

MINUTES
THORNTON CITY COUNCIL
1596TH REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 27, 2024

1. CALL TO ORDER – By Mayor Jan Kulmann at 7:02 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Thornton City Hall and by way of an electronic meeting through Zoom software.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. MOMENT OF SILENCE
4. ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL – Those Present were: Mayor Jan Kulmann; Mayor Pro Tem Karen Bigelow; and Councilmembers David Acunto, Roberta Ayala, Kathy Henson, Justin Martinez, Chris Russell, and Tony Unrein. Virtual – Councilmember Jessica Sandgren.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT – Brett Henry, Interim City Manager; Tami Yellico, City Attorney; Robb Kolstad, Deputy City Manager; Randy Grant, City Development Director; Chris Molison, Executive Director of Management Services; Todd Rullo, Interim Infrastructure and Utilities Director; Doug Romig, Parks, Recreation and Community Programs Director; Terrence Gordon, Police Chief; Stephen Kelley, Fire Chief; Kim Newhart, Finance Director; Adam Krueger, Economic Development Director; Mike Garrott, Planning Director; Erika Senna, Budget and Operations Director; Jason Pierce, Infrastructure Engineering Director; Amy Agredano, Senior Human Resources Analyst; Tricia Hinton-Potter, Human Resources Director; Erika Delaney Lew, Senior Assistant City Attorney; Keith Evans, Deputy Police Chief; Greg Reeves, Deputy Police Chief; Todd Barnes, Communications Director; Joanna Chavez, Executive Assistant; Patti Ellis, Administrative Specialist; Kristen Rosenbaum, City Clerk; and Lori Leppek, Assistant City Clerk.

5. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Councilmember Martinez requested to remove Item 6B from the Agenda and move it to a later Council meeting during Hispanic Heritage Month.

Mayor Kulmann requested to add a resolution conveying the City Council's gratitude and appreciation to Chief Terrence Gordon for his many contributions during the past four years of dedicated service to the City of Thornton and his nearly thirty-year career in the police service as Item 6D on the Agenda.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER HENSON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER UNREIN TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY A ROLL CALL VOTE OF THE COUNCIL.

6. PRESENTATIONS

- A. A resolution commending Mary Payne for her service on the Thornton Active Adult Board and Thornton Arts, Sciences and Humanities Council Board of Directors.

COUNCILMEMBER UNREIN INTRODUCED, READ IN ITS ENTIRETY, AND MOVED TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION COMMENDING MARY PAYNE FOR HER SERVICE ON THE THORNTON ACTIVE ADULT BOARD AND THORNTON

ARTS, SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER HENSON, DISCUSSED, AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY A ROLL CALL VOTE OF THE COUNCIL.

Mayor Kulman thanked Ms. Payne for her service and presented her with two plaques.

- C. A resolution declaring the week of September 8 – 14, 2024, as National Suicide Prevention Week and the month of September as National Suicide Prevention Month in the City of Thornton, Colorado.

COUNCILMEMBER RUSSELL INTRODUCED, READ IN ITS ENTIRETY, AND MOVED TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 8 – 14, 2024, AS NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION WEEK AND THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER AS NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH IN THE CITY OF THORNTON, COLORADO. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER HENSON, DISCUSSED, AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY A ROLL CALL VOTE OF THE COUNCIL.

- D. A resolution conveying the City Council's gratitude and appreciation to Chief Terrence Gordon for his many contributions during the past four years of dedicated service to the City of Thornton and his nearly thirty-year career in the police service.

MAYOR KULMANN INTRODUCED, READ IN ITS ENTIRETY, AND MOVED TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION CONVEYING THE CITY COUNCIL'S GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION TO CHIEF TERRENCE GORDON FOR HIS MANY CONTRIBUTIONS DURING THE PAST FOUR YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE CITY OF THORNTON AND HIS NEARLY THIRTY-YEAR CAREER IN THE POLICE SERVICE. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER HENSON, DISCUSSED, AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY A ROLL CALL VOTE OF THE COUNCIL.

Mayor Kulmann thanked Chief Gordon for his service and presented him with a plaque.

7. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Dominic Gargano, 13663 Dexter Street, addressed Council regarding traffic safety on Dexter Street in the Homestead Hills Subdivision.

Mary Payne, Ward 3, spoke about her involvement with the City and encouraged everyone to take an active role in their community.

Tom Mollendor, Ward 1, addressed Council regarding the Barrell and Beer Festival held this past Saturday and stated he would miss Mary Payne and Chief Gordon.

Lars Flint Gessert, Ward 2, addressed Council regarding litter and weeds along the sidewalk from Pecos Park to STEM Launch and from STEM Launch to Thornton Parkway.

Sandra Wolfe, Ward 1, spoke about Chief Gordon's retirement, his impact on the community, and the community continuing to move forward.

Tom Lampo, no address provided, spoke about change in cities and the two national conventions, prayed for the community, and read from the Bible.

Eliza Namazi, Ward 2, addressed Council regarding Council behavior.

Danny Kulmann, Ward 2, addressed Council regarding Council behavior and the upcoming election and presented a slide.

Karin Baker, no address provided, spoke about Chief Gordon's retirement and his impact on the community and addressed Council regarding Council behavior.

Suzie Martinez, no address provided, addressed Council regarding Council behavior and camping bans.

Any individual, who did not provide a name or address, provided information on the Dia de los Muertos subcommittee virtual meeting tomorrow at 6 p.m. and future meetings and encouraged community input for the event.

8. COUNCIL COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS

Councilmember Unrein reported on events and a meeting he attended, spoke about Item 12A on this evening's Agenda, and provided information on the upcoming 2024 Cops and Community Golf Scramble at Thorncreek Golf Course on September 8.

Councilmember Acunto gave a shout out to his daughter during her recovery from surgery, addressed a public comment made during Audience Participation this evening, provided information on the upcoming Ward 4 Ice Cream Social this Thursday, wished everyone a good evening, and congratulated Chief Gordon.

Councilmember Russell reported on events he attended, spoke about the hiring process for the City Manager and thanked everyone involved, and provided information on the upcoming Ward 4 Ice Cream Social this Thursday at Fallbrook Farms at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Pro Tem Bigelow reported on an event she attended and provided information on the upcoming Ward 4 Ice Cream Social this Thursday.

Councilmember Martinez reported on meetings he attended, spoke about the hiring process for the new City Manager and thanked everyone involved, and addressed public comments made during Audience Participation this evening.

Councilmember Henson reported on an event and meetings she attended; spoke about the August 20 Planning Session, sewage drainage, Labor Day, and getting involved and leaning into the community; and addressed public comments made during Audience Participation this evening. She also spoke about the hiring process for the new City Manager and thanked everyone involved.

Councilmember Ayala spoke about those in the community with hearing impairments and improving accessibility, encouraged everyone to reach out to Council with any ideas regarding hearing accessibility, and stated that March 3 is Hearing Impaired Awareness Day. She also spoke about the hiring process for the new City Manager and thanked everyone involved.

Councilmember Sandgren reported on events and meetings she attended, thanked Councilmember Ayala for her comments regarding hearing and staff for all they are doing to assist with accessibility, addressed public comments made during Audience Participation this evening, spoke about the ballot initiative to amend the City Charter, and read an article from the Thornton City Voice.

Mayor Pro Tem Bigelow raised a Point of Order.

Councilmember Sandgren continued to read an article from the Thornton City Voice and wished everyone a happy Peach Day, Pots de Crème Day, and Just Because Day.

The City Attorney provided clarification on how the ballot initiatives pros and cons will be distributed to residents.

Mayor Kulmann reported on a board and commission vacancy and City employment opportunities; thanked staff for all the City's summer events, those who spoke during Audience Participation this evening and stayed for Council Comments, Councilmember Martinez for his comments regarding hateful language, and Councilmember Sandgren for her comments regarding the ballot initiative; and addressed public comments made during Audience Participation this evening.

Councilmember Henson raised a Point of Information.

9. STAFF REPORTS

A. Thornton Water Project and Capital Improvement Projects Update.

Jason Pierce, Infrastructure Engineering Director, presented slide and information and answered questions from Council on this item.

The City Attorney clarified Robert's Rules of Order.

There was discussion between the City Attorney and Council.

Councilmember Sandgren raised a Point of Order.

There was discussion among Council.

10. CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER UNREIN AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER RUSSELL TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR AS PRESENTED.

The City Clerk read into the record the titles of the ordinances contained on the Consent Calendar.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY A ROLL CALL VOTE OF THE COUNCIL.

THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL DOCUMENTS WERE APPROVED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR:

- A. A Motion approving the Minutes of the August 13, 2024 Regular and the August 15, 2024 and August 16, 2024 Special City Council meetings.
- B. An ordinance approving the Annexation of approximately 2.174 acres of property situated in the northwest quarter of Section 25, Township 2 South, Range 68 West of the sixth Principal Meridian, County of Adams, State of Colorado, generally located in the southern half of the East 88th Avenue Right-of-Way between York Street and Welby Road/Steele Street (88th Avenue and York Street Annexation). (Second Reading)
- C. An ordinance approving a Zoning Amendment for approximately 2.174 acres of land generally located in the southern half of the East 88th Avenue Right-of-Way between York Street and Welby Road/Steele Street (88th Avenue and York Street Annexation). (Second Reading)
- D. A resolution approving the Second Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement with Rangeview Library District for construction and operations of a Community Center Library and approving a Lease Agreement for the library premises.
- E. A resolution accepting the City of Thornton Firefighters' Old Hire Pension Plan Annual Report of the plan's financial status.
- F. A resolution approving the City's Notice of Intent to Withdraw from the Rocky Flats Stewardship Council.

11. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

12. ACTION ITEMS


- A. A resolution appointing Tansy Hayward as City Manager for the City of Thornton, effective October 21, 2024, and approving the associated Employment Agreement.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MAYOR PRO TEM BIGELOW AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER HENSON TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION APPOINTING TANSY HAYWARD AS CITY MANAGER FOR THE CITY OF THORNTON, EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 21, 2024, AND APPROVING THE ASSOCIATED EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT. MOTION WAS DISCUSSED AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY A ROLL CALL VOTE OF THE COUNCIL.

13. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER RUSSELL AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER UNREIN TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:17 P.M. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOICE VOTE OF THE COUNCIL.

Respectfully submitted,


Lori Leppek, Assistant City Clerk

ATTEST:

Mayor at time of approval

Approved at the September 10, 2024 City Council meeting.