

**RESOLUTION #1914**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
COLUMBIA FALLS, MONTANA, CALLING FOR AN ELECTION ON  
THE QUESTION OF CONDUCTING A LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
REVIEW AND ESTABLISHING A STUDY COMMISSION.**

**WHEREAS**, Section 9, Article XI of the Constitution of the State of Montana requires that each unit of local government shall conduct an election once every ten years to determine whether the local government will undertake a local government review procedure; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to 7-3-173(2) M.C.A. the municipality shall submit the question of conducting a local government review by the establishment of a study commission to the city electors by ballot held on the primary election date ten years following the previous election on the matter; and

**WHEREAS**, ten years have elapsed since the last election on this matter so that the proposal to undertake a local government review must now be placed on the June 4, 2024, primary ballot; and

**WHEREAS**, if a majority of the electors vote in favor of establishing a local government study commission, the members of the commission will be elected by ballot at the general election to be held November 5, 2024; and

**WHEREAS** 7-3-184, M.C.A. provides for the support of the study commission, for each fiscal year that the study commission is in existence, and the City shall appropriate Fifty-Five Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$55,000) to fund the study, and the local government may permissively levy mills in excess of all other mills authorized by law to fund the appropriation for the support of the study commission. Upon termination of the study commission, unexpended funds revert to the General Fund of the City of Columbia Falls; and

**WHEREAS**, the Columbia Falls City Council is the governing body of the City of Columbia Falls and therefore must call for the election required by Section 9, Article XI of the Montana Constitution and 7-3-173, M.C.A. on the question of conducting a local government review and establishing a study commission.

***NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:***

1. The City Council of the City of Columbia Falls hereby calls for an election by the qualified and registered electors of the City of Columbia Falls, pursuant to Section 7-3-175, M.C.A., to determine whether to establish a local government study commission and provide for additional levy authority to fund the study commission for the purpose of conducting a local government review of the City of Columbia Falls.
2. If the voters decide in favor of conducting a local government review, a study commission comprised of three (3) members shall be elected at the general election on November 5, 2024.
3. Pursuant to 7-3-175, M.C.A. the question of conducting a local government review shall be submitted to the electors in substantially the following form:

*Vote for one:*

- FOR the review of the government of the City of Columbia Falls and the establishment and funding with a permissive levy not to exceed Fifty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$55,000) of a local government study commission consisting of three (3) members to examine the government of the City of Columbia Falls and submit recommendations on the government.
- AGAINST the review of the government of the City of Columbia Falls and the establishment and funding with a permissive levy not to exceed Fifty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$55,000) of a local government study commission consisting of three members to examine the government of the City of Columbia Falls and submit recommendations on the government.

Passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Columbia Falls, Montana at a regular meeting held on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of February 2024, the Council voting as follows:

AYES: King, Lovering, Piper, Price, Robinson, Shepard and Barnhart

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

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City Clerk

Approved by the Mayor of Columbia Falls, Montana this 20<sup>th</sup> Day of February 2024.

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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City Clerk