

**CITY OF MANITOU SPRINGS
CITY COUNCIL**

Special Meeting Minutes
606 Manitou Avenue
May 13, 2025

The City Council of Manitou Springs met in Special Session on Tuesday, May 13, 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 Nancy Fortuin
Councilor Michelle Whetherhult

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT FOR ROLL CALL:

Councilor Julie Wolfe (Excused)

A. CALL TO ORDER

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

B. ROLL CALL

All members of the City Council were present for roll call, except for Councilor Wolfe.

Operator in Responsible Charge (ORC) John Elwell provided an update on the potable water supply. He shared that 275,000 gallons of water were treated earlier in the day and that the water plant was still operating as of 6:00 PM, which are both improvements from the previous day. He stated that there is still a lot of water runoff and that it is normal to lose some water overnight as there are a few leaks in the systems. He noted that normally the water supply would be at 700,000 during this time of year and that the tanks are 45 percent full. ORC Elwell explained that Colorado Springs Utilities (CSU) has been working with staff to analyze the water. He shared that the team is focused on maintaining and improving water supply until the CSU water line is fixed, which is expected to be completed May 16, 2025.

City Administrator Denise Howell commended ORC Elwell for his efforts and emphasized the importance of continuing to follow water restrictions to conserve as much as possible until the issue is resolved.

Mayor Graham noted that the city's Public Information Officer has regularly been sending out alerts to keep residents and businesses informed. He suggested that Council forward the messages for anyone who may not be signed up for the alerts.

City Administrator Howell shared that the alerts have been shared on Nextdoor, Facebook, Bluesky and Peak Alert. She stated that the Peak Alert is a great way to stay informed.

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson requested that staff share the numbers with the community so that the conservation efforts can be recognized by everyone who is making an effort to conserve the water supply.

Councilor Chandler expressed concern about the delivery of information during the water supply emergency. She stated that she spoke with multiple residents who were unaware of the issue and requested that for future emergencies of a similar nature that require immediate notice and action from the public, the city consider using another system, such as the audible emergency announcement system.

F. EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. An Executive Session for the consideration of documents protected by the mandatory nondisclosure provisions of the Open Records Act, pursuant to Section 5.1(f) of the Manitou Springs Home Rule Charter, specifically C.R.S. §24-72-204(1)(a), et seq., and by reference C.R.S. §29-2-106(4)(c)(II), pertaining to sales tax information of a confidential nature

Mayor Graham read the purpose of the Executive Session into the record at 6:11 PM.

Councilor Shada moved to enter the Executive Session for the stated purpose. The motion was seconded by Councilor Fortuin. The motion was carried unanimously (6-0).

The City Council moved back to Special Session at 7:12 PM. Mayor Graham confirmed the Executive Session was held solely for the stated purpose and that no formal decision was made.

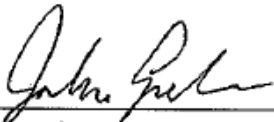
ADJORN

With no other items to discuss, Councilor Fortuin moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Shada. The motion was carried (6-0). The meeting adjourned at 7:12 PM.

Attest:



Elena Krebs, City Clerk



John Graham, Mayor

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