

unreformed

**CERTIFICATE**  
**ESTABLISHING THE EXISTING PLAN OF GOVERNMENT**  
**FOR THE**  
**TOWN OF MANHATTAN, MONTANA**

If retained by the voters, the government of Manhattan 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).

Authorized by 7-4-4103 (4) M.C.A.

(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 MUNICIPAL COUNCIL-MAYOR 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 (1). 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 (2). 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 (3). Supervision of personnel.** The executive may appoint, with the consent of a majority of the commission, all department heads and remove departments heads and may appoint and remove all other department employees.

**7-3-214 (2). Veto power.** The executive may veto ordinances and resolutions, subject to override by a two-thirds vote of the commission.

**7-3-215 (2). Preparation of budget.** The executive may prepare the budget in consultation with the commission and department heads.

**7-3-216 (2). 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 (2). 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 (2). 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 (2). Type of election.** Local government elections shall be conducted on a nonpartisan basis.

**7-3-220 (1). 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 (3). 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 (2). Terms of commission members.** Commission members shall be elected for overlapping terms of office.

**7-3-223 (2). 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.