



## WESTMINSTER

### CITY OF WESTMINSTER, COLORADO MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY JUNE 24, 2024, AT 7:00 P.M.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor McNally led City Council, Staff, and the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ROLL CALL

Mayor McNally, Councillors Carmelia, DeMott, Ezeadi, Hott, and Ireland were present at roll call. Also present were Acting City Manager Jody Andrews, Deputy City Manager Barbara Opie, City Attorney Dave Frankel, and City Clerk Abby Fitch.

Mayor Pro Tem Nurmela was absent and excused.

3. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

DeMott moved to approve the minutes of the June 10, 2024, City Council Meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Carmelia, and the motion passed **(6-0)**.

4. PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations this evening.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Milton Garlin and Lori Goldstein spoke about the Squires Park renovation. They oppose the inclusion of a dog park at Squires Park, believing it would not be in harmony with the current community..

Ray Record, Gail Record, and Elizabeth Sullivan spoke about Westminster Hills Open Space, expressing concern that dogs are damaging the area.

Luis Corchado discussed the issue of wards. He wants the City Council to draft questions about the wards and to improve communication about the wards. He also wants the process to be managed by City Council, not the city manager, and to see more community engagement.

Mirely Torregrosa, Bill Janowsky, Keith Burton, Christine LaBerge, Meredith Knauf, David Gazinski, Amanda Hale, Eleanor O'Connor, Matthew Arzt, Amy Hawkins, Laura Poyd, Susan DeMeules, Wayne Wesler, Kelsey Smith, Alexandra Kaufhold, Lili Cox, Dan Koss, Myka McLaughlin, Kyla Dunkle, Andrew Guthrie, Cindy Staudt, Traci Hagie, Tonya Yost, Rose Namajunas, Laura Kanopkin, Dale Pugh, Jason Mul'e, Krista Treichel, Jeb Benson, Tom Jurgens, and Leslie V. all spoke about the Westminster Open Space (WHOS) Dog Park. They oppose any reduction in the size of the dog park, citing the following concerns:

- The community action team process was flawed.
- The third-party report was not independent.
- Concerns about the information provided by the City.
- The mental and physical health benefits provided by the park.
- The ecological damage caused by factors other than dogs.
- The sense of community fostered by the dog park.
- Many of them thanked the City Council for its support of the Westminster Dog Park Guardians.

David Brown spoke about the sustainability center. He stated that he is unhappy with the noise caused by the dumpsters, which he believes is a problem for people living downtown.

Sam Bandimere announced that he is the Republican candidate for Senate District 19. He opposes Senate Bill 24-131, Firearms in Sensitive Spaces, which prohibits carrying a firearm, both openly and concealed, in specific public locations. He stated that bills like this are the reason he is running for office.

Kathy Kelly, a member of Moms Demand Action, spoke about Senate Bill 24-131. She expressed concern that the training required for concealed carry holders is not yet sufficient, and that the current level of contention puts City Council and others at risk.

Linda Bova stated that she found fireworks around the WHOS dog park and expressed concern about the potential for fires. She asked the City for increased patrols now through July 4.

Marley Steele-Inama does not want the open space redesignated. She would like to see solutions that allow access to the open space for people without dogs while also keeping the dog park. She believes a happy medium can be found.

Carol Gosenheimer would like the City to conduct a statistically valid survey regarding the Westminster Hills Open Space. She does not want the WHOS redesignated but does believe dog urine is degrading the space.

Elizabeth Sullivan does not think that the dog park needs to be 470 acres. She said the park is Marley Steele-Inama does not believe the open space is inclusive if off-leash dogs are allowed. She stated it is not open to everyone.

Tom Lampo offered a prayer for the City.

Christopher Stimpson spoke on gun control. He supports State Bill 24-131, which would ban concealed carry in government buildings.

Mary Berg stated there was no competitive bidding for the water treatment plant. She noted that surrounding districts charge a fraction of what Westminster charges and asked that the water treatment plant project be put on hold.

Karen Kalavity expressed objections to the water treatment plant, stating that the site should be preserved.

Tim Pegg spoke about the transit-oriented bill. He stated that water is not an issue related to that bill and mentioned that there is a clause to opt out.

John Palmer apologized to Ezeadi for his comments at the last meeting. He was upset that there was no audio in the lobby. He wants an update on Knox Court and believes the SB dealing with concealed carry should not be overridden. He also thinks the council should consider the cost of the dog park and open space when making decisions.

Gary Shea and Linda Graybill shared the history of Richard and Estelle Russell and discussed their contributions to parks in Westminster.

#### 6. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Freitag provided a brief update during which he mentioned Westy Wins and upcoming meetings and events.

#### 7. CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Ezeadi asked if there are any pathways to reduce the noise at the sustainability center. Freitag stated that they will explore ways to screen that activity. Ezeadi also wants more communication on wards, the sustainability center, and the water treatment plant. He asked if anything can be done about the fireworks and why a dog park is being put in at Squires Park.

Hott thanked everyone who spoke during public comment. They spoke about the importance of conservation and expressed that the dog park doesn't have to be an all-or-nothing issue. They noted that only the front part of the trails is degraded and suggested that the land can be cared for while still maintaining the dog park.

Ireland expressed concerns about transparency and stated that she plans to attend the Wards advisory meeting. She also voiced her objections to the water treatment plant.

DeMott stated that he had a good time at the Policy and Pilsners event. He also attended the police open house and found it to be good. He thanked the public speakers as well.

Carmelia stated that she believes the staff does not have an agenda and hopes that people can set aside their differences to work together. She believes everyone is passionate and is trying to do things for the right reasons. She also mentioned that the dog park is currently open space and that if it remains as is, it will need to be rezoned. She spoke about grass and erosion.

McNally stated that the Colorado Municipal League (CML) meeting had a lot of discussions around civility.

#### 8. CONSENT AGENDA

The following items were presented on the consent agenda for City Council's action: Second Reading of Councillor's Bill No. 19 Re: Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into an Agricultural Lease Agreement with Jason Schoonveld for City-Owned Properties known as Strasburg Natural Resources Farm and Comanche Farms; and Authorization of Payment for Fence Maintenance and Weed Control Costs; Authorization to Execute One-Year Contracts with Insituform Technologies, LLC, Guildner Pipeline Maintenance, Inc., and American West Construction, LLC for Various On-call Related Repair Services on Water, Wastewater, Reclaimed, and Stormwater Infrastructure, with Annual Amendment Authorization up to 2028; Authorize the Sole Source Contract with ConvergeOne, Inc. for the Maintenance, Service, Software Updates and Documentation for the Vesta 911 Multi-node Phone System; and Intergovernmental Agreement Between the City of Westminster, City of Arvada, City of Aurora, City of Brighton, City of Commerce City, City of Federal Heights, City of Northglenn, and Adams County to Participate in the Adams County Comprehensive Safety Action Plan Study to Evaluate Participating Jurisdictions' Transportation Networks

DeMott moved, seconded by Ireland, to approve the consent agenda, Items 8A – 8D for June 24, 2024. The motion passed on a **(6-0)** roll call vote.

#### 9. APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

There were no appointments or resignations this evening.

#### 10. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND NEW BUSINESS

##### A. First Reading of Councillor's Bill No. 20 Re: Proposed Economic Development Agreement with TriSalus Life Sciences Located at 6272 West 91st Avenue

DeMott moved, seconded by Carmelia to pass Councillors Bill No. 20 on the first reading authorizing the City Manager to execute an Economic Development Agreement with TriSalus Life Sciences that authorizes 100 percent rebate of permit and review fees, use taxes on construction materials, and sales and use taxes on upfront expenditures on furniture, fixtures, and equipment, based on revenue generated in an amount not to exceed \$42,437 for the business expansion and redevelopment of the building located at 6272 West 91st Avenue, commonly known as the headquarters of TriSalus Life Sciences. The motion passed on a **(6-0)** roll call vote.

##### B. Potential Renaming of Firefighters Park

McNally moved, seconded by DeMott to rename Firefighters Park to Russell Park honoring Firefighters. Tomas Herrera-Mishler stated that he will take the park naming to the Parks Recreation and Libraries Board and bring it back to City Council. The

motion passed on a **(6-0)** roll call vote. Freitag clarified that City Council was renaming the park as opposed to taking it through a separate process. City Council verified this would rename the park on this motion.

- C. City Council Direction Regarding Concealed Carry of Weapons on City Property  
THIS AGENDA ITEM WAS POSTONED.

11. OLD BUSINESS AND PASSAGE OF ORDINANCE ON SECOND READING

- A. Second Reading of Councillor's Bill No. 17 re Amended Lease Agreement Between the City of Westminster and Community Reach Center for the Use of the Former Library Building Located at 3031 West 76th Ave; and Second Reading of Councillor's Bill No. 18 re Temporary Lease Agreement Between the City of Westminster and Community Reach Center for the Use of the Harris Park Professional Building Located at 3621 West 73rd Avenue in association with the Replacement Municipal Court Project  
DeMott moved, seconded by Hott to pass Councillors Bill No. 17 on the second reading to amend the Lease Agreement between the City of Westminster and the Community Reach Center for the use of the former library building located at 3031 West 76th Avenue. The motion passed on a **(5-1)** vote.

DeMott moved, seconded by Hott to pass Councillor's Bill No. 18 on the second reading to establish a Temporary Lease Agreement between the City of Westminster and the Community Reach Center for the use of the Harris Park Professional Building located at 3621 West 73rd Avenue in association with the Replacement Municipal Court project. The motion passed on a **(5-1)** vote.

12. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS AND EXECUTIVE SESSION

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:07 p.m.

THE WESTMINSTER CITY COUNCIL

ATTEST:

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Mayor

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City Clerk