

City of Wolf Point

201 4th Avenue South

WOLF POINT, MONTANA 59201

Phone 653-1852
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March 16, 1995

Ms. Judy Mathre
MT State University
Local Gov't Center
Bozeman MT 59715

RE: Wolf Point's Local Gov't
Review

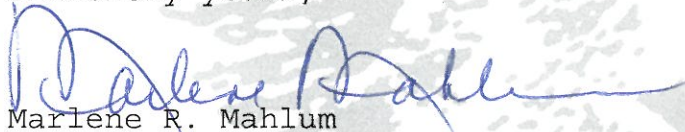
Dear Judy:

Enclosed please find a copy of Wolf Point's proposed "FINAL REPORT". I am requesting that you review this draft and provide us with any suggestions or needed corrections to the report before its final form. Also, Chairman Olsen wanted to know if the report had to be published prior to the Council approving it?

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to give me a call. Best wishes for the Clerk's Institute and the Local Officials Workshop. I regret missing both of them but I don't get a chance to travel places outside of Montana very often and am looking forward to my trip to Tahoe.

Thanks again.

Sincerely yours,



Marlene R. Mahlum
City Clerk/Treasurer

Enclosures

CITY OF WOLF POINT
1996 LOCAL GOVERNMENT STUDY COMMISSION
FINAL REPORT

STUDY COMMISSIONERS

D.J. "Butch" Olsen, Chairman
Keith Lewis, Member
John Gysler, Member

Patrick Friesen, Ex-officio

TO: THE CITIZENS OF WOLF POINT, MONTANA

FROM: Wolf Point Local Government Study Commission

SUBJECT: 1996 Local Government Review

The Wolf Point Study Commission, elected by the voters on November 8, 1994 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 advise 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 newspaper survey was printed and drew little to no response. Of the public hearings that were held, only one individual attended.

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.

As a result of discussions held with those mentioned above, the Wolf Point Local Government Study Commission has concluded that there is a general concensus that th existing municipal form of government has served this city well since 1976, and will continue to do so in the future. We therefore recommend no change in this form of government.

Respectfully submitted,

LOCAL GOVERNMENT STUDY COMMISSION

D.J. "Butch" Olsen, Chairman

Keith Lewis, Member

John Gysler, Member

**THE EXISTING FORM OF GOVERNMENT
FOR THE CITY OF WOLF POINT**

With no change being proposed, the government of the City of Wolf Point in Roosevelt County shall be organized under the following under the following provisions of Section 7-3-113, M.C.A., which authorizes the basis for municipal council-mayor government.

7-3-113. Statutory 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); Adopted by Council 5-18-81, 7-4-4102 (4)(c)
- 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);

(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. The 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 power of the local government unit by authorizing general government powers.

EXISTING FORM - Continued.....

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 discussion;
- (10) execute the budget adopted by the commission;
- (11) appoint, with the consent of the commission, all members of the boards; except, the executive may appoint without the consent of the commission temporary advisory committees established by the executive.

7-3-212. Administration 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. The executive may 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 (2/3) 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. (Adopted by Council action, 5-18-81, 7-4-4102 (4)(c).

EXISTING FORM - Continued.....

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 partisan 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 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 eight (8), and community councils to advise commissioners may be authorized by ordinance.