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C I T Y O F W O L F P O I N T
1986 LOCAL GOVERNMENT STUDY COMMISSION
Review & Proposed Change

STUDY COMMISSIONERS

Malisse T. Mahlum, Chairman
Sharon Dschaak, Member
Shane A. Gibson, Member

a certificate of apportionment is needed.

T A B L E O F C O N T E N T S

	PAGE
Letter to the Citizens of Wolf Point.....	1
Voting Districts (Map).....	Exhibit "A"
Summary of 1986 Study Commission.....	2
Certificate Establishing Existing Form of Government.....	3
Certificate Establishing Proposed Form of Government.....	6
Certificate Establishing Date of Special Election.....	9
Certificate Establishing the Official Ballot.....	10

TO: THE CITIZENS OF WOLF POINT, MONTANA
FROM: Wolf Point Local Government Study Commission
SUBJECT: Local Government Review

The Wolf Point Study Commission, elected by the voters on November 6, 1984 or thereafter appointed, hereby present this final report to you, the citizens of Wolf Point.

The purpose of the Study Commission in state law, is "to study the existing form and powers of a local government and procedures for delivery of local government services and to compare them with other forms available under the laws of the state". After completing these two phases of the study, it is the responsibility of the Study Commission to submit a final report recommending no change or propose an amendment to the existing form of government or offer an alternative form of government to the qualified electors.

In every phase of the review, this Study Commission sought advice and information from as many people as possible. Opinions and recommendations were solicited from local government officials. All meetings of the Study Commission were open to the public. A telephone survey was made encompassing 500 people, which demonstrated a few more people favored redistricting while, at the same time, they wanted the number of Councilmen to remain the same. Public hearings were held.

Our recommendations reflect the thoughts and opinions of those who participated in public hearings, those who attended our regular meetings, and those who responded to a survey, in addition to the independent efforts of this Study Commission.

In this final report, we recommend ^(The adoption of amendments to the) ~~an alternative form~~ ^{existing plan A} of government which will provide for non-partisan city elections. In our present form of city government, we are required by law to hold partisan elections. Since we have erroneously held non-partisan elections in the past, we feel that this alternative form of government will provide the services expected by the people.

We solicit your support for its adoption.

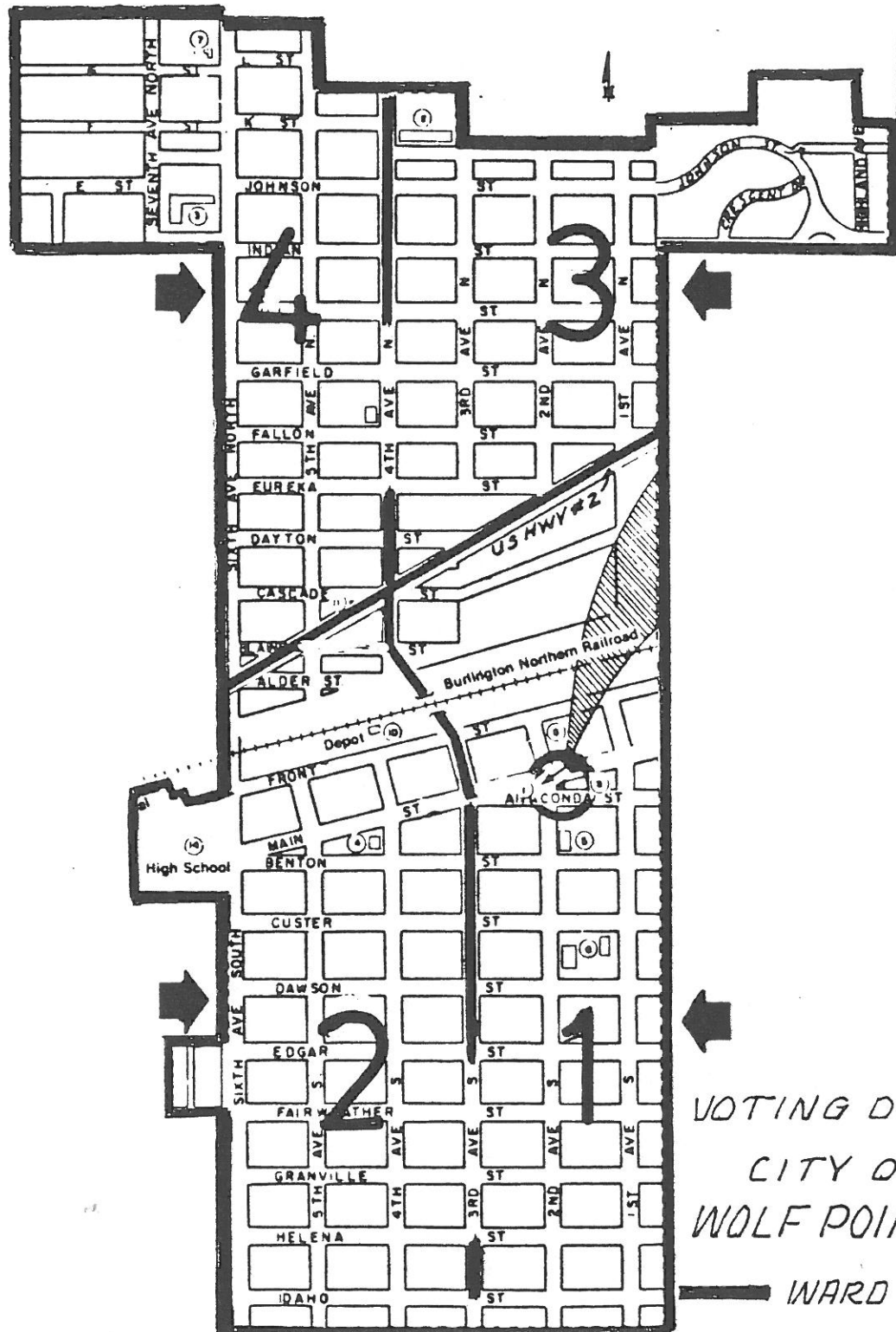
Respectfully submitted,

LOCAL GOVERNMENT STUDY COMMISSIONERS

Malisse T. Mahlum, Chairman

Sharon Dschaak, Member

Shane A. Gibson, Member



VOTING DISTRICTS
CITY OF
WOLF POINT, MT.

WARD BOUNDARY

EXHIBIT "A"

Summary and Comparison of the Existing Plan and Amended Plan of Government for the City of Wolf Point

1986 STUDY COMMISSION

For The

CITY OF WOLF POINT

SUMMARY of ^{the} Comparison of the

existing plan of government w

The Study Commission feels that it is of particular interest to Wolf Point, which has a mayor-council form of government, to understand the 1975 Legislature's enactment of the code defining the mayor-council form of government (now Section 7-3-113, M.C.A.). The code provided that if a local government, organized under the general statutes authorizing the mayor-council form of government, did not adopt a new form of government, then it was governed by certain statutes after May 2, 1977, including one requiring partisan elections. Therefore, we have erroneously conducted non-partisan elections, ^{in ok} the past and to correct this, the Study Commission recommends an ^{amendment} alternative form of government in which the only change would be non-partisan elections. ^{to the existing plan}

If we vote to retain the existing form of government, we must have partisan elections.

By voting for the Plan of Government proposed by the Study Commission, we would be adopting non-partisan elections of city officials.

This is not a certificate so you don't need to prepare it in certificate form.

Since you have summarized the comparison you may wish to use it for the publication requirement.

We, the Study Commissioners of the City of Wolf Point in Roosevelt County do hereby certify that this is the Summary of the Wolf Point Study Commission, approved by the Study Commissioners of the City of Wolf Point.

In testimony whereof, we set our hands.

Done at Wolf Point this 13th day of May, 1986.

Local Government Study Commissioners

SEAL

ATTEST: _____
CITY CLERK OF
THE CITY OF _____,
_____ COUNTY, MONTANA.

CERTIFICATE
ESTABLISHING THE EXISTING FORM OF GOVERNMENT
FOR
IN THE CITY OF WOLF POINT
In ROOSEVELT COUNTY

If retained by the voters, the government of the City of Wolf Point in Roosevelt County shall be organized under the following provisions of Section 7-3-113. M.C.A., which authorizes the basis for municipal council-mayor government.

- 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 (1)
- l. 7-3-220 (1)
- m. 7-3-221 (3)
- n. 7-3-222 (2)
- o. 7-3-223 (2)

or (1) ? Finance officer

size of the commission (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 10 members.

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

- 7-3-201. Commission - executive form,
(1) The Commission-executive 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, etc.
7-3-203 (2) The executive shall:

- (a) enforce laws, ordinances and resolutions;
 - (b) perform duties required of him by law, ordinance, or resolution;
 - (c) administer affairs of the local government;
 - (d) carry out policies established by the commission;
 - (e) recommend measures to the commission;
 - (f) report to the commission on the affairs and financial condition of the local government;
 - (g) execute bonds, notes, contracts, and written obligations of the commission, subject to the approval of the commission;
 - (h) report to the commission as the commission may require;
 - (i) attend commission meetings and may take part in discussion;
 - (j) execute the budget adopted by the commission;
 - (k) 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.
- (3) The plan of government shall also include the following:
- (a) The executive may appoint one or more administrative assistants to assist him in the supervision and operation of the local government. Such administrative assistants shall be answerable solely to the executive.
 - (b) The executive may appoint, with the consent of a majority of the commission, all department heads. The executive may remove department heads and may appoint and remove all other department employees.
 - (c) The executive may veto ordinances and resolutions, subject to override by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the commission.
 - (d) The executive may prepare the budget in consultation with the commission and department heads.
 - (e) The executive may exercise control and supervision of all departments and boards to the degree authorized by ordinance of the commission.

(3) Continued.....

- (f) A financial officier (who may be called the "treasurer") shall be appointed.
- (g) The commission shall be elected by districts in which candidates must reside and which are apportioned by population.
- (h) Local government elections shall be conducted on a partisan basis as provided in this title.
- (i) 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.
- (j) 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.
- (k) Commission members shall be elected for overlapping terms of office.
- (l) The size of the commission, which shall be a number not less than three (3), shall be established when the form is adopted by the voters, and community councils to advise commissioners may be authorized by ordinance.

(4) (b) The Plan of government shall have general government powers.

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

We, the Study Commissioners of the City of Wolf Point in Roosevelt County do hereby certify that this is the existing form of Government as established by Section 7-3-113, M.C.A.

SEAL

Local Government Study Commissioners

ATTEST: _____
CITY CLERK OF

THE CITY OF _____,
_____ COUNTY, MONTANA.

CERTIFICATE
ESTABLISHING THE PROPOSED FORM OF GOVERNMENT
FOR
IN THE CITY OF WOLF POINT
In ROOSEVELT COUNTY

If retained by the voters, the government of the City of Wolf Point in Roosevelt County shall be organized under the following provisions, Section 7-3-113, which authorizes the basis for municipal council-mayor government, with an amendment to Section 7-3-219.

- 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)

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

- (1) The Commission-executive 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.
- (2) The executive shall:
 - (a) enforce laws, ordinances and resolutions;
 - (b) perform duties required of him by law, ordinance, or resolution;
 - (c) administer affairs of the local government;
 - (d) carry out policies established by the commission;
 - (e) recommend measures to the commission;
 - (f) report to the commission on the affairs and financial condition of the local government;
 - (g) execute bonds, notes, contracts, and written obligations of the commission, subject to the approval of the commission;
 - (h) report to the commission as the commission may require;
 - (i) attend commission meetings and may take part in discussion;
 - (j) execute the budget adopted by the commission;
 - (k) 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.
- (3) The plan of government shall also include the following:
 - (a) The executive may appoint one or more administrative assistants to assist him in the supervision and operation of the local government. Such administrative assistants shall be answerable solely to the executive.
 - (b) The executive may appoint, with the consent of a majority of the commission, all department heads. The executive may remove department heads and may appoint and remove all other department employees.
 - (c) The executive may veto ordinances and resolutions, subject to override by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the commission.
 - (d) The executive may prepare the budget in consultation with the commission and department heads.
 - (e) The executive may exercise control and supervision of all departments and boards to the degree authorized by ordinance of the commission.

3) Continued.....

- (f) A financial officer (who may be called the "treasurer") shall be appointed.
 - (g) The commission shall be elected by districts in which candidates must reside and which are apportioned by population.
 - (h) Local government elections shall be conducted on a non-partisan basis as provided in this title.
 - (i) 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.
 - (j) 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.
 - (k) Commission members shall be elected for overlapping terms of office.
 - (l) The size of the commission, which shall be a number not less than three (3), shall be established when the form is adopted by the voters, and community councils to advise commissioners may be authorized by ordinance.
- (4) (b) The Plan of government shall have general government powers.

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

We, the Study Commissioners of the City of Wolf Point in Roosevelt County do hereby certify that this is the alternative form of government being proposed.

SEAL

ATTEST: _____
CITY CLERK OF

Local Government Study Commissioners

THE CITY OF _____,
_____ COUNTY, MONTANA.

CERTIFICATE

*The amended plan
of government*

ESTABLISHING THE DATE OF THE SPECIAL ELECTION
FOR THE ADOPTION OF ~~PARTISAN OR NON-PARTISAN~~ *the existing plan or*
~~ELECTIONS~~ WHICH WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE
ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF WOLF POINT,
ROOSEVELT COUNTY, MONTANA.

The alternative form of government proposed by the Local Government Study Commission shall be submitted to the voters of the City of Wolf Point at a Special Election on November 4, 1986. An amendment to an existing plan of government becomes effective at the beginning of the local government's fiscal year commencing after the election results are officially declared. (Section 7-3-156, M.C.A.)

We, the Study Commissioners of the City of Wolf Point do hereby certify that this is the date of the Special Election approved by the Study Commissioners of the City of Wolf Point.

In testimony whereof, we set our hands.

Done at Wolf Point this 13th day of May, 1986

Local Government Study Commissioners

SEAL

ATTEST: _____
CITY CLERK OF

THE CITY OF _____,
_____ COUNTY, MONTANA.

Do not use, see next ballot certificate

CERTIFICATE

ESTABLISHING THE OFFICIAL BALLOT

FOR THE NOVEMBER 4, 1986 SPECIAL ELECTION

Instructions to voters: Place an "X" in the box which expresses your preference. The full text of the proposed form of government and of the existing form of government are available at your polling place.

OFFICIAL BALLOT

BALLOT ON ALTERNATIVE FORM OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Vote for One

For adoption of plan of government proposed for the City of Wolf Point by the Study Commission.

For existing form of government.

We, the Study Commissioners of the City of Wolf Point do hereby certify that this is the official ballot approved by the Study Commissioners of the City of Wolf Point.

In testimony whereof, we set our hands.

Done at Wolf Point this 13th day of May, 1986.

SEAL

ATTEST: _____
CITY CLERK OF

THE CITY OF _____,
_____, COUNTY, MONTANA.

Local Government Study Commissioners

CERTIFICATE

ESTABLISHING THE OFFICIAL BALLOT

FOR THE NOVEMBER 4, 1986 SPECIAL ELECTION

Instructions to voters: Place an "X" in the box which expresses your preference. The full text of the proposed form of government and of the existing form of government are available at your polling place.

OFFICIAL BALLOT

BALLOT ON ALTERNATIVE FORM OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Vote for One

For adoption of the amendments to the existing plan of government proposed by the Local Government Study Commission.

(For the City of Wolf Point)

For ^{the} existing form of government.

** use the plural form (amendments) if you have more than one change to your existing plan of government.*

We, the Study Commissioners of the City of Wolf Point do hereby certify that this is the Official Ballot approved by the Study Commissioners of the City of Wolf Point.

In testimony whereof, we set our hands.

Done at Wolf Point this 13th day of May, 1986.

SEAL

ATTEST: _____
CITY CLERK OF

Local Government Study Commissioner

THE CITY OF _____,
_____ COUNTY, MONTANA.