



Regular City Council Meeting

Meeting Date: 12/19/2016

TITLE: Resolution Amending Res. #16-10529 to Extend Recommendation Deadline of Babcock Theater Ad-Hoc Council Advisory Committee

PRESENTED BY: Tina Volek, City Administrator

Department: City Hall Administration

PROBLEM/ISSUE STATEMENT

The City of Billings is scheduled to accept or assign ownership of the Babcock Theater by March 15, 2017, as part of a 2008 development agreement with Babcock, LLC, and the Downtown Billings Partnership to purchase and restore the Babcock retail building, which contains the theater. The City Council approved Res. 16-10529 on March 14, 2016, creating an Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee on the Babcock Theater. The resolution called for a committee report to the City Council by Dec. 31, 2016, on who should own and operate the theater,

The 11-member committee, which includes four Council members, has been meeting and continues to investigate private and public options for developing the Babcock Theater. The committee requests that the City Council allow that process to continue and extend the deadline to February 27, 2017.

ALTERNATIVES ANALYZED

City Council may:

- Approve the resolution, allowing the committee to investigate as many options as possible, or;
- Disapprove the resolution, which potentially would result in the transfer of the Babcock to the City without a viable plan for its operation and management.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no costs to operating the committee at this time. The costs of future theater operation will depend on the outcomes of the committee's investigations.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approving the resolution, and extending the reporting deadline to Feb. 27, 2017.

RESOLUTION NO. 16-10596

A RESOLUTION OF THE BILLINGS CITY COUNCIL EXTENDING THE REPORTING DEADLINE FOR THE AD HOC CITY COUNCIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE FUTURE USES AND MANAGEMENT OF THE BABCOCK THEATER

WHEREAS, on March 14, 2016, the City Council created an Ad-Hoc Council Advisory Committee on Future Uses and Management of the Babcock Theater, which will be returned to the City on March 15, 2017, by an agreement with Babcock, LLC; and

WHEREAS, the City Council requested that the Committee report no later than December 31, 2016, on who should own and manage the theater; and

WHEREAS, the Committee is continuing to investigate partnerships both locally and nationally for the theater's operation, but is not prepared to conclude those discussions by December 31, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the Committee believes that it may have more direction on both the short-range and long-range operating prospects for the theater by February 27, 2017.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL RESOLVES to extend the deadline for the Committee's report to no later than February 27, 2017.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the City Council, this 19th day of December, 2016.

THE CITY OF BILLINGS:

BY: Thomas W. Hanel
Thomas W. Hanel, MAYOR



ATTEST:

BY: Denise R. Bohlman
Denise R. Bohlman, CITY CLERK