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## LETTER TO THE CITIZENS OF THE TOWN OF FROMBERG

To the Citizens of the Town of Fromberg:

The Town of Fromberg Study Commission elected by voters on November 2, 2004, present this final report to you, the citizens of the Town of Fromberg.

The purpose of the study commission, as defined 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 review this study commission sought advice and information from as many people in the Town as possible. Opinions and recommendations were solicited from local government officials, community organizations and citizens. All meetings of the study commission were open to the public. A survey was delivered door to door in May to solicit opinions of the local citizen's. Two Public hearings were held to survey citizen attitudes.

Our recommendations reflect the thoughts and opinions of those who participated in public hearings and those who attended our regular meetings, in addition to the independent efforts of this study commission.

In this final report we present our recommendations for maintaining our current form of government with no proposed changes. The only concern the citizen's voiced were to repave many of the streets in Fromberg. The study commission's recommendation to the Town would be to place on the ballot in November 7, 2006 a vote for a special improvement district to provide enough funds to repave many of the streets that are poor condition.

Respectfully submitted,

Town of Fromberg Study Commissioners

## REPORT SUMMARY

The Town of Fromberg Local Government Study Commission having thoroughly studied our present form of government and the alternative forms of government available to Towns under state law, and having studied the future governmental needs of the Town, recommends the following:

- 1. That the Town of Fromberg should retain its current form of government.
- 2. The question of whether or not a special improvement district shall be placed on the ballot in November 7, 2006.

# A. Findings of the Study Commission

After an intensive study, it is the decision of the study commission to maintain the current form of government for the Town of Fromberg. The study commission felt the needs of the citizens of the Town of Fromberg were being adequately met under the current form of government.

The Town of Fromberg has been conducting non-partisan elections and feels it is in the best interest of the citizens to continue this type of election.

#### APPENDIX A

#### CERTIFICATE

## ESTABLISHING THE EXISTING PLAN OF GOVERNMENT

#### FOR

#### THE TOWN OF FROMBERG

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:

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(a) 7-3-201;
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- (b) <u>7-3-202(1);</u>
- (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) <u>7-3-217(1)</u>;
- (j) <u>7-3-218(2)</u>;
- (k) <u>7-3-219(1);</u>
- (I) 7-3-220(1);
- (m) 7-3-221(3);
- (n) <u>7-3-222(2);</u>
- (o) <u>7-3-223</u>(2).
- (2) This form has terms of 4 years for all elected officials.

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. Nature of government. The plan of government submitted to the qualified electors shall determine the powers of the local government unit by authorizing:

(1) general government powers

# 7-3-203. Duties of 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.
- 7-3-204 through 7-3-210 reserved.
- 7-3-211. Structural suboptions. The plan of government submitted to the qualified electors shall further define the structural characteristics of the form by including one item from each of the choices listed in 7-3-212 through 7-3-224.

7-3-212. Administrative assistants. The executive:

(2) 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:

(3) appoint, with the consent of a majority of the commission, all department heads and remove department heads and may appoint and remove all other department employees

7-3-214. Veto power. The executive may:

(2) veto ordinances and resolutions, subject to override by a two-thirds vote of the commission

7-3-215. Preparation of budget. The executive may:

(2) prepare the budget in consultation with the commission and department heads.

7-3-216. Administrative supervision and control. The executive may:

- (2) 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):

(1) shall be elected

7-3-218. Selection of commission members. The commission shall be:

- (2) 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:

(1) partisan basis

- 7-3-220. Chairman of commission. The commission shall have a chairman who shall be:
  (1) 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: (3) 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: (2) overlapping terms of office.

7-3-223. Size of commission and community councils. The size of the commission, which shall be a number not less than three, shall be established when the form is adopted by the voters, and: (2) 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 4 years and shall be established when the form is adopted by the voters.

> We, the Study Commissioners of the Town of Fromberg do hereby certify that this is the existing Plan of Government as established by Section 7-3-113 MCA.

In testimony whereof, we set our hands.

Done on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of October, 2005.

Clerk/Treasurer

GOVERNMENT STUDY COMMISSIONERS

#### APPENDIX B

#### CERTIFICATE

## ESTABLISHING THE PROPOSED PLAN OF GOVERNMENT

#### FOR

#### THE TOWN OF FROMBERG

Upon approval of the majority of voters, the government of the Town of Fromberg shall be organized under the following provisions of Section 7-3-113 MCA.

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;
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- (b) 7-3-202(1);
- (c) 7-3-203;
- (d) 7-3-212(2);
- (e) <u>7-3-213(3)</u>;
- (f) 7-3-214(2);
- (g) 7-3-215(2);
- (h) <u>7-3-216(2);</u>
- (i) <u>7-3-217(1);</u>
- (j) <u>7-3-218(1);</u>
- (k) <u>7-3-219(2);</u>
- (1) <u>7-3-220</u>(1);
- (m) 7-3-221(3);
- (n) <u>7-3-222(2);</u>
- (o) <u>7-3-223(2)</u>.
- (2) This form has terms of 4 years for all elected officials.

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. Nature of government. The plan of government submitted to the qualified electors shall determine the powers of the local government unit by authorizing:

(1) general government powers

7-3-203. Duties of 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.
- 7-3-204 through 7-3-210 reserved.
- 7-3-211. Structural suboptions. The plan of government submitted to the qualified electors shall further define the structural characteristics of the form by including one item from each of the choices listed in 7-3-212 through 7-3-224.

7-3-212. Administrative assistants. The executive:

(2) 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:

(3) appoint, with the consent of a majority of the commission, all department heads and remove department heads and may appoint and remove all other department employees

7-3-214. Veto power. The executive may:

(2) veto ordinances and resolutions, subject to override by a two-thirds vote of the commission

7-3-215. Preparation of budget. The executive may:

(2) prepare the budget in consultation with the commission and department heads.

7-3-216. Administrative supervision and control. The executive may:

- (2) 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):
- (2) shall be appointed by the executive with the consent of the council
- 7-3-218. Selection of commission members. The commission shall be:

(1) elected at large

7-3-219. Type of election. Local government elections shall be conducted on a:

(2) nonpartisan basis

7-3-220. Chairman of commission. The commission shall have a chairman who shall be:
(1) 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:
(3) 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:

(2) overlapping terms of office.

7-3-223. Size of commission and community councils. The size of the commission, which shall be a number not less than three, shall be established when the form is adopted by the voters, and: (2) 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 4 years and shall be established when the form is adopted by the voters.

We, the Study Commissioners of the Town of Fromberg do hereby certify that this is the proposed Plan of Government as established by Section 7-3-113 MCA.

In testimony whereof, we set our hands.

Done on the 2nd day of October, 2005.

Town of Fromberg

Clerk/Treasurer

LOCAL GOVERNMENT STUDY COMMISSIONERS

## CERTIFICATE C

# ESTABLISHING THE DATE OF THE SPECIAL ELECTION

# AT WHICH THE AMENDED FORM OF GOVERNMENT

# SHALL BE PRESENTED TO THE ELECTORS OF THE

## **TOWN OF Fromberg**

The amended form of government proposed by the Local Government Study Commission shall be submitted to the voters of the Town of Fromberg at a special election to be held with the general election on November 7, 2006.

We, the Study Commissioners of the Town of Fromberg do hereby certify that this is the date of the special election approved by the Study Commissioners of the Town of Fromberg.

SEAL

In testimony whereof, we set our hands.

Done on the 2nd day of October, 2005.

Town of Fromberg Clerk/Treasurer

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT STUDY COMMISSIONERS

# CERTIFICATE D

# ESTABLISHING THE OFFICIAL BALLOT FOR THE NOVEMBER 7, 2006 SPECIAL ELECTION

Instructions to voters: Place an "X" in the boxes which express your preferences.

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OFFICIAL BALLOT		
BALLOT ON THE AMENDMENTS TO THE EXISTING FORM OF GOVERNMENT FOR		
THE TOWN OF FROMBERG		
1.		
Vote For One		
	FOR a special improvement district to allow for paving of streets that are in poor	
	condition.	
	Condition.	/
□ AGAINST a special improvement district to allow for paving of streets that are in poor		
u	condition.	notificity and visit partials are all and a second
	Condition.	
	***	We, the Study Commissioners of the Town of
		Fromberg do hereby certify that this is the official ballot
		approved by the Study Commissioners of the Town of
	Agency and	Fromberg.
	and the same	
	SEAL	In testimony whereof, we set our hands.
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	0 00	Done on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> day of October, 2005.
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	Town of Frombark	But DA.
	Clerk/Treasurer	- Jelly gells
		LOCAL GOVERNMENT STUDY COMMISSIONERS
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