



City of Colorado Springs

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

Meeting Minutes City Council Work Session

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Monday, April 13, 2026

9:00 AM

Council Chambers

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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 7 - Councilmember Ken Casey, President Lynette Crow-Iverson, Councilmember Dave Donelson, Councilmember Nancy Henjum, Councilmember David Leinweber, Councilmember Roland Rainey Jr., and Councilmember Brandy Williams

Excused 2 - Councilmember Kimberly Gold, and President Pro Tem Brian Risley

Councilmember Rainey and Councilmember Williams moved to virtual attendance at 1:00 PM.

Councilmember Henjum left the meeting at 1:00 PM.

1.A. [26-155](#) Oath of Office for Kenneth Casey to serve the unexpired term of the City Council District 2 member until the April 6, 2027, General Municipal Election

Presenter:

Lynette Crow-Iverson, City Council President and At-Large Council Representative

HayDen Kane, Chief Municipal Judge

President Crow-Iverson introduced the Confirmation of Kenneth Casey as City Council District 2 member.

HayDen Kane, Chief Municipal Judge, administered the Oath of Office.

Councilmember Casey expressed gratitude for the Lord, his wife Lieutenant Colonel Retired Deborah Casey, his fellow Councilmembers, the residents of District 2, and the opportunity to serve the City.

2. Changes to Agenda

There were no Changes to Agenda.

3. Regular Meeting Comments

There were no Regular Meeting Comments.

4. Review of Previous Meeting Minutes

4.A. [26-141](#) City Council Work Session Meeting Minutes March 23, 2026

Presenter:

Sarah B. Johnson, City Clerk

Attachments: [3-23-26 City Council Work Session Meeting Minutes Final](#)

The minutes of the March 23, 2026 Work Session were approved by Consensus of City Council.

5. Executive Session

5A. Open

5A.A. [26-150](#) Christopher D. Grant v. Larry Downard, Richard S. Hallman, Jeremy Wood, Celina M McAlpine Case No. 2026CV87

Presenter:

Marc Smith, Acting City Attorney

Attachments: [26-150 Council Memo Grant](#)

Sara Brewen, Senior Attorney, City Attorney's Office, stated with the recommendation of the Civil Action Investigation Committee, the City is requesting authorization to defend the officers and employee.

President Crow-Iverson polled City Council regarding authorizing the City to represent the officers and employee. Consensus of City Council agreed.

5A.B. [26-147](#) Kristy Morgan v. City of Colorado Springs, Humane Society of the Pikes Peak Region, Sean Alexander Medina, Gina Seago, Thomas Alan Baccarella, Charlens N. Calloway, Nicole Michon, Aubrey Barton Travis Flores and Jennifer Rainey, Case No. 25-cv-03529

Presenter:

Marc Smith, Acting City Attorney

Attachments: [26-147 City Council Memo Morgan](#)

Sara Brewen, Senior Attorney, City Attorney's Office, stated with the recommendation of the Civil Action Investigation Committee, the City is requesting authorization to defend the officers.

President Crow-Iverson polled City Council regarding authorizing the City to represent the officers. Consensus of City Council agreed.

5B. Closed

5B.A. [26-154](#)

In accord with City Charter art. III, § 3-60(d) and its incorporated Colorado Open Meetings Act, C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4) (b), the City Council, in Open Session, is to determine whether it will hold a Closed Executive Session. The issue to be discussed involves consultation with the City Attorney for the purpose of receiving legal advice regarding the Colorado Voting Rights Act.

The President of Council shall poll the City Councilmembers, and, upon consent of two-thirds of the members present, may conduct a Closed Executive Session. In the event any City Councilmember is participating electronically or telephonically in the Closed Executive Session, each City Councilmember participating in the Closed Executive Session shall affirmatively state for the record that no other member of the public not authorized to participate in the Closed Executive Session is present or able to hear the matters discussed as part of the Closed Executive Session. If consent to the Closed Executive Session is not given, the item may be discussed in Open Session or withdrawn from consideration.

Presenter:

Marc Smith, Acting City Attorney

Attachments: [26-154 Closed Session Memo \(Voting Rights Act\) 4.6.26](#)

Sara Brewen, Senior Attorney, City Attorney's Office, stated that in accord with City Charter art. III, § 3-60(d) and its incorporated Colorado Open Meetings Act, C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(b) and (e), the City Council, in Open Session, is to determine whether it will hold a Closed Executive Session. The issue to be discussed involves consultation with the City Attorney for the purpose of receiving legal advice regarding the Colorado Voting Rights Act.

President Crow-Iverson polled City Council regarding the desire to proceed with an electronic Closed Executive Session. At least two-thirds of City Council agreed to proceed in a Closed Executive Session.

6. Presentations for General Information

6.A. [26-062](#) Safe Passage Presentation

Presenter:

Mo Basenberg, Executive Director, Safe Passage

Attachments: [Safe Passage Presentation](#)

Mo Basenberg, Executive Director, Safe Passage, provided an overview of Safe Passage, April - Child Abuse Prevention Month, reports of child abuse/neglect in El Paso County, Children's Advocacy Center (CAC), new resources in 2025, what they do, impact, demographics, and funding.

Commander Daniel Thompson went over the Colorado Springs Police Department (CSPD) Special Victims Section, CSPD Crimes Against Children and Forensic Interview Units, CSPD investigative methodology,

Ms. Basenberg went over awareness, advocacy, community collaboration, future plans, and recognized Commander Thompson for his service to children and families in the community.

Councilmember Rainey asked where they get the majority of their funding. Ms. Basenberg stated they have a great diversification of funding through state support, private foundations, grants, and fundraising events, but they are facing budget challenges due to the depreciation of their facility.

Councilmember Rainey asked what the steps of intake are for a child. Ms. Basenberg stated a mandated reporter such as school personnel calls the El Paso County Department of Human Services hotline or law enforcement's non-emergency number to identify that a child made a disclosure that something may have happened and if it is emergent, they will have come into Safe Passage immediately, and then the investigative process begins. She said they will contact a caregiver, they will assign a family support advocate, a forensic interviewer will meet with the child, then they will meet with a nurse, have a mental health screening, they will determine safety of the child, and there is a follow up within five to seven days.

Councilmember Rainey asked Commander Thompson if they experienced a significant impact as a result of the City's budget cuts. Commander Thompson stated they have had to be more diligent in how they have

deployed resources and the biggest impact has been on their overtime expenditure.

Several Councilmembers expressed support of the work Safe Passage.

Councilmember Casey asked if Colorado Springs has had disproportionately more cases/calls than like-sized cities. Ms. Basenberg stated El Paso County leads the way in the state, which has historically been the case for over ten years.

Councilmember Henjum stated she will be attending Safe Passage's fundraising luncheon on Thursday, April 16, 2026.

Councilmember Williams asked if every child in Safe Passage has a counseling session. Ms. Basenberg stated every child has the opportunity to meet with their mental health staff, but some children are not ready to meet with them in the moment, some may already have a mental health provider, some may be referred out to a mental health provider, and due to the complexity of the matter, the caseloads of the therapists are smaller than other clinicians.

Councilmember Leinweber asked how they deal with parental rights versus government influence. Ms. Basenberg stated she believes there was misinformation being communicated when she was a child regarding child abuse and they are working to educate children that threats are actually closer to home in positions of trust. Commander Thompson stated there needs to be safe boundaries within the family and if someone believes a child is in danger, they need to have the courage to step in and call 719-444-7000.

6.B. [26-145](#) Restoration of Acacia Park Bandshell

Presenter:

Michelle Winchell, Executive Director, Downtown Ventures; Director of Creative Economy, Downtown Partnership of Colorado Springs

Trevor Dierdorff, President, Rotary Club of Colorado Springs

Attachments: [2026-04-13 City-Council Acacia-Park-Bandshell](#)

Trevor Dierdorff, President, Rotary Club of Colorado Springs, provided an overview of the restoration of the Acacia Park Bandshell, the history of the bandshell, current condition, why this matters, community efforts, economic impact, the vision, collaborative funding model, and community partners.

Michelle Winchell, Director, Creative Economy for Downtown identified the Downtown Creative District, Elevate Downtown Plan, downtown residents,

economic impact, tourism breakdown, community/industry engagement, and draft site plan.

Kim King, Acting Director, Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Department (PRCS), provided an overview of the 2020 Acacia Park approved Master Plan. partnership with the PRCS, and Acacia Park Preferred Plan.

Mr. Dierdorff went over their vision of the restored Acacia Park Bandshell.

President asked what their funding mechanism and cost. Mr. Dierdorff stated they expect to receive state and federal funding as well as grants from local philanthropists and they expect to receive some numbers concerning the cost within the next few weeks.

Councilmember Williams and Councilmember Henjum expressed support of the project.

Councilmember Henjum asked what the Rotary Club's purpose and mission was. MR. Dierdorff stated Rotary International is the driver for ending polio worldwide and locally they have been focused on parks.

- 6.C.** [26-092](#) Cultural Office of the Pikes Peak Region (COPPeR) - 2025 year-end Lodgers and Auto Rental Tax (LART) contract update to City Council

Presenter:

Angela Seals, President and CEO, Cultural Office of the Pikes Peak Region

Attachments: [Cultural Office LART Full Year 2025 Report Slidedeck for City Council-4-13-26](#)

Angela Seals, President and CEO, Cultural Office of the Pikes Peak Region (COPPeR), presented the 2025 year-end Lodgers and Auto Rental Tax (LART) contract update. She provided an overview of their program focus, LART contract, cultural promotion/tourism, Art at COS, and developing their cultural destination.

There were no comments on this item.

- 6.D.** [26-091](#) Colorado Springs Sports Corp - 2025 year-end Lodgers and Auto Rental Tax (LART) contract update to City Council

Presenter:

Megan Leatham, President and CEO, Colorado Springs Sports Corp
Davis Tutt, Director of Sports Tourism & Olympic Engagement,
Colorado Springs Sports Corp

Attachments: [2025 LART - Sports Corp - Full Year Review - City Council Presentation 4-13-26](#)

Davis Tutt, Director of Sports Tourism and Olympic Engagement, CSSC, provided a brief overview of Colorado Springs Sports Corp (CSSC), their mission, organizational pillars, events, Olympic/Paralympic movement, sports tourism their key performance indicators (KPI), major 2025 sports tourism events, 2025 endorsed events, 2025 impact, economic impact of sports, 2025 major projects, 2026 Colorado High School State Championships, and 2026 outlook.

Councilmember Leinweber asked how CSSC is defending the Olympic City brand. Mr. Tutt stated they had to recognize where National Governing Bodies (NGB) did not feel supported and change that sentiment and they are constantly working on retention. Megan Leatham, President and CEO, CSSC, stated much of that speculation of loss is rumors and in the past five years, they have only lost one NGB, the USA Pentathlon with one employee.

Councilmember Leinweber asked how the City can offer world-class infrastructure for athletes. Ms. Leatham stated without the venues, it is really hard to bid on large-scale events because they do not have the basketball, volleyball, or baseball fields to bring in the very large youth tournaments, but they are doing what they can with the assets they have and are working with the Rocky Mountain Sports Ranch which is a massive indoor/outdoor sports complex. Mr. Tutt stated Colorado also does not have a state-level sports commission to offer financial support, but they are working towards this.

Councilmember Donelson expressed support of CSSC and what they have brought to the City.

7. Staff and Appointee Reports

7.A. [26-139](#) Agenda Planner Review

Presenter:

Sarah B. Johnson, City Clerk

Attachments: [Agenda Planner Review 4-13-26](#)

There were no comments on this item.

8. Items for Introduction

8.A. [26-137](#) A Resolution of the City of Colorado Springs consenting to the dissolution of the Evergreen Ridge Metropolitan District.

Related Files: N/A
Located in Council District 3

Presenter:
Allison Stocker, Senior Planner, City Planning Department
Kevin Walker, Planning Director, City Planning Department

Attachments: [Evergreen Ridge MD Dissolution Resolution](#)
[Attachment 1 Evergreen Ridge Board's Dissolution Resolution](#)
[Attachment 2 Evergreen Ridge Cover Memo from District](#)
[Attachment 3 Resolution 135-23 Approved Service Plan](#)
[Attachment 4 Approved Development Plan](#)
[Exhibit A Evergreen Ridge District Boundary Map](#)
[Evergreen Ridge MD WS Presentation](#)
[Evergreen Ridge MD CC Presentation](#)
[Signed Resolution 33-26](#)

Kevin Walker, Planning Director, City Planning Department, presented the Resolution consenting to the dissolution of the Evergreen Ridge Metropolitan District. He provided an overview of the district location, development of site, and statutory criteria.

Councilmember Donelson asked if the developer decided they do not need a metropolitan district and he will just pay for it directly himself. Mr. Walker confirmed he has, that no debt has been issued, and they will manage their common areas through a Homeowners Association (HOA).

- 8.B.** [CODE-26-00](#) An ordinance amending Article 5 (Administration and Enforcement) of
[02](#) Chapter 7 (Unified Development Code) of the Code of the City of
Colorado Springs 2001, as amended, pertaining to procedural process
(Legislative)

Located in Council Districts Citywide

Presenter:
Daniel Sexton, LUR/DRE Planning Manager, City Planning Department
Kevin Walker, Planning Director, City Planning Department

Attachments: [Ordinance Article 5 – Administration and Enforcement Ordinance Update](#)
[CPC Staff Report Administration and Enforcement Ordinance Update](#)
[Administration and Enforcement Ordinance Presentation](#)
[CC Presentation Administration and Enforcement Ordinance Staff](#)
[7.5.702 AMENDMENT TO UDC TEXT](#)
[Excerpt Minutes - Amendment to UDC Administrative Decisions - CPC 03_11_2026](#)

Daniel Sexton presented the Ordinance amending Article 5 (Administration and Enforcement) of Chapter 7 (Unified Development Code) of the Code of the City pertaining to procedural process. He provided an overview of the history of the Ordinance, Sections changed by Ordinance, appeal changes, Development Plan changes, adjustment/variance Sections, and Section 7.5.704-Zoning Map Amendments.

Councilmember Donelson asked if there was previously an appeal on a recommendation of an item. Mr. Sexton stated it had under prior City Code, but not under the current Chapter 7.

Councilmember Donelson asked if it takes away the ability for a citizen to appeal. Mr. Sexton stated it does not.

Councilmember Donelson asked if one of these proposed changes would allow a homeowner to request a variance to build in the setback without having to submit the plan. Mr. Sexton stated that is not correct, single-family homeowners are exempt from having to submit a Development Plan and developers can seek an adjustment to the setback without having the Development Plan fully designed.

Councilmember Casey asked if someone applying for a variance would still need to submit information regarding why they need it. Mr. Sexton stated the review criteria remains the same.

9. Items Under Study

There were no Items Under Study.

10. Councilmember Reports and Open Discussion

10.A. [26-153](#) Authorization of Out-Of-State Travel for Councilmembers

Presenter:

Lynette Crow-Iverson, Council President and Councilmember At Large

President Crow-Iverson stated the request for Out-of-State travel has been withdrawn by the Councilmember.

Councilmember Donelson recognized a Colorado Springs Police Officer, Augustus Joseph Perreira Jr., who lost his life in the line of duty forty-six years ago on April 12, 1980 and thanked him and his family for their service to the City. Councilmember Donelson read City Council Rule 3.2.A.2 and requested that when Councilmembers are excused from City Council meetings to announce why they are excused.

Councilmember Leinweber stated he attended the Pikes Peak Outdoor Recreation Alliance (PPORA) Leadership Conference on Friday, April 10, 2026 and they will be changing their name to Pikes Peak Outdoors.

11. Adjourn

There being no further business to come before City Council, Council adjourned at 2:12 PM.

Sarah B. Johnson, City Clerk