

**CITY OF MANITOU SPRINGS
CITY COUNCIL**

Regular Meeting Minutes
606 Manitou Avenue
October 7, 2025

The City Council of Manitou Springs met in Regular Session on Tuesday, October 7, 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 John Shada
Councilor Julie Wolfe
Councilor Nancy Fortuin
Councilor Michelle Whetherhult

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT FOR ROLL CALL:

Councilor Judith Chandler (Excused)

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Graham called the meeting to order at 6:02 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, except for Councilor Chandler.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

City Administrator Denise Howell requested that the City Council pull item H1, Second Reading and Public Hearing of Ordinance 1825, from the agenda. She explained that the ordinance was intended to apply only to streets and public rights-of-way and acknowledged confusion about its potential impact on other areas. She stated her intent to work with the City Attorney to clarify the language.

Mayor Graham suggested moving item G6, Resolution 1425, to the beginning of the Business Section.

Councilor Shada moved to approve the agenda as amended with item H1 removed and G6 moved to the beginning of the Business Section. The motion was seconded by Councilor Whetherhult. The motion carried unanimously (6-0).

E. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There was no public comment.

F. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Request to Purchase Axon Generation 4, Body Worn Cameras for the Police Department
2. Approval of a General Services Agreement with Front Range Arborists, LLC for Black Canyon Open Space Fired Mitigation

Note for the Record – This item was pulled from the consent calendar and moved to the end of the Business Section as requested by Councilor Shada.

3. September 16, 2025 City Council Regular Meeting Minutes

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

Councilor Shada moved to approve the consent calendar as amended. The motion was seconded by Councilor Fortuin. The motion carried unanimously (6-0).

F3. September 16, 2025 City Council Regular Meeting Minutes

Councilor Shada moved to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilor Fortuin. The motion was carried (4-0) with Councilor Wolfe and Mayor Graham recusing.

G. BUSINESS

6. Resolution No. 1425, A Resolution of the City of Manitou Springs City Council, Urging the Registered Electors of Manitou Springs to Vote “Yes” on the Ballot Issue 2A Seeking Approval of a 9% Excise Tax Increase Generating \$2.5 Million for the City at the November 4, 2025 Election

Mayor Graham opened the floor for public comment.

Ted Johnston, General Manager of the Manitou and Pikes Peak Cog Railway (COG), voiced concerns about Ballot Initiative 2A, which he described as a “triple tax” on local attractions. He criticized the lack of communication from the City Council with affected businesses, including his, which he noted contributes approximately 90% of the current amusement tax. Manager Johnston emphasized the COG’s history of partnership with the City and highlighted several costly accommodations the business has made at the City’s request. He questioned the validity of the City’s stated \$4.6 million budget deficit and warned that the tax increase could deter visitors, ultimately reducing overall tax revenue and negatively impacting local businesses and residents.

Leigh Ann Wolfe, owner of the Flying W Ranch, criticized the proposed tax increase and emphasized the significant economic benefits that the COG brings to Manitou Springs. She reiterated concerns about lack of communication.

Jack Damioli, President of the COG and The Broadmoor, warned that Ballot Initiative 2A would discourage tourism. He added the measure would give the City Council unchecked authority to raise the tax up to 14% without limits or sunset provisions. He echoed concerns about lack of transparency and communication.

Robert Hefner, owner and operator of the Manitou Cliff Dwellings, opposed Ballot Initiative 2A, highlighting again the absence of communication with local businesses. He stated that tourism is essential to the City's economy and that approving the increase would make Manitou Springs the highest-taxed city in Colorado, hurting all local businesses, not just attractions.

Doug Price, President and CEO of Visit Colorado Springs, opposed Ballot Initiative 2A on behalf of the organization's board of directors, which he stated voted unanimously against the measure. He noted that only six local businesses would shoulder the tax burden and called it unfair to single out a few for a citywide issue. President Price emphasized Manitou Springs' importance to regional tourism and urged the Council to vote no on the resolution, suggesting instead that the city work collaboratively with the broader business community on a more equitable solution.

Greg Cobble, owner of Manitou e-Bike Company, echoed concerns about driving customers away and stated his opposition to Ballot Initiative 2A. He noted his business was already down 8% last year and emphasized that higher costs would further reduce demand, especially in a short, weather-dependent season.

Nina Davis, organizer of the Manitou Comedy Festival, expressed concern about the measure's impact on performance artists. She noted that the festival pays its performers through ticket sales and that the proposed tax could make that financially unsustainable. She urged the Council to consider how the measure affects smaller arts organizations, not just major attractions.

Tom Haggard, owner of Santa's Workshop, voiced opposition to Ballot Initiative 2A. While the tax would not directly impact his business, he cautioned that increasing the cost of visitor experiences would discourage spending at a time when tourists are already showing growing reluctance to spend.

Douglas Edmondson, 15 Keithley Road, expressed opposition to the tax initiative as currently worded and called for its reconsideration. He stated that while the Council's role is to bring issues before the voters, it is not their role to influence the outcome. He suggested that the resolution be removed from the agenda altogether.

Jennifer Cobble, 1207 Manitou Avenue, spoke in opposition to Ballot Initiative 2A, sharing that tourism directly supports her household through her husband's business, Manitou eBike. She expressed concern that the tax targets too few businesses and

urged City Council to explore more creative, equitable solutions to budget issues before placing the burden on a small group.

Martin Lays, General Manager of the Cliff House, shared his apprehension about Ballot Initiative 2A, noting that while the tax would not directly apply to his business, it reflects a broader trend of rising tourism costs in Manitou Springs. He cautioned that continued increases could make the city less attractive to visitors and raised concern that it may set a precedent for future lodging tax hikes.

Patricia McPherson, Executive Director of Pikes Peak Region Attractions, expressed concern that Ballot Initiative 2A would confuse and deter visitors. She noted that a 14% tax could discourage families from visiting local attractions. She also cautioned that most tourists are unlikely to distinguish between amusement tax and sales tax or understand city boundaries, meaning the impact could extend beyond Manitou Springs to neighboring businesses in Colorado Springs.

Mayor Graham closed the floor to public comment.

Councilor Whetherhult stated that she does not support Ballot Initiative 2A but emphasized the importance of public participation in the upcoming budget process. She reflected on a recent community meeting that addressed potential service reductions, including snow removal. She also expressed disappointment in a former Council decision to approve marijuana sales, suggesting it contributed to the City's current financial challenges.

Councilor Fortuin stated that she supports the placement of the measure on the ballot and letting voters decide the outcome. She acknowledged concerns about losing both tourists due to increased taxes and essential city services if a new source of revenue is not found. Councilor Fortuin noted that the Council has already taken steps to cut costs, including a \$600,000 budget reduction and leaving staff positions unfilled. She explained that the funds received from marijuana tax revenue have allowed the Council to prioritize deferred infrastructure maintenance. Councilor Fortuin added that the Council has been planning for a financial shortfall for years and that while alternative revenue sources should be pursued, immediate funding is now necessary.

Councilor Wolfe supported the resolution and challenged claims that the tax would significantly harm local businesses or tourism. She cited COG ridership data reported to the state that showed increased patronage despite past ticket price hikes and emphasized that the proposed tax would result in relatively small cost increases. Councilor Wolfe added that previous public engagement had occurred and questioned the viability of suggested alternative funding ideas. She noted that the measure's flexibility would allow the City Council to adjust the rate as needed.

Councilor Shada added that he checked the COG website and found current ticket prices are \$78.99, compared to \$32 in 2018. He noted that while the COG has supported local projects such as restrooms at Hiawatha Gardens, their online checkout process redirects users to out-of-town adventure offerings. He cited Public Utilities

Commission (PUC) records showing the COG reported a 32% net profit in 2024, up from 28% in 2018, and stated that a tax increase would raise COG ticket prices by only \$7.11, suggesting there may be pricing flexibility for the business to absorb the cost. While expressing concern for smaller businesses, he suggested the Council explore an economic rebate or incentive program to support them.

There was a brief discussion about the legality and purpose of the resolution, during which City Attorney Jeff Parker explained that it is legal and represents the primary way a city council may express its position on a ballot issue under the Fair Campaign Practice Act. He noted that while the Council is not required to adopt the resolution, it is their one formal opportunity to take an official stance.

Mayor Graham expressed support for the resolution. He estimated that the City has 18 to 24 months of reserves remaining and added that inflation is reducing that cushion. He pointed to recent infrastructure failures, public safety concerns such as fire risk, and rising operational costs as signs of increasing financial pressure. While he acknowledged concerns from local businesses, he explained that the Council's responsibility is to maintain essential services for residents and visitors. Mayor Graham noted that Council and staff have worked to build reserves, secure grants, and plan ahead, but warned that continued progress may not be possible without additional revenue.

Councilor Shada moved to approve Resolution No. 1425, A Resolution of the City of Manitou Springs City Council, Urging the Registered Electors of Manitou Springs to Vote "Yes" on the Ballot Issue 2A Seeking Approval of a 9% Excise Tax Increase Generating \$2.5 Million for the City at the November 4, 2025 Election. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson. The motion was carried (5-1), with Councilor Whetherhult as the dissenting vote.

Note for the Record – The City Council took a break at 7:05 PM and reconvened at 7:21 PM.

1. Consider Appointing Keith Harper to the City Planning Commission

Alan Delwiche, City Planning Commission (CPC) Chair, shared that Applicant Keith Harper had attended a commission meeting and understands the role of the commission is to make decisions based on the Land Use and Development Code (LUDC).

Applicant Harper stated that he is a lifelong resident of the City and expressed interest in serving the community.

There was a brief discussion about the workload required and process for applying the LUDC when serving on the commission, during which Applicant Harper confirmed that he is willing to do the work and follow processes as necessary.

Councilor Wolfe moved to approve the appointment of Keith Harper to CPC. The motion was seconded by Councilor Whetherhult. The motion carried unanimously (6-0).

2. First Reading of Ordinance No. 1925 Concerning Accessory Dwelling Units, Occupancy Limits for Dwelling Units, and Parking Restrictions for Multifamily Residential Development

Planning Director Fred Rollenhagen presented proposed revisions to Titles 13 and 18 of the Municipal Code in response to three state housing laws passed in 2024. The proposed ordinance aimed to expand housing options in Manitou Springs and ensure compliance with state requirements. The ordinance addressed occupancy limits by redefining "household" based on safety and building codes rather than family relationships. It also exempts certain multifamily and adaptive reuse projects within state-defined transit service areas from minimum parking requirements. The ordinance established accessory dwelling units (ADUs) as a permitted use in general residential, low-density residential, and hillside low-density residential zones. ADUs can be internal, attached, or detached, and must meet all building, fire, habitability, and historic preservation codes. ADUs are not subject to density limits and can be up to 750 square feet or 50% of the main dwelling's size, whichever is greater. The ordinance would allow ADUs to be used as short-term rentals under existing city rules. Off-street parking would only be required if on-street parking were prohibited. ADUs would be reviewed through an administrative minor site plan process. The ordinance would also allow ADUs to share utility service lines with the main unit if lines are properly sized and independently metered. A reduced meter fee was proposed. CPC, with input from the Housing Advisory Board (HAB), supported the ordinance. Staff confirmed it met the criteria for a code amendment and aligned with the city's comprehensive plan.

There was a brief discussion about the meaning of the term "adaptive reuse", during which Planning Director Rollenhagen explained it refers to converting non-residential buildings, such as offices, into residential use, and not simply modifying existing homes.

There was a brief discussion about language stating that additional ADUs would be subject to density requirements, during which Planning Director Rollenhagen acknowledged the language was unnecessary and should be removed.

Planning Director Rollenhagen confirmed that recreational vehicles and trailers were discussed while the ordinance was being drafted and that the issue would be addressed by the requirement that an ADU must comply with the building code.

City Attorney Parker further clarified that because ADUs must comply with the building code, sanitation and safety regulations apply as well.

Councilor Shada noted that typically garages are 240 square feet and that under the proposed ordinance a garage that is at least 250 square feet could potentially be converted into an ADU. He inquired about parking requirements in this scenario.

Planning Director Rollenhagen explained that through the Minor Site Plan process for ADU approval the property would have to comply with code which would ensure that the ADU would not create any nonconformities, even with parking requirements.

There was a brief discussion about whether short-term rentals could be restricted, during which Planning Director Rollenhagen confirmed that the ordinance could be amended to restrict short-term rentals.

Councilor Wolfe expressed concern that the proposed ordinance does not meet the LUDC review criterion stating that amendments should not result in significant adverse impacts. She stated that increased density would lead to greater water use, more traffic, and added strain during emergencies such as wildfires. She also noted potential impacts to the natural environment and said she was uncomfortable with language suggesting there would be no significant impacts. Councilor Wolfe suggested replacing the finding with language that acknowledges likely impacts while clarifying the ordinance is being adopted to comply with state law.

Mayor Graham expressed frustration with state mandates on land use, describing the ordinance as a forced compromise. He noted that while the city must comply, the regulations do not suit the City's unique infrastructure and challenges.

There was a general discussion regarding the LUDC review criteria that the proposed municipal code amendments were required to meet, during which Councilor Wolfe suggested revising the LUDC to include language allowing for exceptions when complying with state law. City Attorney Parker advised that City Council could clarify in the staff report that the criteria are not intended to apply when state law supersedes.

Councilor Fortuin clarified that HAB submitted a letter with recommendations rather than a letter of support and noted that most suggestions were included. She expressed concern that the ordinance allows ADUs to be used as short-term rentals, questioning how that aligns with the intent to promote affordable housing.

Planning Director Rollenhagen explained that CPC supported allowing ADUs to be used as short-term rentals for several reasons. The City is nearing its cap on short-term rentals, and few eligible locations remain. Commissioners also wanted to give property owners the option to apply for a license if desired and felt that current short-term rental regulations were adequate to manage potential impacts.

Councilor Fortuin supported prohibiting ADUs from being used as short-term rentals and suggested amending the ordinance accordingly. She also expressed appreciation for the proposed 50% reduction in tap fees, noting that it supports affordability goals.

There was a discussion about whether an ADU could be in the front lawn, particularly in a Historic District. City Attorney Parker advised that ADUs must follow the same setback rules as primary homes and Historic Preservation regulations still apply to new construction. He confirmed that ADUs could be restricted in the front yard and clarified that side and rear setbacks cannot be changed.

Councilor Wolfe agreed with Councilor Fortuin that affordable housing is the intent. Councilor Wolfe raised a concern that the new law might eliminate open space requirements and allow properties to be fully built out with little separation between structures.

Planning Director Rollenhagen clarified that requirements such as setbacks, height limits, and open space still apply. The only standard that would no longer apply to ADUs is the density requirement, which previously required a minimum lot size for a second residence.

City Attorney Parker advised that if the City Council wanted to restrict front setbacks, wording could be added to state that front setbacks for ADUs shall be no closer than the rear portion of the primary structure.

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson expressed that she would be open to the idea that existing front-facing garages could qualify as ADUs.

Councilor Fortuin stated that she thinks the suggested amendment for front setbacks would be unnecessarily restrictive.

Councilor Wolfe suggested that the front setback restrictions could be applied specifically to properties in the Historic District.

There was a brief discussion about whether staff had received any comments regarding the emergency ADU ordinance passed on July 15, 2025. Planning Director Rollenhagen stated that no comments had been received, though there had been a few inquiries and a couple of pre-application meetings with individuals interested in building ADUs.

Councilor Shada moved to approve on first reading, Ordinance No. 1925 Concerning Accessory Dwelling Units, Occupancy Limits for Dwelling Units, and Parking Restrictions for Multifamily Residential Development, with wording changes for the City Council's consideration at second reading, including adding a clause to address the exception from the LUDC, revising Section Four of the ordinance to remove the sentence regarding additional ADUs subject to density restrictions, and adding language to restrict front setbacks and short-term rentals. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wolfe. The motion was carried unanimously (6-0).

3. First Reading of Ordinance No. 2025, An Ordinance Vacating a Portion of the Old Man's Trail Right-of-Way Adjacent to the Property Known as 10 Old Man's Trail

Senior Planner Chelsea Royston noted that the presentation would cover both items, G3 and G4, to cover ordinances 2025 and 2125, because the two are closely intertwined. She explained that the City is requesting to rezone the Hiawatha Gardens property from Commercial to Public Facility and to vacate a portion of Old Man's Trail. These actions are part of a larger project that includes a forthcoming Major Development Plan, subdivision, and grading permit. CPC recommended approval of both the rezoning and right-of-way vacation following administrative review. The proposed changes would consolidate the site into a single platted lot, as required for permit issuance, and would align the Old Man's Trail right-of-way with existing improvements to clarify public and private boundaries. Staff found that the right-of-way vacation meets all applicable review criteria, including consistency with the

Comprehensive Plan and Transportation and Mobility Master Plan, improved pedestrian safety, and no negative impact on utilities or access. The rezoning also meets required criteria, including compatibility with surrounding uses, consistency with city plans, and limitations on development in flood-prone areas. The Public Facility zoning designation reduces height limits, prohibits residential use, and does not require minimum lot frontage. No conditions were recommended, and the major components of the project will be considered in the upcoming Major Development Plan review.

Councilor Shada moved to approve on first reading, Ordinance No. 2025, An Ordinance Vacating a Portion of the Old Man's Trail Right-of-Way Adjacent to the Property Known as 10 Old Man's Trail. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wolfe. The motion carried unanimously (6-0).

4. First Reading of Ordinance No. 2125, An Ordinance Amending the Zoning Map of the City of Manitou Springs, Colorado, Rezoning 2 Parcels Also Known by Assessor's Office as Schedule Numbers 74054-226-002 and 74054-26-001 to Public Facility Zone District

Councilor Shada moved to approve on first reading, Ordinance No. 2125, An Ordinance Amending the Zoning Map of the City of Manitou Springs, Colorado, Rezoning 2 Parcels Also Known by Assessor's Office as Schedule Numbers 74054-226-002 and 74054-26-001 to Public Facility Zone District. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wolfe. The motion carried unanimously (6-0).

5. First Reading of Ordinance No. 2225, an Ordinance of the City of Manitou Springs, Colorado, Amending the Manitou Springs Municipal Code to Allow Digital Publication of Certain Publication Notices

City Attorney Jeff Parker explained that the ordinance proposes changes to the Municipal Code to allow digital publication of certain notices on the City's website instead of in a newspaper. He noted that publishing in newspapers has been costly, and that the City can shift to digital publication for any items not required by state law or that are considered matters of local concern.

There was a general discussion about the front window at City Hall. City Administrator Howell explained that staff still plans to post notices there as usual, but the code change would allow website posting to fulfill legal requirements if a notice cannot be posted at City Hall. City Attorney Parker advised against requiring front window posting for all notices, noting that different types of postings have different legal requirements. He expressed concern that mandating physical posting could create compliance issues if something were missed, even unintentionally.

Mayor Graham moved to approve on first reading, Ordinance No. 2225, an Ordinance of the City of Manitou Springs, Colorado, Amending the Manitou Springs Municipal Code to Allow Digital Publication of Certain Publication Notices. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson. The motion carried unanimously (6-0).

F2. Approval of a General Services Agreement with Front Range Arborists, LLC for Black Canyon Open Space Fired Mitigation

David Conley, Chair of the Open Space Advisory Committee (OSAC), provided an overview of the fire mitigation efforts planned for Black Canyon Open Space. He emphasized OSAC's responsibility for managing open space properties and noted that the fire mitigation work is aligned with the Black Canyon Master Plan, which was approved by the City Council in February. Chair Conley explained that fire mitigation is a key element of the plan and is intended to take place before trail construction begins.

Fire Lieutenant Mike Willie stated that the scope of work was developed in coordination with the Colorado Springs Fire Department and Colorado Springs Utilities. The plan includes a 50% reduction in fuels across the site. All work will be completed by hand, followed by chipping using a tracked chipper. Chipped material will be laid no deeper than four inches to allow vegetation to regrow and to help create a fire-resilient landscape. Lieutenant Willie shared that two bids were received, and the lowest responsible bid came in at \$150,000.

Chair Conley stated that OSAC has the funds available to recommend that City Council approve the expenditure. He noted that the cost is higher than the Deer Park fire mitigation project due to limited access and the steepness of the slopes at Black Canyon. He explained that crews will not be able to bring trucks onto the property and will access the site on foot, using a track-mounted chipping machine. Chair Conley shared that they visited the site earlier that day with the contractor. During the site visit, he confirmed that the contractor is sensitive to the proposed trail alignment outlined in the master plan and is experienced in preserving key landscape and tree features during fire mitigation work.

Councilor Shada referred to a fire hazard map of Manitou Springs and noted that Black Canyon Open Space is categorized as low risk. He expressed concern about allocating significant funds to the project when other city-owned properties are shown as higher risk.

Lieutenant Willie responded that although the area may be classified as a light fire hazard, no part of the City is considered low risk. He emphasized that opening the space to the public raises fire risk due to increased human activity, making mitigation necessary to protect the community.

Councilor Shada stated a preference for allocating funds to higher-risk open spaces. He confirmed that there are city-owned open spaces that are highlighted as higher-risk on the fire hazard map.

Lieutenant Willie noted that recent mitigation work by Colorado Springs Fire just north of the site increases the effectiveness of the Black Canyon project by expanding the contiguous mitigated area.

Councilor Shada reiterated his concern about prioritizing Black Canyon for fire mitigation, noting that existing mitigation efforts and natural barriers, such as U.S.

Highway 24, already reduce the risk to the community. He questioned the decision to allocate a large amount of discretionary open space funding to a low-risk area, especially when this may be the only fire mitigation project the city undertakes in the coming year.

There was a brief discussion about whether OSAC has a list of projects related to fire mitigation, during which Chair Conley stated that the committee does not currently have a list of priorities. He added that this is the first fire mitigation project of any size undertaken by OSAC, aside from some limited work along trail corridors.

Councilor Wolfe agreed with Councilor Shada and shared that a resident had contacted her with similar concerns. Councilor Wolfe referenced overgrown conditions on city-owned property, specifically near Miramont Castle and Montcalm Street. She expressed interest in referring the matter to OSAC for further review and holding a work session to discuss prioritizing mitigation efforts in higher-risk areas, given limited funding.

There was a brief discussion about whether delaying the agreement would cause any issue, to which Chair Conley confirmed that there is no grant involved and that OSAC funds could carry over into the next budgeted year. Concerns were noted about opening the space to the public and ensuring that mitigation work does not negatively impact wildlife during nesting or mating seasons.

Councilor Fortuin questioned OSAC's shift from reserving funds for land acquisition to using them for fire mitigation, while expressing support for the mitigation efforts.

Councilor Shada suggested that OSAC and the Fire Department develop a fire mitigation plan for high-risk areas near parcel 7405314023, citing city fire hazard data and the threat to downtown from south and southeast winds. He noted that while mitigation at Black Canyon has lowered risk there, residents near Red Mountain are facing difficulties obtaining homeowners insurance due to the elevated risk shown on the maps.

Fire Lieutenant Willie clarified that the map is not the City's, but the State of Colorado's.

Councilor Fortuin requested that OSAC and the Fire Department consider grant opportunities during review of open space for fire mitigation. She also suggested that they consider more experienced and less expensive contractors such as Mile High Youth Corps.

Councilor Wolfe stated that once funding is allocated for open space, the City should also assess the cost to address other high-risk areas on the fire hazard map to better protect the community.

The consensus of the City Council was to request that OSAC and the Fire Department collaborate to create a list of prioritized open space properties for fire mitigation efforts.

Councilor Shada moved to deny the proposed agreement and to direct staff, the Fire Department, and OSAC to return with alternative fire mitigation plans. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wolfe. The motion carried unanimously (6-0).

H. HEARINGS

1. Second Reading and Public Hearing of Ordinance No. 1825, an Ordinance of the City of Manitou Springs, Colorado, Adding a New Chapter 12.40 of the Manitou Springs Municipal Code to Prohibit Unpermitted Work in the City

Note for the Record – The second reading and public hearing of Ordinance 1825 was removed from the agenda under Section D, Approval of Agenda.

I. RECEIVE OR ACT ON COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE

There was a discussion regarding free parking for residents, during which it was clarified that residents may get up to 50 hours of free parking.

Councilor Fortuin suggested that the City Council should be very careful when answering questions on social media or simply direct the public to city staff, to avoid future issues and confusion.

Councilor Wolfe suggested that free parking for residents should be advertised better, as many residents are unaware of the free parking.

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson announced that Saint Andrews Community Center is having a fundraiser on Saturday, October 11, 2025 from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM, and proceeds will go towards launching the community center.

Mayor Graham inquired if a budget retreat on Saturday, November 22, 2025 from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM would work for the Council. He reminded the Council that there will be no meeting the week of Thanksgiving, November 4, 2025 which is Election Day or November 11, 2025, Veteran's Day. He announced that the upcoming weekend is Indigenous Peoples Day Weekend, to include a potluck, and storytelling.

There was a brief discussion about the city audit. City Administrator Howell explained the delay is due to staffing challenges, noting that all materials have been submitted and the timeline now depends on the auditors. Staff is responding to questions and aiming for completion by the end of October.

J. CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

City Administrator Howell reported on the following:

- The Creek Walk bump outs will include trees and pollinator gardens.
- Ruxton Avenue water line repairs will begin next week.
- The Drafted 2026 Budget will be provided by October 15, 2025.

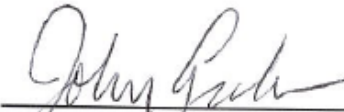
ADJOURN

With no other items to discuss, Councilor Shada moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mayor Graham. The motion carried unanimously (6-0).

The meeting adjourned at 9:36 PM.

Attest:


Elena Krebs, City Clerk


John Graham, Mayor

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