

**CITY OF MANITOU SPRINGS
CITY COUNCIL**

Regular Meeting Minutes
606 Manitou Avenue
July 7, 2026

The City Council of Manitou Springs met in Regular Session on Tuesday, July 7, 2026, 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 Natalie Johnson
Mayor Pro Tem Judith Chandler
Councilor John Shada
Councilor Julie Wolfe
Councilor Nathan Nassif
Councilor Carey Storm
Councilor Gloria Latimer

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

C. ROLL CALL

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

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilor Storm moved to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilor Latimer. The motion carried unanimously (7-0).

E. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Jan Johnson, Manitou Springs Resident, expressed concern about the condition of the Seven Eleven building in the City. She suggested exploring options such as a monthly fee for long-vacant properties or improvements to vacant buildings, including murals, to reduce blight.

Dave Wolverton, Manitou Springs Resident, commented on proposed contracts with \$1,300,000 in expenditures on the consent calendar, specifically objecting to the \$40,000 allocated for engineering a sidewalk to Black Canyon Open Space. He urged City Council to remove the items from the consent calendar and reprioritize the funding

toward neighborhood infrastructure. He expressed concern that neighborhoods, particularly his own, have been neglected.

Linda Morlan, Manitou Springs Resident, stated that she agreed with Wolverton. She shared a report from Manitou Springs Resident, Ila Quinn, that a large group of e-bike riders were traveling at high speeds on Pilot Knob Avenue, causing Quinn to fall. She asked whether there was a way to identify the riders responsible for speeding on e-bikes in the City.

F. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. June 16, 2026 City Council Minutes
2. Approval of On-Call Professional Services Contract for WSB LLC
3. Approval of On-Call Professional Services Contract for Stantec
4. Consider Reappointing Alan Delwiche to the Urban Renewal Authority Board

Mayor Pro Tem Chandler moved to approve the consent calendar as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilor Storm. The motion carried (5-2) with Councilors Shada and Latimer as the dissenting votes.

G. PRESENTATION

1. Proclamation No. 1026, A Proclamation Designating July as Parks and Recreation Month

Councilor Storm read Proclamation 1026 into the record designating July as Parks and Recreation Month.

Parks and Recreation Director Gillian Rossi thanked the Council for proclaiming July as Parks and Recreation Month. She expressed appreciation for Parks and Recreation staff and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PARAB) for their hard work and enthusiasm.

2. Community Budget Engagement Report

City Administrator Denise Howell noted that community budget engagement meetings were held on June 11 and June 13, 2026.

Berrick Abramson, with Confluence Policy and Strategy Group, summarized feedback from the community engagement meetings. He noted that while attendance at the in-person sessions was smaller than the community survey, the discussions provided greater depth and context. Participants consistently identified Fire, EMS, and Police as high priorities and generally viewed City departments as operating leanly. The

discussions reflected consensus that the City's budget gap could not be addressed through expenditure reductions alone, and that structural revenue solutions should be explored. Participants emphasized aligning fees more closely with the cost of services, particularly for visitors, while expressing opposition to increasing property taxes. There was strong support for shifting more of the financial burden to visitors, with lodging and amusement taxes receiving the most discussion. Additional ideas included a non-resident Incline fee, commercial parking and event fees, a vacancy tax on long-empty storefronts, and revisiting the City ordinance governing the allocation of lodging tax revenue.

Mayor Johnson commented that she thoroughly enjoyed the report.

Mayor Pro Tem Chandler expressed appreciation for the report, noting that it provides sufficient data to support informed policy decisions.

H. BUSINESS

1. First Reading of Ordinance No. 0626, An Ordinance of the City of Manitou Springs, Colorado, Amending Provisions of Title 10, Chapter 26, of the Manitou Springs Municipal Code Concerning Automated Vehicle Identification Systems

City Attorney Jeff Parker explained that recently enacted state legislation made several changes to the use of automated vehicle identification systems for traffic enforcement, including notice requirements, driver protections, and contract provisions. He stated that the proposed ordinance updates the City Code to comply with state law.

Councilor Wolfe suggested a change section 10.26.030(E) to state "A hearing to dispute the notice of violation must be filed with the city no later than 45 days after the date on the notice of violation".

City Attorney Parker supported the suggested change and noted that the language came from the original ordinance.

Mayor Pro Tem Chandler moved to approve Ordinance No. 0626, An Ordinance of the City of Manitou Springs, Colorado, Amending Provisions of Title 10, Chapter 26, of the Manitou Springs Municipal Code Concerning Automated Vehicle Identification Systems as amended with Wolfe. The motion was seconded by Councilor Latimer. The motion carried unanimously (7-0).

I. RECEIVE OR ACT ON COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE

Councilor Latimer shared that she received two calls about speeding and illegal parking on Pilot Knob Avenue. She stated that the Ice Cream Social was a fun and successful

event. Councilor Latimer stated that she received a report of illegal dumping on west end of the City.

Councilor Nassif recognized the 250th anniversary of the United States and the 150th anniversary of the State of Colorado. He also thanked Manitou Springs residents for their mindfulness of fire restrictions.

Mayor Johnson expressed appreciation to Public Services staff for their response to the recent water main breaks and recognized firefighters and first responders for their efforts during the Fourth of July weekend.

J. CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

City Administrator Howell reported on the following:

- The Hiawatha Gardens Parking Lot had a soft opening during the Fourth of July weekend. The official opening and ribbon-cutting are expected before the end of July.
- Fields Park will include four pickleball courts facing north and south, along with the remaining tennis court.
- Water usage was lower during the Fourth of July weekend, which supported water availability for fire suppression needs.

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. An Executive Session to hold a conference with the City attorney for legal advice pursuant to Section 5.1(c) of the City of Manitou Springs Home Rule Charter, concerning *Manitou and Pikes Peak Railway Company v. City of Manitou Springs, Colorado*, El Paso County District Court Case No. 2025CV30766

Mayor Johnson read the purpose of the Executive Session into the record at 6:33 PM.

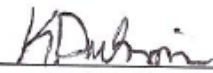
Mayor Pro Tem Chandler moved to enter the Executive Session for the stated purpose. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wolfe. The motion was carried unanimously (7-0).

The City Council moved back to Regular Session at 8:41 PM. Mayor Johnson confirmed the Executive Session was held solely for the stated purpose and that no formal decision was made.

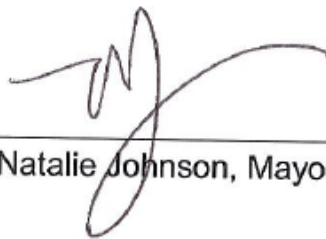
ADJOURN

With no other items to discuss, Mayor Pro Tem Chandler moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Latimer. The motion carried (7-0). The meeting adjourned at 8:41 PM.

Attest:



Kristen Dukoi, Deputy City Clerk



Natalie Johnson, Mayor

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