

# City Council Meeting Minutes

CITY OF WHEAT RIDGE, COLORADO

7500 WEST 29<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE, MUNICIPAL BUILDING

**November 14, 2022**

**Note:** This meeting was conducted both as a virtual meeting and hybrid, where some members of the Council or City staff were physically present at the Municipal building, and some members of the public attended in person as well. Eight members of Council were present in Council Chambers for this session. Before calling the meeting to order, Mayor Starker stated the rules and procedures necessitated by this meeting format.

Mayor Starker called the Regular City Council Meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

## **ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS**

Judy Hutchinson	Scott Ohm	Rachel Hultin	Janeece Hoppe
Amanda Weaver	Korey Stites	Leah Dozeman	Valerie Nosler Beck

Also, present: City Manager, Patrick Goff; City Attorneys Jerry Dahl and Nicholas Klein; City Clerk, Steve Kirkpatrick; City Treasurer, Chris Miller; Administrative Services Director, Allison Scheck; Director of Parks and Recreation, Karen O'Donnell; Interim Director of Community Development, Lauren Mikulak; Human Resources Business Partner Melissa Long and HR Director Michael Classen other staff, guests and interested citizens.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Council Minutes of August 22, 2022, City Council Minutes of September 12, 2022, Special Study Session Notes of September 19, 2022, Special Meeting notes of September 19, 2022, City Council Minutes of September 26, 2022, Study Session Notes of October 3, 2022, and Study Session Notes of October 17, 2022, were approved as published.

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Without objection or correction, the agenda stood as announced.

**PROCLAMATIONS AND CEREMONIES**

**Small Business Saturday** – November 26, 2022. Mayor Starker read the proclamation, which highlighted the critical role small businesses play in employing 46 million people in the US and contributing to local economies and communities. Ms. Maki DeLaet, President of the WR Small Business Association, accepted the proclamation and thanked the City, Council and Mayor for acknowledging this important day.

Mayor Starker proclaimed November 26, 2022, as Small Business Saturday and urged everyone to shop businesses located in the City of Wheat Ridge.

**National Native American Heritage Month**

Mayor Starker designated the month of November as National Native American Month acknowledging how Native Americans have enriched our heritage and continue to add to all aspects of our society through their generosity of culture and the continued practice of teaching economic, environmental, and cultural sustainability.

**National Veterans and Military Families Month**

Mayor Starker recognized and honored the Veterans and the Military Families, who also then designated November 2022 as National Veterans and Military Families Month. He acknowledged the role that not only service members but also their families play in protecting our freedom. Wheat Ridge Police Sergeant Jamie Watson (CPO, US Navy Medical Corps, Ret.) accepted the proclamation on behalf of herself and all the other Veterans she represented. She eloquently and sincerely thanked the City, Mayor, and Council for this proclamation.

**National Records Appreciation Proclamation**

Mayor Starker proclaimed the week of November 14, through November 18, 2022, as Law Enforcement Records Personnel Appreciation week. The Mayor, Council, City Clerk and City Treasurer the City of Wheat Ridge is proud of the dedicated Police Department Records professionals who respond to the needs of officers and detectives while also serving our community members with care and compassion, during what for them is often a very difficult time. Angel LaPierre, Wheat Ridge Police Department records safe keeper, accepted the proclamation on behalf of herself and her peers across the state and nation.

**PUBLIC'S RIGHT TO SPEAK**

Lee Recca, 4475 Brentwood – Came to protest the opening of a firearms range and gun store on 44<sup>th</sup> Avenue. She cited the proximity of the proposed business to children at nearby schools and the swimming pool in Anderson Park. She cited three different legal means to stop the business from opening based on Federal and state law. She urged the creation of a task force to investigate this situation.

Rosemarie Bowden, and Walter Kordzial, both residing at 3535 Dudley St., came to address the proposed speed bump in their neighborhood. They received a letter indicating that their street would be on tonight's agenda. That item was pulled from this evening's agenda at residents' request to await presentation of a petition from residents in that neighborhood.

**Note about Wheat Ridge Speaks:**

Members of the Public may visit the Wheat Ridge Speaks website and enter written comments of up to 1,000 words on any Council agenda item. The deadline for citizens to submit comments is 12:00 Noon Mountain Time on the day of a Council session so that Council members, other elected officials and City Staff have time to review the comments before the meeting on Monday evening.

The City Clerk's Office transcribes those Wheat Ridge Speaks comments into these minutes, placing each comment along with the record for that agenda item, including items that address a public hearing (verbatim, if the comments do not contain lascivious language or unlawful hate speech).

**CONSENT AGENDA**

No items this evening.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING**

1. Council Bill No. 18-2022 – An Ordinance amending Sections 2-89 and 11-565 of the Wheat Ridge Code of Laws to provide an administrative subpoena process for hotel licensing.

CM Nosler Beck introduced Council Bill 18-2022

**Issue**

This Council Bill amends the Wheat Ridge Code of Laws to authorize the issuance of administrative subpoenas for records related to hotel licensing requirements.

Mayor Starker opened the public hearing.

City Clerk Steve Kirkpatrick assigned Ordinance No. 1748.

**Staff Presentation**

City Attorney Nicholas Klein described the new City hotel license requirements, (codified as Article XVI of Chapter 11 of the Wheat Ridge Code), one of which requires that hotel establishments obtain a City license, one condition of which is that the hotel must meet certain structural and operational requirements. One of the operational requirements is to limit the duration of guest stays to match the type of hotel license held (regular or extended stay). Efficient and reliable access to hotel guest records will be a key element of monitoring compliance.

In general, City staff may file an affidavit with a Court to obtain a warrant authorizing the seizure of a business' documents. Such an affidavit must articulate probable cause to believe that the documents will reveal evidence of legal violations

### **Public Comment**

No citizens appeared in chambers to address this issue. There were none who wanted to speak through the Zoom format.

### **Council Questions and comments**

CM Hoppe asked detailed questions about the procedure this ordinance would create. Mr. Goff and City Treasurer Chris Miller gave detailed responses.

**Motion** by CM Nosler Beck to approve Council Bill No. 18-2021 - an ordinance amending Sections 2-89 and 11-565 of the Wheat Ridge Code of Laws to provide an administrative subpoena process for hotel licensing, on second reading, and that it take effect 15 days after final publication, seconded by CM Stites, motion carried 8-0

2. Resolution 39-2022 – A Resolution declining full participation in the Colorado Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program

CM Stites introduced the resolution.

Mayor Starker opened the public hearing. The Mayor reviewed the procedures.

### **Issue**

The Colorado Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Act was passed by voters in the November 2020 election. The new law requires all employers to provide paid family and medical leave to its employees through a state managed program which is funded by employer and employee paycheck withholdings. Local governments have the option to decline participation in the program

### **Staff Presentation**

Human Resources Business Partner Melissa Long and HR Director Michael Clasen spoke briefly to the council on the issue including Council's review of this matter in a study session on June 27, 2022. At that meeting, Council provided consensus to opt out of the state's paid family leave program and bring back an internal program draft for consideration.

If the City were to participate in the state's program, it would cost approximately \$90,000 per year to cover the 50% mandatory employer premium based on 2021 audited payroll. Additionally, staff estimates another 0.25-0.50 FTE would be required to administer the program.

### **Public Comment**

No one came forward to speak about this item. There were none who wanted to speak through the Zoom format.

**Council Questions and comments**

CM Nosler Beck indicated her strong support for this motion and thanked the staff for their excellent and time-consuming effort this took.

CM Dozeman thanked the staff for their work, adding she is very glad that we have the option to not participate because of the burden the program imposes on municipalities and small businesses.

**Motion** by CM Stites to approve Resolution No. 39-2022 – a resolution declining full participation in the Colorado Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program, seconded by CM Weaver, motion carried 8-0.

**ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING**

3. Council Bill No. 20-2022 – An Ordinance amending Sections 22-58 and 22-67 of the Wheat Ridge Code of Laws to establish an exemption from the City's Sales and Use Tax for carryout bag fees enacted by the State of Colorado.

CM Ohm introduced Council Bill 20-2022

**Issue**

The Colorado State Legislature adopted a carryout bag fee effective January 1, 2023, which by January 1, 2024, prohibits all retailers, with a few specific exceptions, from providing single-use plastic bags. Carryout bag fees are currently subject to local sales tax. As a home-rule City, Wheat Ridge is able to establish its own laws including the ability to exempt from taxation certain goods and services. The attached ordinance enacts such an exemption for the City.

**Motion** by CM Ohm to approve Council Bill 20-2022, an ordinance amending sections 22-58 and 22-67 of the Wheat Ridge Code of Laws to establish an exemption from the City's sales and use tax for bag fees enacted by the State of Colorado, on first reading, ordered in published, public hearing set for Monday, November 28, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. as a virtual meeting and in City Council Chambers if allowed to meet in person on that date per COVID-19 restrictions, and that it take effect 15 days after final publication; seconded by CM Hultin; motion carried 8-0

4. Council Bill No. 21-2022 – An Ordinance approving the rezoning of property located at 7525 W. 44<sup>th</sup> Avenue from Commercial-One (C-1) to Mixed Use-Commercial (MU-C)

CM Ohm introduced Council Bill 21-2022

**Issue**

The applicant is requesting approval of a zone change from Commercial-One (C-1) to Mixed Use-Commercial (MU-C) for property located at 7525 W. 44<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The zone change will result in a zoning that matches surrounding zoning and enables redevelopment of the site by expanding permitted uses.

**Motion** by CM Ohm to approve Council Bill 21-2022, an ordinance approving the rezoning of property located at 7525 W. 44<sup>th</sup> Avenue from Commercial-One (C-1) to Mixed Use-Commercial (MU-C), on first reading, ordered in published, public hearing set for Monday, December 12, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. as a virtual meeting and in City Council Chambers if allowed to meet in person on that date per COVID-19 restrictions, and that it take effect 15 days after final publication; seconded by CM Dozeman; motion carried 8-0

## **DECISIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS**

5. Motion to approve the selection of public art for the Improve Wadsworth Project to JCAS Studios

CM Hutchinson introduced the Motion.

### **Issue**

The Improve Wadsworth Project includes funding for public art. The process for selecting public art is defined in the Public Art Management Plan. Per this process, a series of public art pieces proposed by the JCAS Studios team have been commissioned. JCAS Studios' proposal was selected by an appointed committee for recommendation to the Cultural Commission. The Cultural Commission reviewed the proposal and per the defined process would like to make a recommendation to City Council for acceptance and purchase. The purchase price of \$475,000 includes design, construction, installation, and documentation.

### **Staff Presentation**

Director of Parks & Recreation Karen A. O'Donnell spoke on the proposed motion describing the policies and procedures for this selection are based on the Public Art Management Plan adopted by the Wheat Ridge City Council. The public art selection committee included a Cultural Commission representative, one community representative, a visual artist, an elected representative, a City staff representative, and two site agency representatives from CDOT.

Kendall Peterson, our Public Arts consultant outlined the process of decision-making to bring this proposal to Council and the process that will follow if Council approves.

The cost for this acquisition is \$475,000. The funds for this purchase are appropriated in the 2023 Public Art Fund in the amount off \$467,000. In early 2023, we will request contract approval, including a budget supplemental in the amount of \$8,000 in order to fund the entire art selection and the Cultural Commission recommends approval of the purchase of these art pieces for placement throughout the Improve Wadsworth Project.

Mayor Starker reviewed the procedures for public comment. No citizens appeared in chambers to address this issue. There were none who wanted to speak through the Zoom format.

**Public Comment**

No one came forward to speak.

**Council Questions and Comments**

CM Nosler Beck thanked the people who worked on this process for their hard work. She noted a number of aspects of the work selected, and expressed her profound support for the motion to approve this art. She mentioned that the celery seeds are historically accurate for Wheat Ridge.

CM Hultin echoed CM Nosler Beck's sentiments and how well this art connects the present and future and to WR's past. She also thanked the Cultural Commission for their hard work and excellent recommendations on this project. CM Hultin asked about, and Mr. Goff explained, the sources of funding for this artwork.

**Motion** by CM Hutchinson to approve the selection of public art for the Improve Wadsworth Project to JCAS Studios, seconded by CM Stites, motion carried 8-0.

6. Resolution No. 40-2022 - A Resolution amending the Fiscal Year 2022 Renewal Wheat Ridge Bond Projects Fund to reflect the approval of a supplemental budget appropriation in the amount of \$4,251,442 and to award a contract and approve subsequent payments to Goodland Construction, in an amount not to exceed \$7,313,186.74, for street improvements at the Wheat Ridge Ward Commuter Rail Station area.

CM Dozeman introduced Resolution 40-2022.

**Issue**

Public infrastructure improvements at the Wheat Ridge Ward Commuter Rail Station area include reconstruction of 52nd Avenue, Tabor Street, Ridge Road, adjacent intersections, and improvements to Valley Water District utilities in 52nd Avenue. Staff is recommending that the lowest responsive bidder, Goodland Construction, Inc., be awarded a contract in the amount of \$7,313,186.74.

**Staff Presentation**

Lauren Mikulak, Interim Community Development Director, gave a brief background on the item explaining that a supplemental budget appropriation from the Renewal Wheat Ridge Bond Projects Fund reserves is required to increase what was budgeted for 2022. The 2022 budget only included the City's estimated share of the construction costs and not the full estimated construction costs with portions that will be reimbursed by the City of Arvada, CDOT and Valley Water District.

The City of Arvada is responsible for 50% of the costs for 52nd Avenue, including the intersection with Ward Road and 36% of the costs for Ridge Road. CDOT is contributing \$300,000 towards the costs of the 52nd Avenue and Ward Road intersection. Valley Water is responsible for all the costs associated with the reconstruction of their water main in 52nd Avenue.

With the above reimbursement from the City of Arvada, CDOT and Valley Water District, the City's net contribution towards this contract is \$3,318,925.40. All of the City's contribution is being funded by the Renewal Wheat Ridge bond funds.

Mayor Starker reviewed the procedures for public comment.

### **Public Comment**

No citizens appeared in chambers to address this issue. There were none who wanted to speak through the Zoom format.

### **Council Questions**

There were none.

**Motion** by CM Dozeman to approve Resolution No. 40-2022 - a resolution amending the Fiscal Year 2022 Renewal Wheat Ridge Bond Projects Fund to reflect the approval of a supplemental budget appropriation in the amount of \$4,251,442 and to award a contract and approve subsequent payments to Goodland Construction, in an amount not to exceed \$7,313,186.74, for street improvements at the Wheat Ridge Ward Commuter Rail Station area, seconded by CM Hoppe, the motion carried 8-0.

7. Resolution No. 41-2022 - A Resolution approving an agreement with the Valley Water District regarding waterline improvements in 52nd Avenue

CM Nosler Beck introduced Resolution 41-2022.

### **Issue**

Public infrastructure improvements at the Wheat Ridge Ward Commuter Rail Station area include reconstruction of 52nd Avenue, Tabor Street, Ridge Road, adjacent intersections, and improvements to Valley Water District utilities in 52nd Avenue. As part of the reconstruction of 52nd Avenue, the Valley Water District needs to reconstruct a portion of their water main. The water main is in conflict with the proposed storm sewer and needs to be relocated. An agreement is needed between the City and Valley Water to outline each entity's responsibilities and to detail a reimbursement obligation.

### **Staff Presentation**

Project Manager Mark Westberg was available to answer any questions.

Mayor Starker reviewed the procedures for public comment.

### **Public Comment**

No citizens appeared in chambers to address this issue. There were none who wanted to speak through the Zoom format.

### **Council Questions**

CM Dozeman asked how projects we engage with other outside agencies, not only water districts but also other special districts, are developed; how do we collaborate and communicate. She asked questions about the specifications for the project and Mr. Westberg gave detailed answers.



CM Hultin asked whether we have items scheduled about more projects like this and Mr. Goff replied that Public Works is preparing a Study Session presentation on this topic.

**Motion** by CM Nosler Beck to approve Resolution No. 41-2022 - a resolution amending an agreement with the Valley Water District regarding waterline improvements on 52nd Avenue, seconded by CM Dozeman, the motion carried 8-0.

8. Motion to approve installation of traffic calming device on 31st Place between Union Street and Vivian Street in accordance with the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program (NTMP)

CM Weaver introduced the Motion.

### **Issue**

Residents on 31st Place petitioned the City to address traffic concerns for the street segment from Union Street to Vivian Street. In accordance with the City's Neighborhood Traffic Management Program (NTMP), the City met with the residents at a neighborhood meeting and subsequently discussed and devised a plan to mitigate traffic issues. The residents then secured a petition with the necessary number of property owner signatures, supporting the installation of a speed hump in accordance with the NTMP policy and are hereby seeking approval for implementation.

### **Staff Presentation**

Civil Engineer, Steve Nguyen summarized the issue explaining that per the NTMP, speed humps can be ordered for installation by the City if at least 80% of residents in a designated street segment sign the petition, including the residents who reside immediately adjacent to the speed humps. Based on the results of the petition received by the City, a sufficient number of signatures have been attained for the speed hump as referenced above. The NTMP policy requires Council approval of a proposed project. If approved, the project will quickly go to bid with construction anticipated in late 2022 or early 2023, assuming there are no significant weather delays.

Residents on 31st Place, in the petition segment between Union Street and Vivian Street, have satisfied the process outlined in the NTMP policy and through the staff evaluation process. As a result, staff recommends moving forward with installation of a speed hump on 31st Place as specifically requested by the residents.

Staff responded to questions raised by neighborhood residents about the number and placement of signs warning of the speed bump.

### **Public Comment**

No one came forward to speak neither in person nor on the zoom format.

From Wheat Ridge Speaks:

I am a resident on 31st Place. I am in agreement on having a speed hump placed on the street. When viewing the proposed plan, the signage seems excessive, 4 signs for one speed hump. I feel that 2 signs would be plenty. On Vivian street, right around the corner there are 2 signs and 2 speed humps and a curve in the road that does not have nor require a sign. Thank you

B. Abare  
12124 W 31<sup>st</sup> Pl  
Wheat Ridge 80215

### **Council Questions**

CM Hultin asked how staff collects data to gauge residents' opinions on projects like this. Mr. Nguyen gave a detailed answer. CM Hultin then asked how the average or median speed is gauged in assessing the need for this project and others like it. Mr. Nguyen gave a detailed answer to her question.

CM Stites thanked staff for their hard work on a sound solution.

**Motion** by CM Weaver to approve installation of traffic calming device on 31st Place between Union Street and Vivian Street in accordance with the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program (NTMP), seconded by CM Stites, motion carried 8-0.

9. Motion to approve installation of traffic calming device on Lamar St between 39<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 41st Avenue in accordance with the neighborhood traffic management program (NTMP)

CM Hultin introduced the Motion

### **Issue**

Residents on Lamar Street petitioned the City to address traffic issues for the street segment from 39th Avenue to 41st Avenue. In accordance with the City's Neighborhood Traffic Management Program (NTMP), the City met with the residents at a neighborhood meeting and subsequently discussed and devised a plan to mitigate traffic issues. The residents then secured a petition with the necessary number of property owner signatures, supporting the installation of a speed hump in accordance with the NTMP policy and are hereby seeking approval for implementation.

### **Staff Presentation**

Civil Engineer, Steve Nguyen stood by to answer any questions.

Mayor Starker reviewed the procedures for public comment and no citizens appeared in chambers or in the virtual format to address this issue.

### **Public Comment**

No one came forward to speak.

### **Council Questions**

CM Weaver asked for a definition of a hump and a bump. A hump is narrow and abrupt. A bump is wider, lower, and less of a deterrent to speed.

**Motion** by CM Hultin to approve installation of traffic calming device on Lamar St between 39<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 41st Avenue in accordance with the neighborhood traffic management program (NTMP), seconded by CM Hoppe, motion carried 8-0

- 10.** Motion to approve the purchase and installation of the City's core switches for a total of \$165,047.25

CM Hoppe introduced the Motion

**Issue**

The City's core switches, which facilitate internet access to every City facility, are approaching end of life. If a failure occurred, all City facilities would be affected, causing severe service interruption.

**Staff Presentation**

IT Manager Jesse Dubin spoke briefly on the item explaining that the City's current core switches hardware is based on a 2010 model that is approaching end of life. If a catastrophic failure of the existing equipment were to occur, the City would be in a challenging position because some components of the current system reach end of life next year and it is unlikely replacement parts are available. Staff recommends ordering the new equipment now because the hardware will likely take between nine months and a year to arrive due to supply chain issues.

In order to secure best pricing, this quote has been secured on a cooperative solicitation through the National Association of State Procurement Officers (NASPO). The City's membership in NASPO enables us to benefit from volume pricing through this cooperative bid. In this particular case, the State of Utah was the lead agency and the agreement between Utah and Cisco Systems was attached.

Mayor Starker reviewed the procedures for public comment and no citizens appeared in chambers or in the virtual format to address this issue.

**Public Comment**

No one came forward to speak.

**Council Questions**

There were none.

CM Weaver stated an antidote about Core Switches.

**Motion** by CM Hoppe to approve the purchase and installation of the City's core switches for a total of \$165,047.25, seconded by CM Stites, motion carried 8-0.

- 11.** Motion to approve appointment to current vacancy on Liquor Licensing Authority Board

CM Dozeman introduced the Motion.

**Issue**

One of the City's Liquor Licensing Authority Board Members in District IV has moved out of the State of Colorado. This has created a vacancy on this Board.

**Motion** by CM Dozeman to appoint Anthony Romero to the Liquor Licensing Authority, term ending 3/2/24, seconded by CM Nosler Beck, motion carried 8-0.

**CITY MANAGER'S MATTERS**

Mr. Goff noted that a new coffee business, Dutch Brothers, is open and operating.

He also reported that the new budget proposed for 2023 is now available for review. On November 21, 2022, staff will review the budget with Council.

**CITY ATTORNEY'S MATTERS**

None.

**ELECTED OFFICIALS' MATTERS**

City Clerk Kirkpatrick reported attending the Wheat Ridge Community Theater presentation of Lysistrata. While the production is not quite Off-Off-Broadway, the fledgling effort to bring live theater to Wheat Ridge deserves our support – and attendance.

CM Nosler Beck reported that Trunk or Treat was a great success, thanks to Local Works. She also thanked those who worked on the school closings recently passed by Jeffco Schools' Board. Although we did not get the outcome we wanted, the level of participation and the energy the community generated was appreciable and once again indicative of the Wheat Ridge community. The group will continue to work as Jefferson County Schools proceeds with planning to potentially close middle and high schools.

CM Stites thanked Guy Nahmiach for his work on Art on the Farm. He echoed CM Nosler Beck's comments; he too was awed by the community effort and energy in the recent effort to save our neighborhood schools. He also compared and contrasted our process for public speaking and appearance before Council vs. Jeffco School Board that conducts these conversations in camera and excludes residents' input until it's too late to make a different decision possible. He is proud of how we operate. If you can find them in Wheat Ridge, buy holiday gifts in WR.

CM Dozeman announced that 5-7 pm tomorrow the Wheat Ridge Business Assoc. will hold its next meeting. She also thanked CM Stites and Nosler Beck for their hard work and organizing efforts to resist the school closures in Wheat Ridge. She commented that the way the process was conducted by Jeffco Schools damaged their trust with our residents and families across the county.

CM Ohm urged us to schedule a Study Session item on school closing and their impact on our residents, especially school children and their parents. We need a plan to address these changes. CM Stites seconded adding the issue to a future Study Session. He attended the annual police dinner with the Mayor and came away awed by the officers' service and sacrifices, as well as the impacts on their families. Remember that you can go to Wheat Ridge poultry online and order your Thanksgiving turkey.

CM Weaver thanked the City for expanding our knowledge in several areas of traffic control methods and terminology.

CM Hoppe reported that the Porchlight Family Justice Center event was a roaring success. Wheat Ridge High School will hold a forum for 8th grade students who are considering enrolling at WRHS in the fall of 2023.

CM Hultin asked for clarification of the topics to be discussed in a Study Session about the elementary school closings. CM Ohm gave a specific answer focusing on several aspects of the impact these closings will have. CM Hultin asked staff for a possible date to add that topic to a Study Session agenda. CM Nosler Beck asked to add the subjects of safe crossings and child protection from the high traffic volume on Wadsworth, which children will have to cross to go to their new school.


CM Hultin remarked about the speaker who opposes the opening of a new gun store in Wheat Ridge. She asked staff how we have communicated with the speaker and how the process works. Mr. Goff commented that at present the City has no legal way to deny the business license application. CM Hultin then said that hopefully in the first quarter of 2023 we will revisit the traffic plans and the needs we will have going forward, especially the changes that will follow the elementary school closures. She requested that there are gummy bears added to the snacks provided on the dais. She has missed the conversations we have not had during the four-week hiatus.


Mayor Starker spoke about the 3-week hiatus. He repeated some of the CM comments about events like Trunk or Treats and new business openings. He went to a Veterans' Day celebration at the Active Adult Center and really appreciated the event. He thanked those who attended coffee with the Mayor last Saturday, especially the young people who participated. The Historical Society had a flag raising to honor our Veterans and he also appreciated that event. We are already looking forward to the holiday lighting ceremony on December 3rd. He echoed CM Ohm's comments on the recent dinner for our WRPD. He thanked the election officials who ran the general election last week and our renewed faith in participating in our democracy. To our residents who worked on the school closing issue, he thanked them for their engagement and hopes they will continue to engage. We need our residents' voices at the table as we plan for the future without 3 of our schools and all of the changes children and families will experience. Mayor Starker once again asked us all to drive carefully, especially now that darkness is earlier and bad weather is upon us.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL ON November 28, 2022

  
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Steve Kirkpatrick, City Clerk

  
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Rachel Hultin, Mayor Pro Tem

The preceding Minutes were prepared according to §47 of Robert's Rules of Order, i.e., they contain a record of what was done at the meeting, not what was said by the members.