



WESTMINSTER

CITY OF WESTMINSTER, COLORADO MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY AUGUST 26, 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, Mayor Pro Tem Nurmela, Councillors Carmelia, DeMott, Ezeadi, Hott, and Ireland were present at roll call. Also present were Acting City Manager Jody Andrews, Deputy City Manager Larry Dorr, City Attorney Dave Frankel, and City Clerk Abby Fitch.

DeMott, seconded by Nurmela to allow Ezeadi and Ireland to participate remotely. The motion passed unanimously **(7-0)**.

3. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

DeMott moved to approve the minutes of the August 12 and August 19, 2024 meetings, City Council Meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Nurmela, and the motion passed **(7-0)**.

4. PRESENTATIONS

A. Presentation of Employee Service Awards

City Council presented service pins and certificates of appreciation to employees celebrating 20 or more years of service with the City and in five-year increments thereafter. Employees with 20, 25, and 30 years of service were celebrated.

B. Presentation of the Government Finance Officers Association Triple Crown

McNally presented the City of Westminster as a Triple Crown Winner of the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) to the Finance and Policy and Budget teams.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Joe DeMott stated that 12 cities have opted out of Senate Bill 24-131, which allows the right to carry, either openly or concealed, in sensitive spaces. He also mentioned that Hott's claim about the Supreme Court's ruling on the Second Amendment was inaccurate. DeMott wants the City Council to issue a statement clarifying that Hott's claim was not factual and should have been presented as an opinion.

Chris Allred spoke about the Rocky Mountain Greenway Trail, asking when the next discussion on the project would take place. He believes the trail does not benefit the community and urged the City Council to send a letter stating opposition to the project.

Deborah Segaloff raised concerns about the risks posed by the Rocky Mountain Greenway Trail and asked the City to withdraw from the project, citing public health and safety concerns.

Charlene Willey expressed concern about the possible presence of PFAS in Westminster's water supply. She asked the Council to take contamination from the airport seriously.

Bill Christopher voiced frustration with the Council's lack of action regarding the Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport. He expressed anger that certain City Council members appear to support the airport and its activities. He also asked why public comments are limited to three minutes now.

Alan Farb shared his disappointment with the budget, criticizing it for not supporting many community members. He called for a stronger commitment from the City Council to diversity and inclusion.

Tom Lampo offered a prayer for the City.

John Palmer stated that he would reserve his comments for the next meeting and yielded the rest of his time.

6. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Acting City Manager Andrews provided a brief update, mentioning ongoing projects, upcoming agenda items, and upcoming meetings and events. Andrews also announced that there will be an Executive Session on Rocky Mountain Greenway Trail on September 9 and a public session if needed September 23.

There was one information-only item: Proposed 2025 Budget.

7. CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Ireland stated that she agrees with the public commenter who stated that public comments should be five minutes not three minutes.

Hott clarified their comments on the Supreme Court ruling on the Second Amendment. They stated that the vote to uphold SB 24-131 is not in conflict with the Second Amendment. Hott also discussed for follow up on the letter they wrote to the Jefferson County Commissioners regarding the Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport (RMMA) and possible contaminants caused by the airport.

City Council asked Staff to review the letter written by Hott. They also discussed a study session for Rocky Mountain Greenway Trail and RMMA and the effects on Westminster's water.

8. CONSENT AGENDA

The following items were presented on the consent agenda for City Council's action: Authorize the Acting City Manager to Execute a Sole Source Contract with Concrete Conservation, Inc. for Wastewater Manhole Repairs, with up to four annual renewals in amounts not to exceed \$250,000 annually and not to exceed \$1,250,000 cumulatively. DeMott moved, seconded by Nurmela to approve consent agenda item 8B. The motion passed **(7-0)**.

***Clerk's note: Ireland asked to remove 8A from the consent agenda.

8.A. Resolution No. 22 Re: Ballot Question for Sales and Use Tax Increase to Fund Westminster Fire Department Facilities and Personnel

DeMott moved, seconded by Nurmela to adopt Resolution No. 22 referring a ballot question to the registered voters of Westminster at the November 5, 2024, coordinated election for a five tenths of one percent (0.50%) increase in the City's sales and use tax rate to enhance the safety and security of Westminster residents and businesses. The motion passed **(6-1)** with Ireland voting no, opposing a new tax to residents.

9. APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

There were no appointments or resignations this evening.

10. NEW BUSINESS

There were no appointments or resignations this evening.

11. OLD BUSINESS AND PASSAGE OF ORDINANCE ON SECOND READING

- A. Second Reading of Councillor's Bill No. 26 Adopting Ballot Language to Amend the Westminster Charter Regarding the Election of City Councillors by Geographic Wards
DeMott moved, seconded by Nurmela, to pass Councillor's Bill No. 26, on second reading, adopting ballot language to amend the Westminster Charter regarding the election of City Councillors by geographic wards. The motion passed on a **(7-0)** roll call vote.

12. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS AND EXECUTIVE SESSION

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

THE WESTMINSTER CITY COUNCIL

ATTEST:

Mayor

City Clerk