

A. A motion to approve the Minutes for the April 8, 2025 Regular City Council meeting.

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

Meeting Date: April 22, 2025	Agenda Item: 12{{ite m.number}}	Agenda Location: CONSENT CALENDAR	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 st Reading <input type="checkbox"/> 2 nd Reading
Subject: A motion to approve the Minutes for the April 8, 2025 Regular City Council meeting.			
Department Head Review: Robb Kolstad, Deputy City Manager	Approved by: Tansy Hayward, City Manager		Ordinance previously introduced by: _____
Presenter(s): Kristen N. Rosenbaum, City Clerk			

SYNOPSIS:

The official Minutes of the April 8 2025 Regular City Council meeting have been prepared by the City Clerk's Office and are hereby submitted for Council's approval.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the Minutes as requested.

BUDGET/STAFF IMPLICATIONS:

None.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the Minutes as submitted.
2. Approve the Minutes with corrections requested by Council.

BACKGROUND (ANALYSIS/NEXT STEPS/HISTORY): (includes previous City Council action)

ATTACHMENTS:

MINUTES
THORNTON CITY COUNCIL
1609TH REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 8, 2025

1. CALL TO ORDER – By Mayor Jan Kulmann at 7:00 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 – Presentation of the Colors by the Thornton Honor Guard.
3. MOMENT OF SILENCE
4. LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT
5. ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL – Those Present were: Mayor Jan Kulmann; Mayor Pro Tem Karen Bigelow; and Councilmembers Roberta Ayala, Justin Martinez, Chris Russell, Cherish Salazar, and Tony Unrein. Virtual – Councilmember David Acunto. Absent – Councilmember Jessica Sandgren.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT – Tansy Hayward, City Manager; Tami Yellico, City Attorney; Joyce Hunt, Deputy City Manager; Robb Kolstad, Deputy City Manager; Randy Grant, City Development Director; Chris Molison, Executive Director of Management Services; Brett Henry, Executive Director of Utilities and Infrastructure; Doug Romig, Parks, Recreation and Community Programs Director; Greg Reeves, Interim Police Chief; Stephen Kelley, Fire Chief; Kim Newhart, Finance Director; Adam Krueger, Economic Development Director; Jason O’Shea, Deputy City Development Director; Mike Garrott, Planning Director; Erika Senna, Budget and Operations Director; Tood Barnes, Communications Director; Karen Widomski, Long Range Planning Manager; Lori Hight, Senior Planner; Kyle Kearns, Senior Planner; Tiffany Sorice, Presiding Municipal Judge; Jessica Romito, Active Adult Program Manager; Jessica Whitney, Senior Assistant City Attorney; Warren Campbell, Current Planning Manager; Todd Rullo, Deputy Infrastructure Director; Keith Evans, Deputy Police Chief; Paul McMahon, Landscape Review and Inspection Manager; Erika Delaney Lew, Senior Assistant City Manager; Kristen Rosenbaum, City Clerk; and Lori Leppek, Assistant City Clerk.

6. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

7. PRESENTATIONS

- A. Administration of the Oath of Office to Cherish Salazar.

Cherish Salazar was sworn in as the Ward 1 City Councilmember by Honorable Judge Tiffany Sorice.

- B. Reception.

The meeting recessed at 7:09 p.m. and reconvened at 7:40 p.m.

- C. A resolution recognizing April 2025 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in the City of Thornton, Colorado.

COUNCILMEMBER AYALA INTRODUCED, READ IN ITS ENTIRETY, AND MOVED TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING APRIL 2025 AS SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH IN THE CITY OF THORNTON, COLORADO. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MAYOR PRO TEM BIGELOW, DISCUSSED, AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY A ROLL CALL VOTE OF THE COUNCIL.

- D. A resolution recognizing the week of April 6-12, 2025 as National Crime Victims' Rights Week in the City of Thornton, Colorado.

COUNCILMEMBER ACUNTO INTRODUCED, READ IN ITS ENTIRETY, AND MOVED TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE WEEK OF APRIL 6-12, 2025 AS NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK IN THE CITY OF THORNTON, COLORADO. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER UNREIN, DISCUSSED, AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY A ROLL CALL VOTE OF THE COUNCIL.

- E. A resolution declaring April 2025 as Arab American Heritage Month in the City of Thornton, Colorado.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MAYOR PRO TEM BIGELOW AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MARTINEZ TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION DECLARING APRIL 2025 AS ARAB AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH IN THE CITY OF THORNTON, COLORADO. MOTION PASSED WAS DISCUSSED AND UNANIMOUSLY BY A ROLL CALL VOTE OF THE COUNCIL.

- F. A resolution declaring April 2025 as Autism Acceptance Month in the City of Thornton, Colorado.

COUNCILMEMBER MARTINEZ INTRODUCED, READ IN ITS ENTIRETY, AND MOVED TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION DECLARING APRIL 2025 AS AUTISM ACCEPTANCE MONTH IN THE CITY OF THORNTON, COLORADO. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER UNREIN, DISCUSSED, AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY A ROLL CALL VOTE OF THE COUNCIL.

- G. A resolution recognizing April 22, 2025 as Earth Day in the City of Thornton, Colorado.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER RUSSELL AND SECONDED BY MAYOR PRO TEM BIGELOW TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING APRIL 22, 2025 AS EARTH DAY IN THE CITY OF THORNTON, COLORADO. MOTION WAS DISCUSSED AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY A ROLL CALL VOTE OF THE COUNCIL.

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS

At this time, individuals wishing to provide testimony during the Public Hearing were sworn in by the City Clerk.

- A. A public hearing concerning a resolution acknowledging Council's acceptance of the major changes proposed to the City's Development Standards as set forth in five new proposed Chapter 18 articles including Article 1, General Provisions; Article 2, Development Review Procedures; Article 8, Landscape Standards; Article 10, Subdivision Standards; and Article 12, Nonconformities.

The Public Hearing was opened at 7:56 p.m.

Lori Hight, Senior Planner, stated she was previously sworn. The notice of the hearing published on the City's official website and at four physical locations as required by City Code was previously submitted electronically to the City Clerk to be made part of the record and marked as City's Exhibit 1.

Ms. Hight and Kyle Kearns, Senior Planner, stated he was previously sworn, presented slides and information on the proposed amendments, which were later marked as City's Exhibit 2.

Ms. Hight and Mr. Kearns answered questions from Council regarding neighborhood meetings, conceptual site plans changing to preliminary plans, administrative adjustments, and minimum lot size standards.

The City Manager provided clarification about a question from Council regarding communication between staff and the Planning Commission.

Ms. Hight answered the question from Council regarding communication between staff and the Planning Commission.

The following individual signed up to speak but did not indicate whether in support of or opposition to the proposed resolution:

Rose Verbos, 3122 E. 161st Place, was not present.

The Public Hearing was closed at 8:40 p.m.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MAYOR PRO TEM BIGELOW AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MARTINEZ TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING COUNCIL'S ACCEPTANCE OF THE MAJOR CHANGES PROPOSED TO THE CITY'S DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS AS SET FORTH IN FIVE NEW PROPOSED CHAPTER 18 ARTICLES INCLUDING ARTICLE 1, GENERAL PROVISIONS; ARTICLE 2, DEVELOPMENT REVIEW PROCEDURES; ARTICLE 8, LANDSCAPE STANDARDS; ARTICLE 10, SUBDIVISION STANDARDS; AND ARTICLE 12, NONCONFORMITIES. MOTION WAS DISCUSSED AND PASSED BY A MAJORITY ROLL CALL VOTE OF THE COUNCIL AS FOLLOWS:

Ayes: Acunto, Ayala, Kulmann, Russell, and Unrein

Nays: Bigelow, Martinez, and Salazar

9. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Steven Mathias, 2076 E. 102nd Avenue, spoke about Sexual Assault Awareness Month and addressed Council regarding registered offenders and Council behavior.

Karen Baker, no address provided, was not present.

Tom Lampo, no address provided, addressed Council regarding the City's land acknowledgment.

Jacque Phillips, no address provided, spoke about the change in process for filling a Councilmember vacancy, thanked one of the candidates that ran in the City's recent special election, and congratulated Councilmember Salazar on her election.

Kathy Henson, Lambertson Lakes, congratulated Councilmember Salazar on her election, reflected on when she first met Councilmember Salazar, and thanked one of the candidates that ran in the City's recent special election. She also spoke about the change in process for filling a Councilmember vacancy, the City's land acknowledgment, listening to all voices and embracing the City's identity, and thanked Council for all the work they're doing.

An individual, who did not provide a name or address, addressed Council regarding Council behavior, resolutions that bring awareness to an issue, and previous public comments made this evening.

10. COUNCIL COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS

Councilmember Martinez reported on events and meetings he attended, spoke about walking along 84th Avenue with Councilmember Salazar, and congratulated Councilmember Salazar on her election.

Councilmember Salazar thanked those who supported her campaign and one of the other candidates, stated she is honored to be on Council, and spoke about her goals while on Council.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER SALAZAR THAT THE COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT LANGUAGE, EXACTLY AS WRITTEN IN ATTACHMENT C OF ITEM 13E FROM THE DECEMBER 3, 2024 COUNCIL MEETING, BE ADDED TO THE APRIL 22, 2025 COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA AS AN ORDINANCE FOR CONSIDERATION. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MARTINEZ, DISCUSSED, AND PASSED BY A MAJORITY ROLL CALL VOTE OF THE COUNCIL AS FOLLOWS:

Ayes: Ayala, Bigelow, Martinez, Russell, and Salazar

Nays: Acunto, Kulmann, and Unrein

Councilmember Ayala spoke about democracy, elected officials and making decisions in the best interest of the community, resource and funding challenges, and continuing to have conversations about bringing policies forward and dedicating resources that benefit people in the City.

Councilmember Unrein reported on an event he attended and provided information on the Veterans' Memorial Paver Brick Program, the City's Veterans' Memorial, roadway construction on Quebec Street between 120th and 124th Avenues, and the traffic signal at CO 7 and Holly Street.

Councilmember Acunto stated last week's 27J Capital facility Fee Foundation meeting was cancelled and will be rescheduled, thanked Councilmember Unrein for the update on the road construction in Ward 3, and addressed public comments made during Audience Participation this evening.

Councilmember Russell reported on an event he attended, recognized Rocky Top Middle School's School Resource Officer (SRO) Brandon Roberts for being awarded the Safe2Tell Gold Star Program recognition, spoke about April being National Fair Housing Month and what he does to support this initiative, and addressed public comments made during Audience Participation this evening.

Mayor Pro Tem Bigelow reported on a meeting she attended, thanked House District 31 Representative Jacque Phillips and Adams County Commissioner Kathy Henson for the work they do for the City and extended community, welcomed Councilmember Salazar to the Council, and provided information on the upcoming Eggcessible Eggstravaganza on April 19 from 9 a.m. to noon at Community Park.

Mayor Kulmann reported on board and commission vacancies and events and meetings she attended and provided information about the Rocky Flats site and the Department of Energy's plans after the dissolution of the Rocky Flats Stewardship Council.

11. STAFF REPORTS

A. Thornton Active Adult Advisory Board Annual Report.

Bill Nelson, Thornton Active Adult Board Chairperson, and Jessica Romito, Active Adult Program Manager, presented slides and information and answered questions from Council on this item.

B. Commercial Projects Quarterly Update.

Adam Krueger, Economic Development Director, presented slides and information and answered questions from Council on this item.

12. CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilmember Ayala requested to remove Item 12B from the Consent Calendar and to place it on Action Items as Item 13A in order for Council to discuss the alternative resolution, previously provided to Council and the public, and take action.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MAYOR PRO TEM BIGELOW AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER RUSSELL TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR AS AMENDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY A ROLL CALL VOTE OF THE COUNCIL.

THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL DOCUMENTS WERE APPROVED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR:

- A. A motion to approve the Minutes for the March 18, 2025 Regular City Council meeting.
- C. A resolution expressing the intent of the City of Thornton to be reimbursed expenses relating to financing construction of the Thornton Water Project and improvements related to per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances mitigation.

13. ACTION ITEMS

- A. A resolution approving six Youth Event Funding Requests and event sponsorship requests from Laradon, Rocky Mountain Partnership, and Growing Home.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER AYALA AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MARTINEZ TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION APPROVING SIX YOUTH EVENT FUNDING REQUESTS AND EVENT SPONSORSHIP REQUESTS FROM LARADON, ROCKY MOUNTAIN PARTNERSHIP, AND GROWING HOME. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Lori Leppek, Assistant City Clerk

ATTEST:

Mayor at time of approval

Approved at the April 22, 2025 City Council meeting.