

REXFORD STUDY COMMISSION

Consensus of the Rexford Study Commission came from the first public meeting. The Study Commission presented several options to the public. Attendees from the community stated they were not dissatisfied with the type of government. The problem was not enough people were interested in filling the council positions in the two wards. The public felt only one ward was needed with the council persons selected from the town at large.

The Study Commission is recommending: 1) three council members at large and a mayor; 2) the term shall be four years; and 3) the council members and mayor complete the terms as voted by the public. (two councilpersons at one election (1995) and one council person and mayor in another election (1997). Positions to continue on a staggered basis.

The current type of government is a mayor at large and four council persons (two from two wards) and all on four year terms.

To be published May 23, 1996 and May 30, 1996 in the Tobacco Valley News, Eureka, Montana.

2-29-96

Marilyn W. Keesi
Leo O. Brown
Rick [Signature]

REXFORD STUDY COMMISSION

Consensus of the Rexford Study Commission came from the first public meeting. The Study Commission presented several options to the public. Attendees from the community stated they were not dissatisfied with the type of government. The problem was not enough people were interested in filling the council positions in the two wards. The public felt only one ward was needed with the council persons selected from the town at large.

The Study Commission is recommending: 1) three council members at large and a mayor; 2) the term shall be four years; and 3) the council members and mayor complete the terms as voted by the public. (two councilpersons at one election (1995) and one council person and mayor in another election (1997). Positions to continue on a staggered basis.

2-29-96

Marilyn McKersy
Leo O'Brien
Rick Berg

CERTIFICATE
ESTABLISHING THE EXISTING PLAN OF GOVERNMENT
FOR THE
TOWN OF REXFORD, MONTANA

If retained by the voters, the government of Rexford shall remain organized under the following provisions of 7-3-113, M.C.A. which authorizes the municipal council-mayor form of government.

7-3-113. Statutory basis for municipal council-mayor government.

(1) For the purpose of determining the statutory basis of existing units of local government, each unit of local government organized under the general statutes authorizing the municipal council-mayor form of government, which does not adopt a new form, shall be governed after May 2, 1977 by the following sections:

- (a) 7-3-201;
- (b) 7-3-202(1);
- (c) 7-3-203;
- (d) 7-3-212(2);
- (e) 7-3-213(3);
- (f) 7-3-214(2);
- (g) 7-3-215(2);
- (h) 7-3-216(2);
- (i) 7-3-217(2);
- (j) 7-3-218(2);
- (k) 7-3-219(2);
- (l) 7-3-220(1);
- (m) 7-3-221(3);
- (n) 7-3-222(2);
- (o) 7-3-223(2).

done by authority of 7-4-4103(4) M.C.A.

authorized by Council Resolution.

(2) This form has terms of 4 years for all elected officials. The size of the commission shall be established by ordinance, but it may not exceed 20 members.

These sections establish the following form of government which shall be called the COMMISSION-EXECUTIVE FORM.

7-3-201. Commission-executive form. The commission-executive form (which may be called the council-executive, the council-mayor, or the commission-mayor form) consists of an elected commission (which may be referred to as the council) and one elected executive (who may be referred to as the mayor) who is elected at large.

7-3-202. Nature of government. The plan of government submitted to the qualified electors shall determine the powers of the local government unit by authorizing general government powers.

7-3-203. Duties of the executive. The executive shall:

- (1) enforce laws, ordinances, and resolutions;
- (2) perform duties required of him by law, ordinance, or resolution;
- (3) administer affairs of the local government;
- (4) carry out policies established by the commission;
- (5) recommend measures to the commission;
- (6) report to the commission on the affairs and financial condition of the local government;
- (7) execute bonds, notes, contracts and written obligations of the commission, subject to the approval of the commission;
- (8) report to the commission as the commission may require;
- (9) attend commission meetings and may take part in discussions;
- (10) execute the budget adopted by the commission;
- (11) appoint, with the consent of the commission, all members of boards; except the executive may appoint without the consent of the commission temporary advisory committees established by the executive.

7-3-212. Administrative assistants. The executive may appoint one or more administrative assistants to assist him in the supervision and operation of the local government, and such administrative assistants shall be answerable solely to the executive.

7-3-213. Supervision of personnel. The executive may appoint, with the consent of a majority of the commission, all department heads and remove department heads and may appoint and remove all other department employees.

7-3-214. Veto power. The executive may veto ordinances and resolutions, subject to override by a two-thirds vote of the commission.

7-3-215. Preparation of budget. The executive may prepare the budget in consultation with the commission and department heads.

7-3-216. Administrative supervision and control. The executive may exercise control and supervision of all departments and boards to the degree authorized by ordinance of the commission.

7-3-217. Financial officer. A financial officer (who may be called the treasurer) shall be appointed by the executive with the consent of the council.

7-3-218. Selection of commission members. The commission shall be elected by districts in which candidates must reside and which are apportioned by population.

7-3-219. Type of election. Local government elections shall be conducted on a nonpartisan basis.

7-3-220. Chairman of commission. The commission shall have a chairman who shall be elected by the members of the commission from their own number for a term established

by ordinance.

7-3-221. Presiding officer of the commission. The presiding officer of the commission shall be the executive, who shall decide all tie votes of the commission but shall have no other vote (the chairman of the commission shall preside if the executive is absent).

7-3-222. Terms of commission members. Commission members shall be elected for overlapping terms of office.

7-3-223. Size of commission and community councils. The size of the commission shall be four (4), and community councils to advise commissioners may be authorized by ordinance.

7-3-224. Terms of elected officials. The term of office of elected officials shall be four (4) years.

We, the Study Commissioners of the Town of Rexford do hereby certify that this is the existing Plan of Government as established by Section 7-3-113 M.C.A.

SEAL

In testimony whereof, we set our hands.

Done at Rexford, Montana this 29 day of Feb, 1996.

ATTEST:

Claudia Evans
Claudia Evans, Town Clerk

Leo O'Brien
Leo O'Brien

Marilyn McKenzie
Marilyn McKenzie

Richard Payton
Richard Payton

CERTIFICATE
ESTABLISHING THE AMENDED PLAN OF GOVERNMENT
FOR THE
TOWN OF REXFORD, MONTANA

If approved by the voters, the government of Rexford shall be organized under the following provisions of 7-3-113, M.C.A. which authorizes the municipal council-mayor form of government.

7-3-113. Statutory basis for municipal council-mayor government.

(1) For the purpose of determining the statutory basis of existing units of local government, each unit of local government organized under the general statutes authorizing the municipal council-mayor form of government, which does not adopt a new form, shall be governed after May 2, 1977 by the following sections:

- (a) 7-3-201;
- (b) 7-3-202(1);
- (c) 7-3-203;
- (d) 7-3-212(2);
- (e) 7-3-213(3);
- (f) 7-3-214(2);
- (g) 7-3-215(2);
- (h) 7-3-216(2);
- (i) 7-3-217(2);
- (j) 7-3-218(1);
- (k) 7-3-219(2);
- (l) 7-3-220(1);
- (m) 7-3-221(3);
- (n) 7-3-222(2);
- (o) 7-3-223(2).

done by authority of 7-4-4103(4) M.C.A.

authorized by Council Resolution.

(2) This form has terms of 4 years for all elected officials. The size of the commission shall be established by ordinance, but it may not exceed 20 members.

These sections establish the following form of government which shall be called the COMMISSION-EXECUTIVE FORM.

7-3-201. Commission-executive form. The commission-executive form (which may be called the council-executive, the council-mayor, or the commission-mayor form) consists of an elected commission (which may be referred to as the council) and one elected executive (who may be referred to as the mayor) who is elected at large.

7-3-202. Nature of government. The plan of government submitted to the qualified electors shall determine the powers of the local government unit by authorizing general government powers.

7-3-203. Duties of the executive. The executive shall:

- (1) enforce laws, ordinances, and resolutions;
- (2) perform duties required of him by law, ordinance, or resolution;
- (3) administer affairs of the local government;
- (4) carry out policies established by the commission;
- (5) recommend measures to the commission;
- (6) report to the commission on the affairs and financial condition of the local government;
- (7) execute bonds, notes, contracts and written obligations of the commission, subject to the approval of the commission;
- (8) report to the commission as the commission may require;
- (9) attend commission meetings and may take part in discussions;
- (10) execute the budget adopted by the commission;
- (11) appoint, with the consent of the commission, all members of boards; except the executive may appoint without the consent of the commission temporary advisory committees established by the executive.

7-3-212. Administrative assistants. The executive may appoint one or more administrative assistants to assist him in the supervision and operation of the local government, and such administrative assistants shall be answerable solely to the executive.

7-3-213. Supervision of personnel. The executive may appoint, with the consent of a majority of the commission, all department heads and remove department heads and may appoint and remove all other department employees.

7-3-214. Veto power. The executive may veto ordinances and resolutions, subject to override by a two-thirds vote of the commission.

7-3-215. Preparation of budget. The executive may prepare the budget in consultation with the commission and department heads.

7-3-216. Administrative supervision and control. The executive may exercise control and supervision of all departments and boards to the degree authorized by ordinance of the commission.

7-3-217. Financial officer. A financial officer (who may be called the treasurer) shall be appointed by the executive with the consent of the council.

7-3-218. Selection of commission members. The commission shall be elected at large.

7-3-219. Type of election. Local government elections shall be conducted on a nonpartisan basis.

7-3-220. Chairman of commission. The commission shall have a chairman who shall be elected by the members of the commission from their own number for a term established

by ordinance.

7-3-221. Presiding officer of the commission. The presiding officer of the commission shall be the executive, who shall decide all tie votes of the commission but shall have no other vote (the chairman of the commission shall preside if the executive is absent).

7-3-222. Terms of commission members. Commission members shall be elected for overlapping terms of office.

7-3-223. Size of commission and community councils. The size of the commission shall be three (3), and community councils to advise commissioners may be authorized by ordinance.

7-3-224. Terms of elected officials. The term of office of elected officials shall be four (4) years.

We, the Study Commissioners of the Town of Rexford do hereby certify that this is the existing Plan of Government as established by Section 7-3-113 M.C.A.

SEAL

In testimony whereof, we set our hands.

Done at Rexford, Montana this 29 day of Feb, 1996.

ATTEST:

Claudia Evans
Claudia Evans, Town Clerk

Leo O'Brien
Leo O'Brien

Marilyn McKenzie
Marilyn McKenzie

Richard Payton
Richard Payton

CERTIFICATE
ESTABLISHING THE DATE OF THE SPECIAL ELECTION
AT WHICH THE AMENDED FORM OF GOVERNMENT
SHALL BE PRESENTED TO THE ELECTORS OF
REXFORD, MONTANA

The amended form of government proposed by the Rexford Local Government Study Commission shall be submitted to the voters of Rexford at a special election to be held with the primary election on June 4, 1996.

We, the Study Commissioners of the Town of Rexford do hereby certify that this is the date of the special election approved by the Rexford Local Government Study Commission.

SEAL

In testimony whereof, we set our hands.

Done at Rexford, Montana this 29 day of Feb, 1996.

ATTEST: Claudia Evans
Claudia Evans, Town Clerk

Leo O'Brien
Leo O'Brien

Marilyn McKenzie
Marilyn McKenzie

Richard Payton
Richard Payton

CERTIFICATE

ESTABLISHING THE OFFICIAL BALLOT FOR

THE JUNE 4, 1996 SPECIAL ELECTION

Instructions to voters: Place an "X" in the box which expresses your preference.

OFFICIAL BALLOT

BALLOT ON THE AMENDED FORM OF GOVERNMENT

Vote for One.

- FOR adoption of the amendments to elect council members at large and reduce the number of council members from 4 to 3 to the commission-executive plan of government proposed for Rexford proposed by the Rexford Local Government Study Commission.
- FOR the existing form of government with districted elections and 4 council members.

We, the Study Commissioners of the Town of Rexford do hereby certify that this is the official ballot approved by the Rexford Local Government Study Commission.

SEAL

In testimony whereof, we set our hands.

Done at Rexford, Montana this 29 day of Feb, 1996.

ATTEST: Claudia Evans
Claudia Evans, Town Clerk

Leo O'Brien
Leo O'Brien

Marilyn McKenzie
Marilyn McKenzie

Richard Payton
Richard Payton

TOWN OF REXFORD
 COMPARISON OF SPECIFIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE
 MAYOR-COUNCIL AND AMENDED MAYOR-COUNCIL FORM OF GOVERNMENT

CHARACTERISTIC	PRESENT FORM OF GOVERNMENT	PROPOSED AMENDED FORM OF GOVERNMENT	COMMENTS
FORM OF GOVERNMENT	MAYOR-COUNCIL Elected council performs policy making functions. Elected mayor administers government with the advise and consent of the council.	MAYOR-COUNCIL Elected council performs policy making functions. Elected mayor administers government with the advise and consent of the council	No change
POWERS	General government powers	General government powers	No change
GOVERNING BODY	Council and mayor responsible for all legislative, executive and administrative functions.	Council and mayor responsible for all legislative, executive and administrative functions.	No change
Size	4 council members elected from two wards and mayor elected at large in nonpartisan elections.	3 council members and the mayor elected at large in nonpartisan elections.	Number of council members reduced from four to three. Council members elected at large instead of from wards. Candidates for office may live anywhere in the community and will tend to represent the community as a whole rather than their ward.
Term	Four year overlapping terms	Four year overlapping terms	No change
Presiding Officer	Mayor	Mayor	No change