and Woodman agree that that is probably the best option overall. Willis also proposes going back to hiring 5 in the Fire Department and 4 in the Police Department, which is what they originally asked for in budget presentations.

6. Confirmation of 09/11/2025 and 09/22/2025 Meeting dates.

There being no further business, the work session was dismissed at 5:39 pm.

ATTEST:

Madison Harris
City Clerk

SIGNED:

Alice Lobell
Council President



HELENA CITY COUNCIL

September 8, 2025

MINUTES HELENA CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING September 8, 2025

The Council of the City of Helena met in a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday night, September 8, 2025, in the Helena Municipal Building at 6:00 P.M., the regular place and time for holding said meetings.

Council President Alice Lobell called the meeting to order at 6:01 P.M.

Alice Lobell led the prayer.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Teen Council member Raegan Cottingham and Nathalie Morris.

4. Roll Call

Present: Alice Lobell, Chris Willis, Harold Woodman

Members: Alice Lobell, Andy Healy, Chris Willis, Laura Joseph, Harold Woodman

Absent: Andy Healy, Laura Joseph

Visitors: City Attorney Brian Hayes, Fire Chief Chris Miller, Police Chief Mike Wood, Bill Miller, Dan Dearing, Jason Poe, and others (see attached list)

Council President Alice Lobell declared a quorum present, and meeting was open for business.

5. Minutes Approved/Corrected from Prior Meeting(s)

Chris Willis made a motion to approve the Pre-Council minutes and regular meeting minutes from August 25, 2025, with a second by **Harold Woodman**.

AYE: Alice Lobell, Chris Willis, Harold Woodman

NAY: None

Motion carried.

6. Minutes Approved/Corrected from Prior Meeting(s)

Chris Willis made a motion to approve the special-called meeting minutes from September 2, 2025, with a second by **Harold Woodman**.

AYE: Alice Lobell, Chris Willis, Harold Woodman

NAY: None

Motion carried.

7. Minutes Approved/Corrected from Prior Meeting(s)

Chris Willis made a motion to approve the special-called work session minutes from September 3, 2025, with a second by **Harold Woodman**.

AYE: Alice Lobell, Andy Healy, Chris Willis, Harold Woodman

NAY: None

Motion carried.

8. Revenue Report: Bill Payment

Harold Woodman made a motion to approve the bills with a second by **Chris Willis**.

AYE: Alice Lobell, Chris Willis, Harold Woodman

NAY: None

Motion carried.

9. Municipal Operations Report from Mayor J. Brian Puckett:

10. Recognition – Letter of Commendation, Fire Department

Presented by Chief Chris Miller to Firefighter Jonathan Haywood, FireMedic Colby Faulkner, Firefighter Josh Ford, Lt. Dale Smedley, and family members Vinceson Moore and Brandy Robison for lifesaving efforts on .

11. Resolution 08252025A – Bond Proceeds

Harold Woodman made a motion to table Resolution 08252025A – Bond Proceeds indefinitely; with a second by **Chris Willis**.

AYE: Alice Lobell, Chris Willis, Harold Woodman

NAY: None

Motion carried.

12. Resolution 09082025 – Declaring Certain Property Listed Under Assets of the Helena Fire Department

Chris Willis made a motion to approve Resolution 09082025 – Declaring Certain Property Listed Under Assets of the Helena Fire Department; with a second by **Harold Woodman**.

AYE: Alice Lobell, Chris Willis, Harold Woodman

NAY: None

Motion carried.

13. Resolution 09082025A – Miss Shelby County's Teen Charlie Reid

Chris Willis made a motion to approve Resolution 09082025A – Miss Shelby County's Teen Charlie Reid, with a second by **Harold Woodman**.

AYE: Alice Lobell, Chris Willis, Harold Woodman

NAY: None

Motion carried.

14. Resolution 09082025B – Backup Election Manager and Absentee Election Manager

Harold Woodman made a motion to approve Resolution 09082025B – Backup Election Manager and Absentee Election Manager, with a second by **Chris Willis**.

AYE: Alice Lobell, Chris Willis, Harold Woodman

NAY: None

Motion carried.

15. Resolution 09082025C – Accepting Settlement Terms Between PBOE, Helena Utilities, and the City of Helena

Chris Willis made a motion to approve Resolution 09082025C – Accepting Settlement Terms Between PBOE, Helena Utilities, and the City of Helena, with a second by **Harold Woodman**.

AYE: Alice Lobell, Chris Willis, Harold Woodman

NAY: None

Motion carried.

16. Proclamation – GYN Cancer Awareness Month

Alice Lobell to present.

17. Proclamation – Declaring September 17-23, 2025 as Constitution Week

Brian Hayes to present to Rhonda and Rebecca Beacham, and Kristi Averette from the Daughters of the American Revolution.

18. Approve/Deny – Accepting HOT Board Resignation from Billy Rosener

Chris Willis made a motion to approve Approve/Deny – Accepting HOT Board Resignation from Billy Rosener, with a second by **Harold Woodman**.

AYE: Alice Lobell, Chris Willis, Harold Woodman

NAY: None

Motion carried.

19. Period for Public Comment – 3 Minutes per Resident, to Sign in with City Clerk between Work Session and Council Meeting

Residents wanting to speak will sign-in with City Clerk prior to the meeting and will be given three minutes to speak. Public comment was taken.

20. Council Comments

Harold Woodman: Congratulations to Charlie Reid, this is an amazing honor. Thank you to the Fire Department, you all always do a great job.

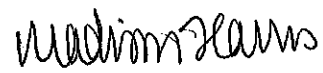
Chris Willis: Congratulations to Charlie Reid, we've gotten to know her the past two years as a part of Teen Council. And thank you to the first responders for all they do.

Alice Lobell: Tonight has made me very proud to be a part of our community, between honoring first responders and Teen Council – we are very proud of you Charlie. If you were here for the work session, there was discussion for a special called meeting for later this week. That will be posted on the website when the time and date is decided.

24. Adjourn

There being no further business meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.

ATTEST:



Madison Harris
City Clerk

SIGNED:



Alice Lobell
Council President