

City Council Meeting Minutes

CITY OF WHEAT RIDGE, COLORADO
7500 WEST 29TH AVENUE, MUNICIPAL BUILDING

April 11, 2022

Note: This meeting was held virtually, using Zoom video-teleconferencing technology. As duly announced and publicly noticed, Council previously approved this format in order to continue with normal business. 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 7:00 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	Val Nosler Beck

Also, present: City Clerk, Steve Kirkpatrick; City Attorney, Gerald Dahl; City Manager, Patrick Goff; City Treasurer, Chris Miller; Administrative Services Director, Allison Scheck; Police Chief, Chris Murtha; Parks and Recreation Director, Karen O'Donnell; Senior Planner Stephanie Stephens; Planning Manager, Lauren Mikulak, other staff, guests and interested citizens.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Without objection or correction, the Study Session notes of March 21, 2022, were approved as published.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Without objection or correction, the agenda stood as announced.

PROCLAMATIONS AND CEREMONIES

This item began at 7:02 PM.

National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week

Mayor Starker read the proclamation declaring the week of April 11-17, as National Public Safety Telecommunicators week. We honor the men and women who work in this critical function.

He welcomed guests from Jeff Comm, who accepted the proclamation, and commented on the incalculable value of timely, clear and complete transmission of information from 911 centers to first responders on the street.

National Crime Victims' Rights Week

Mayor Starker read the proclamation declaring the week of April 24-30 as National Crime Victims' Rights Week in Wheat Ridge. The proclamation highlighted the key role and essential services victim advocates, and survivor service providers make possible.

He presented the proclamation to Dave Pickett, Commander, Wheat Ridge Police Department (Ret.), and Cin Chapman, Executive Director of our victim rights and survival.

Earth Day Celebration and 150th Anniversary National Arbor Day Celebration

Mayor Starker proclaimed April 22, 2022, as Earth Day Celebration and April 29, 2022, as the 150th Anniversary National Arbor Day Celebration. While we are all shepherds of Mother Earth, today we highlight the critical role planting trees plays in environmental preservation and healing.

Andrew McDonald, of the City staff, came forward to accept the proclamation. He recognized the three City staff who care for and plant trees across the city. He reminded the public of the upcoming tree sale this Saturday, April 16 and again on April 29th. During the April 29th session arborists will attend to teach, give advice and answer questions. Details appear on the City website.

PUBLIC'S RIGHT TO SPEAK

Public may speak on any matter not on the Agenda for a maximum of 3 minutes under Public's Right to Speak. Please speak up to be heard when directed by the Mayor.

Members of the Public who wish to speak on a Public Hearing item or Decision, Resolution, or Motion may speak when directed by the Mayor at the conclusion of the staff report for that specific agenda item.

No one came forward to speak tonight.

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).

No comments appeared in WR Speaks for this session of Council.

1. CONSENT AGENDA

Discussion began at approximately 7:20 p.m.

CM Nosler Beck introduced the consent agenda.

- a. Resolution No. 18-2022, a resolution amending the Fiscal Year 2022 General Fund budget to reflect the approval of a supplemental budget appropriation in the amount of \$100,000 for the addition of two full-time employees for police tele-serve positions

Issue

The police department has experienced increased calls for service, which has reduced the amount of unallocated time that patrol officers typically use to apply directed patrol and community policing activities. To address this concern, the police department recommends adding two (2) non-sworn tele-serve positions. The tele-serve positions will provide a convenient option for members of the community to report non-emergency calls by telephone, thereby freeing up patrol officers for better public engagement, allowing officers to increase proactive patrol and engage in Relationship-Based Policing strategies.

- b. Resolution No. 20-2022 - A resolution amending the Fiscal Year 2022 General Fund budget to reflect the approval of a supplemental budget appropriation in the amount of \$71,859 for the addition of one full-time, time-limited employee for Housing Navigation services

Issue

Demand for the City's Homeless Navigation Program's services has continued to steadily rise since it began in December 2020. As this program grows, additional staff support is needed. This full-time Housing Navigator position will partner with the existing Homeless Navigator to connect the City's unhoused population to resources and housing through 2026.

Motion by CM Nosler Beck to approve Consent Agenda Items a.), and b.), Seconded by CM Stites, motion carried 8-0.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING

Discussion began at approximately 7 PM

2. Resolution No. 19-2022 – A resolution approving a major subdivision on property located at 5800-5990 W. 38th Avenue and zoned Mixed Use-Neighborhood (MU-N)

CM Hoppe introduced the resolution.

Mayor Starker opened the public hearing. The Mayor reviewed the procedures. He reminded anyone who testifies during the public hearing that they are bound by law to tell the truth.

Issue

The applicant is requesting approval of a major subdivision for property located at 5800-5990 W. 38th Avenue to replat and consolidate 23 lots into 3 lots to establish clear title for existing conditions on property zoned Mixed Use-Neighborhood (MU-N).

Staff Presentation

Senior Planner Stephanie Stevens spoke briefly to the council on the issue including the financial impact, background, and other key components of the subdivision. Those included:

- Lot Configuration
- Public Improvements
- Easements

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

Council had no further questions or comments.

CM Ohm asked about access for ingress and egress to the proposed properties, and staff answered.

Motion by CM Hoppe to approve Resolution No. 19-2022 – a resolution approving a major subdivision on property located at 5800-5990 W. 38th Avenue and zoned Mixed Use-Neighborhood (MU-N) for the following reasons:

1. City Council has conducted a proper public hearing that meets all public notice requirements as required by Section 26-109 and 26-407 of the Code of Laws.
2. The requested subdivision has been reviewed by the Planning Commission, which has forwarded its recommendation of approval.
3. All agencies can provide services to the property with improvements installed at the developer's expense.
4. The requirements of Article IV (Subdivision Regulations) of the zoning and development code have been met.

Seconded by CM Weaver, motion carried 8-0.

ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING

None Tonight

DECISIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS

None Tonight

CITY MANAGER'S MATTERS

Mr. Goff updated Council on progress building bridges across I-70, and the Wadsworth Redevelopment Project, both of which are progressing on time and smoothly.

Lane closures and lane shifting will begin later this year. The timeline calls for completion of the first phase of the Wadsworth project in mid-2023.

Allison Scheck asked for Council's consent to add another full-time HR Business Partner to staff to meet the burgeoning need for professional HR services. Several factors have created this increasing workload, including the "Great Resignation," a job market with too few qualified people and required maintenance of various records.

CM Hoppe asked for a consensus to direct staff to bring to a future Council meeting an action to amend the budget to hire a new HR Business Partner.

CITY ATTORNEY'S MATTERS

Nothing tonight.

ELECTED OFFICIALS' MATTERS

CM Hutchinson wished all a happy Easter.

CM Stites thanked Sustainable Wheat Ridge for the event last Saturday. As you prepare for the Easter and Passover Holidays, If you can find it in Wheat Ridge, please buy it in Wheat Ridge.

CM Weaver announced that there will be a Renewable Wheat Ridge session this Saturday April 16th. She also promoted the tree sales scheduled for this Saturday, April 16th and Saturday, April 29th. She also mentioned the current epidemic of bird flu that is devastating avian populations and asks that we report any cases we see to the state Department of Agriculture, so experts can track the current epidemic.

CM Hoppe has noticed a cyclic migration of people experiencing homelessness as they are moved from one location and re-gather in another. She asked for a consensus to direct staff to bring to a future Study Session suggested solutions to ameliorate this pattern.

Consensus attained.

CM Hultin is excited for the District II meeting at Randall Park Saturday 3 – 4:30 p.m. She recently cycled past a neighborhood garden, revitalized and designed to grow food in our City and share it among neighbors. She also announced that the Happiness Gardens event has been moved to the Rec Center this Wednesday due to weather.

CM Ohm encouraged all residents to stay vigilant to protect one another and report untoward events and crimes they observe. A recent situation in D II that could have been tragic was prevented when one neighbor looked out for another.

CM Dozeman wishes everyone a happy Easter. Her sons really love the Easter Egg Hunt.

Mayor Starker thanked those who attended Coffee with the Mayor last Saturday. He reminded all of us to be careful of our children as we drive as they will be outdoors and on our streets as the daylight lasts longer.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.



Steve Kirkpatrick, City Clerk

APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL ON April 25, 2022



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. Recordings and DVD's of the meetings are available for listening or viewing by contacting the City Clerk's Office, as well as copies of Ordinances and Resolutions.