



MEMO TO CITY COUNCIL

Request to Include Topic on the City Council Agenda

From: Cassandra Schiffler, Arts & Culture Coordinator
Meeting Date: March 11 2025

Presenter: N/A
Estimated Time: 0.5 minutes

Topic: Art Purchase Agreement for City Hall Paintings

Recommended Council Action:

Approve Artwork Purchase Agreement for the Mayor's signature.

Background:

Artist Claire Remsberg created these three original paintings for a recent traffic box public art commission. The Public Art Committee was particularly impressed by the artwork and its relevance to Meridian. They discussed a possible purchase with available MAPS funds. In their 12-10-24 meeting, the Public Art Committee voted to recommend acquisition of the work. Their recommendation was brought to the full Arts Commission, which on 1-9-25 unanimously voted to recommend a purchase and acquisition of the paintings for City Hall's art collection as they are of high quality, by a very reputable local artist, and they prominently feature Meridian specific imagery and themes.

The Arts Commission originally recommended the acquisition for the purchase price of \$3,620, which is the artist's standard painting sales price. However, upon contract negotiations, the artist was unaware of the City's requirements for the relinquishment of copyrights and full VARA (Visual Artist Rights Act) rights. Contract negotiations ensued, and the artist requested an additional fee for the copyrights and VARA waivers.

Strategic Goals Alignment: It meets MAC's Strategic Plan goals for Public Art, as laid out in Public Art Goal 1: "Create opportunities for all Meridian residents and visitors to experience public art"

Budget: No budget amendment is necessary. This project uses existing MAPS funds (Meridian Art in Public Spaces). (The MAPS Ordinance 15-1642 established the method of appropriating general funds to install visual, tangible artworks for installation on public property in Meridian's public spaces.)

Installation and Location: Artworks will be framed. Installation is planned for the first floor of City Hall, in the hallway to the north of council chambers. See mock up imagery below:

(Art installation mockup imagery on next page)

