



City of Colorado Springs

City Hall
107 N. Nevada Avenue
Colorado Springs, CO
80903

Meeting Minutes Council Work Session

City Council meetings are broadcast live on Channel 18. In accordance with the ADA, anyone requiring an auxiliary aid to participate in this meeting should make the request as soon as possible but no later than 48 hours before the scheduled event.

Monday, September 12, 2022

10:00 AM

Council Chambers

How to Watch the Meeting

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- Stratus IQ Channel 76 / 99 (Streaming)

Estimated agenda item times are provided for planning purposes and do not constitute notice of a specific time for any item. Items may take more or less time than estimated. City Council may amend the order of items.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

- Present** 8 - Councilmember Yolanda Avila, Councilmember Dave Donelson, Councilmember Stephannie Fortune, President Pro Tem Randy Helms, Councilmember Nancy Henjum, Councilmember Bill Murray, President Tom Strand, and Councilmember Wayne Williams
- Excused** 1 - Councilmember Mike O'Malley

Councilmember Murray attended the meeting virtually.

2. Changes to Agenda

There were no Changes to Agenda.

3. Regular Meeting Comments

Dena Lozano, Deputy City Clerk, stated item 4B.H. will be removed from the September 13, 2022 City Council meeting Consent Calendar in order for staff to identify corrections. Consensus of City Council agreed to these changes.

4. Review of Previous Meeting Minutes

- 4.A. [22-572](#) City Council Work Session Meeting Minutes August 22, 2022

Presenter:
Sarah B. Johnson, City Clerk

Attachments: [8-22-22 City Council Work Session Meeting Minutes Final](#)

Councilmember Fortune requested her comments regarding the Ordinance declining the participation of the City of Colorado Springs in the Colorado Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance (FAMLI) Program be amended to include that employees would be charged if the City participated in the program and the employee survey which was conducted indicated that the employees did not want to participate in the program. Dena Lozano, Deputy City Clerk, agreed to make those changes.

The minutes of the August 22, 2022 Work Session were approved as amended by Consensus of City Council.

5. Executive Session

5A. Open

There was no Open Executive Session.

5B. Closed

There was no Closed Executive Session.

6. Presentations for General Information

6.A. [22-470](#) 2021 Annual Coroner's Report

Presenter:

Dr. Leon Kelly, El Paso County Coroner

Attachments: [El Paso County Coroner's 2021-annual-report](#)

Dr. Leon Kelly, El Paso County Coroner, provided the El Paso County Coroner Annual Report. He gave an overview of the total cases investigated, total autopsies performed, why autopsies are performed, what an autopsy entails, what deaths are investigated, and El Paso County revenue/citizen cost breakdown. He provided a breakdown of autopsies performed in nearby counties, manners of death, deaths due to natural causes, accidents, motor vehicle crashes, drug related accidents, homicide, and suicide. Dr. Kelly identified the number of child fatalities, homeless deaths, firearms related deaths, and organ/tissue donations.

Councilmember Fortune asked if Dr. Kelly will make a public comment regarding the increase in the number of autopsies required. Dr. Kelly stated he does not believe there is a need for autopsies if the information is not used to make changes to improve lives.

Councilmember Fortune requested additional information be provided regarding deaths due to chronic alcohol use and drug use. Dr. Kelly agreed

to provide that information.

Councilmember Williams asked how the City 's numbers compare to Denver, CO. Dr. Kelly stated they will look into that.

President Strand asked if a person could become ill from touching fentanyl. Dr. Kelly stated that generally fentanyl has to be ingested in some form, but it is always best to be cautious when handling it.

Councilmember Williams requested a definition road conditions. Dr. Kelly stated it could be icy conditions, loose gravel, etc.

Councilmember Avila asked if they have the statistics of the LGBTQIA+ community and teen suicide. Dr. Kelly stated they do obtain that information from the child Self Injury Tool Survey.

President Strand asked how many organs a relatively health person can donate. Dr. Kelly stated that there are many including bones and tissues.

Councilmember Donelson asked how many total deaths were there in El Paso County in 2021. Dr. Kelly stated approximately 6,000 to 6,500.

Councilmember Donelson asked what the leading cause of death is. Dr. Kelly stated heart disease.

Councilmember Donelson requested a breakdown of the number of staff in the Coroner's Office. Dr. Kelly stated there are four toxicologists, ten death investigators, five medical examiners, three full-time and two part-time morgue technicians, and one histologist.

Councilmember Henjum asked if El Paso County is a Home Rule county. Dr. Kelly stated it is not and they are bound by Colorado State Statutes.

6.B. [22-549](#) Voices of Grief Support and Education Center

Presenter:

Kathy Sparnins, Executive Director, Voices of Grief Support and Education Center

Attachments: [Voices of Grief 09-12-22 v4](#)

Kathy Sparnins, Executive Director, Voices of Grief Support and Education Center, presented an overview of the 2021 Voices of Grief Support and Education Center and identified their mission, their vision, consequences of unattended grief, risks of complicated grief, local needs in the community, changing the culture of support, difficulty of finding appropriate support.

Rachel Weiskittle, Assistant Professor of Psychology, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs (UCCS), and Lisa Stone, doctoral candidate in clinical psychology, UCCS, provided an overview of the UCCS grief surveys and results.

Ms. Sparnins went over their three-fold model, upcoming events, how City Council can support their work, and identified their team.

President Pro Helms asked if they have connected with Janet Edwards, Mortuary Affairs Officer, United States Air Force Academy. Ms. Sparnins stated they have not, but they are grateful for the recommendation and will be reaching out to her.

Councilmember Williams requested a copy of the survey. Ms. Sparnins agreed to provide that information.

Councilmember Avila spoke about the grieving process in Mexico versus the United States.

6.C. [22-550](#) Pikes Peak Suicide Prevention

Presenter:

Cassandra Walton, Executive Director, Pikes Peak Suicide Prevention and Co-Chair of The Suicide Prevention Collaborative of El Paso County

Attachments: [CSCCCollabSlides9-12.pptx](#)
[Personal Story of Suicide Loss](#)
[22-23CollaborativeActivities](#)

Cassandra Walton, Executive Director, Pikes Peak Suicide Prevention and Co-Chair of The Suicide Prevention Collaborative of El Paso County, presented an overview of The Suicide Prevention Collaborative of El Paso County members, Colorado National Collaborative, their message to the community, priority, suicide prevention, special populations, pillars, and accomplishments,

Councilmember Fortune spoke about her experience with suicide prevention working for the Department of Public Health and Environment.

Councilmember Henjum asked which employers have implemented suicide prevention training. Ms. Walton stated Pikes Peak Library District has implemented it into their trainings and El Paso County Sheriff's Department is working on implementing the Gatekeeper Training Program.

President Pro Tem Helms asked if the Colorado Springs Health Foundation (CSHF) could partner in this program. Ms. Walton stated they

are working toward that through grant applications and collaboration with the Voices of Grief Support and Education Center.

7. Staff and Appointee Reports

7.A. [22-622](#) Summary of the evaluation of FLEET Software

Presenter:

Travis Easton, Public Works Director

Travis Easton, Public Works Director, provided a summary of the evaluation of FLEET software.

President Strand asked if the FLEET software could be incorporated into the City's current software used for evacuation. Mr. Easton stated from the transportation model perspective, FLEET does not have any set standards and does not justify the use for transportation.

Councilmember Murray asked how traffic could be reduced at choke points. Mr. Easton stated they are addressing the capacity and public safety issues on roadways where needed.

Councilmember Henjum stated she supports incorporating FLEET into the current program.

7.B. [22-571](#) Agenda Planner Review

Presenter:

Sarah B. Johnson, City Clerk

Attachments: [Agenda Planner Review 9-12-22](#)

There were no comments on this item.

8. Items for Introduction

8.A. [22-569](#) An Ordinance Creating Section 451 (Retail Delivery Fees) of Part 4 (Exempt Transactions, Commodities and Persons; Deductions) of Article 7 (Sales and Use Tax) of Chapter 2 (Business Licensing, Liquor Regulation and Taxation) of the Code of the City of Colorado Springs 2001, as amended, pertaining to Retail Delivery Fees

Presenter:

Charae McDaniel, Chief Financial Officer

Attachments: [SalesTax-ExemptDeliveryFeeORD-2022-08-24](#)

Charae McDaniel, Chief Financial Officer, presented the Ordinance creating a new sales tax exemption for the retail delivery fees (\$0.27)

enacted by the State of Colorado which was approved by SB21-260 which went into effect July 1, 2022.

President Strand asked if the \$.27 fee is per package or per delivery. Ms. McDaniel stated it is per delivery.

Councilmember Williams expressed support of the exemption.

Councilmember Henjum asked what the total sales tax revenue would have been if not exempted. Ms. McDaniel stated she estimates approximately \$400,000.

9. Items Under Study

There were no Items Under Study.

10. Councilmember Reports, Open Discussion and Takeaways

President Pro Tem Helms honored the emergency service personnel, the military, and Civilians who risked their lives during the events of 9/11.

President Strand and City Council observed a moment of silence for the victims of 9/11 and City of Arvada Police Officer Dillon Michael Vakoff who lost his life in the line of duty.

Councilmember Williams stated he and Councilmember Avila attended the Mitchell High School 9/11 remembrance event, he and several other Councilmembers attended the Colorado Springs Utilities (CSU) Water Tour, he attended the Colorado State Fair and Legislative Barbeque, the Pikes Peak Posse Livestock Auction, and the Mayor's State of the City Address.

Councilmember Henjum stated she attended the CSU Water Tour, participated in the Springs in Bloom program, the Council of Neighborhoods and Organizations (CONO) University, and she and President Pro Tem Helms were able to ride in a hot air balloon for the Labor Day Lift-Off.

President Pro Tem Helms stated the 2022 Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial service will be held September 17, 2022 at 11:00 AM, at Memorial Park and honored Leroy Homer, United States Air Force Academy (USAFA) graduate, who was a United Flight 93 pilot who defended the cockpit

during the attack on 9/11. He stated the USAFA football team won the first two home games.

Councilmember Avila stated she attended the La Veta annual festival, CSU Water Tour, Labor Day Lift-Off, Mitchell High School 9/11 remembrance event, 9/11 event in Memorial Park, and rode the Manitou Springs Cog Railway.

Councilmember Donelson stated he attended the retirement ceremonies of Colorado Spring Police Department (CSPD) Commander Scott Whittington, CSPD Detective Joe Frabbiele, and will be attending the memorial service of City of Arvada Police Officer Dillon Michael Vakoff.

Councilmember Fortune stated a very prominent business titan of the community, Sam Guadagnoli passed away this weekend and highlighted some of his contributions which made huge impacts to the community and that she attended the Meadows Park Community Center bike ride to Ivywild.

Councilmember Murray stated he received communication from a twenty-three-year retiree from the CSPD who has some serious concerns regarding citizen security and safety.

President Strand stated Sam Masias, long time contributor to CSU and Rex Adams, Chairman of the Utilities Policy Advisory Committee, recently passed away. He stated that he attended the Pikes Peak Pickle Ball Association at Monument Valley Park, and announced that Vanessa Zink has been chosen as the new Chief Communication Officer.

11. Adjourn

There being no further business to come before City Council, Council adjourned.

Sarah B. Johnson, City Clerk