

**CITY OF MANITOU SPRINGS
CITY COUNCIL**

Regular Meeting Minutes
606 Manitou Avenue
January 21, 2025

The City Council of Manitou Springs met in Regular Session on Tuesday, January 21, 2025, at 606 Manitou Avenue, in the City of Manitou Springs, County of El Paso, and State of Colorado.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT FOR ROLL CALL:

Mayor John Graham
Mayor Pro Tem Natalie Johnson
Councilor Judith Chandler
Councilor John Shada
Councilor Julie Wolfe
Councilor Nancy Fortuin
Councilor Michelle Whetherhult

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Graham called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

C. ROLL CALL

All members of the City Council were present for the roll call.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson moved to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilor Fortuin. The motion carried unanimously (7-0).

E. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Peggy Dlugas, 18 Kreg Lane, expressed concern about fire mitigation. She requested more communication regarding fire evacuation plans to create better awareness and preparedness in the community.

Mayor Graham announced that the Manitou Springs Kiwanis Club will have a presentation on fire safety and fire hazards, presented by Lieutenant Mike Willie from the Manitou Springs Fire Department on February 3, 2025, at 7:00 PM, at the Community Congregational Church.

Ila Quinn, 257 Pilot Knob Avenue, expressed concern about road safety. She requested a traffic plan related to anticipated changes in traffic with the upcoming Ruxton Avenue Project. She stated that the new parking system, which requires her to go online to allow visitors to park in her neighborhood, does not work for her. She requested that the city bring back the parking passes.

Linda Morland, 37 Minnehaha Avenue, shared concerns about speeding in her neighborhood. She stated that the contractor vehicles and city vehicles on the road have increased hazardous conditions. She requested that the city monitor Minnehaha Avenue daily. Ms. Morland echoed Ms. Quinn's concerns about online processes, specifically relating to parking.

Mike Essam, 372 Pilot Knob Avenue, stated that he has major concerns about the residential parking permit (RPP) program going completely online. He stated that he believes it is discriminatory, a violation of privacy and a burden, under penalty of a ticket if he doesn't comply. He added that he attempted to go to the parking department earlier in the day to be entered into the system, but they were closed.

F. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Presentation of Warrants
2. January 7, 2025 City Council Regular Meeting Minutes
3. Consider Reappointing Colin McAllister to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
4. Consider Reappointing Jan Johnson to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
5. Requesting Approval of a Professional Services Agreement for Design Services with Rocksol Consulting Group Inc. for Emergency Repairs on Lover's Lane

Note for the Record – This item was pulled from the consent calendar as requested by Mayor Graham.

6. Requesting Approval of a General Services Agreement with Thorcon Shotcrete and Shoring LLC for Emergency Repair Construction on Lover's Lane

Note for the Record – This item was pulled from the consent calendar as requested by Mayor Graham.

Councilor Wolfe moved to approve the consent calendar as amended. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson. The motion carried unanimously (7-0).

F5. Requesting Approval of a Professional Services Agreement for Design Services with Rocksol Consulting Group Inc. for Emergency Repairs on Lover's Lane

F6. Requesting Approval of a General Services Agreement with Thorcon Shotcrete and Shoring LLC for Emergency Repair Construction on Lover's Lane

Mayor Graham stated that the prices proposed in the contracts seemed high and that he didn't know if it was because the work was for emergency repairs.

City Engineer Andrew Morren referred to a quote obtained for Sandra Lane for comparison and stated that he finds the price from Rocksol Consulting Group to be fair. City Engineer Morren shared that three different contractors were considered for the construction and that he believes the Thorcon Shotcrete and Shoring LLC price is fair as well.

Councilor Fortuin moved to approve items F5 and F6. The motion was seconded by Councilor Chandler. The motion was carried unanimously (7-0).

PRESENTATION

1. Proclamation No. 0125, A Proclamation to Support the Infectious Generosity Movement

Ken Jaray, 304 Michigan Avenue, explained the Infectious Generosity Movement. He added that a new "Beacon of Generosity" award would be presented at The Mani Awards on March 19, 2025.

Councilor Fortuin read Proclamation No. 0125 into the record declaring the City Council's support for the infectious generosity movement.

G. BUSINESS

1. Consider Appointing Nathan Nassif to the Housing Advisory Board

Alison Gerbig, Housing Advisory Board (HAB) Chair, shared that Mr. Nassif has attended a couple HAB meetings and that she is excited for him to join the board.

Mr. Nassif expressed interest in housing and a desire to serve the community. He shared his personal experience with housing impacted through local government.

Councilor Fortuin moved to approve appointing Nathan Nassif to the Housing Advisory Board. The motion was seconded by Councilor Chandler. The motion was carried unanimously (7-0).

2. Consideration of Resolution No. 0325, A Resolution of the City of Manitou Springs, Colorado, Adopting an Amended Employee Handbook

Kelly Padilla, Human Resources Director, presented the employee handbook and noted the change to the Administrative Vacation, which will require new employees to be with the city for 90 days prior to using the additional 40 hours of vacation.

There was a general discussion about the Day after Thanksgiving Day Holiday and the total number of hours of time off that the city offers for exempt and non-exempt personnel.

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson moved to approve Resolution No. 0325, A Resolution of the City of Manitou Springs, Colorado, Adopting an Amended Employee Handbook. The motion was seconded by Councilor Fortuin. The motion was carried unanimously (7-0).

H. RECEIVE OR ACT ON COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE

Councilor Wolfe shared that she has received complaints regarding the RPP program, including the inability to report cars that are parked on the street illegally and the inconvenience of allowing guests and service providers to park on the street through the online system. She suggested returning to the old system.

Councilor Chandler added that she received many phone calls about the RPP program as well. She expressed frustration with the fact that the City Council was not involved in the decision to transition the program to an online platform and concern that the Parking Department was closed due to cold weather.

Mayor Graham echoed concerns about the RPP program and agreed that bringing back hang tags for the RPP program would be best. He suggested giving grace and not penalizing residents who haven't had the opportunity to transition to the online platform. Mayor Graham announced that the Council will be joining the City Planning Commission on February 12, 2025 for a joint work session and that the Council will have retreat on February 22, 2025.

I. CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

City Administrator Denise Howell reported on the following items:

- Plan Manitou meeting in Memorial Hall on January 22, 2025 from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM.
- The Fruitcake Toss is postponed due to the weather.
- The RFP for the Dillon Mobility Hub Restrooms will be posted on January 24, 2025.

J. EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. An Executive Session for the purposes of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations; developing strategy for negotiations; and instructing negotiators, pursuant to Section 5.1(d) of the Manitou Springs Municipal Charter, regarding the COG Railway and the reimbursement payments set forth in the Tax Incentive Program Agreement dated November 20, 2018.
2. An Executive Session for the purposes of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations; developing strategy for negotiations; and instructing negotiators, pursuant to Section 5.1(d) of the Manitou Springs Municipal Charter, regarding the Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Colorado Springs concerning the Incline.
3. An Executive Session to hold conference with the City Attorney for legal advice pursuant to Section 5.1(c) of the Manitou Springs Municipal Charter and for the purposes of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations; developing strategy for negotiations; and instructing negotiators, pursuant to Section 5.1(d) of the Manitou Springs Municipal Charter, concerning the Manitou Springs Metropolitan District's parking lots and restroom facilities.
4. An Executive Session to discuss a Personnel Matter regarding an employee, pursuant to 5.1(a) of the Manitou Springs Municipal Charter. This executive session concerns the annual performance review of the City Administrator.

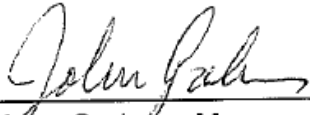
Mayor Graham read the purpose of the Executive Session into the record at 6:51 PM.

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson moved to enter the Executive Session for the stated purpose. The motion was seconded by Councilor Fortuin. The motion was carried unanimously (7-0).

The City Council moved back to Regular Session at 10:21 PM. Mayor Graham confirmed the Executive Session was held solely for the stated purpose and that no formal decision was made.

K. ADJORN

With no other items to discuss, Councilor Chandler moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Whetherhult. The motion was carried (7-0). The meeting adjourned at 10:22 PM.



John Graham, Mayor

Attest:



~~Elena Krebs, City Clerk~~

Kristen Dukoi, Deputy City Clerk