

City of Greeley, Colorado
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION REPORT
November 28, 2023

1. Call to Order

Mayor John Gates called the meeting to order at 6:39 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at 1001 11th Ave, Greeley, Colorado, with hybrid participation available via the City's Zoom platform, following the Special Meeting, which began at 6 p.m.

2. Roll Call

City Clerk Heidi Leatherwood called the roll.

The following members of Council were present:

Councilmember Tommy Butler

Councilmember Deb DeBoutez

Mayor Pro Tem Dale Hall

Councilmember Brett Payton

Councilmember Johnny Olson

Councilmember Melissa McDonald

Mayor John Gates

3. Reports from Mayor and Council Members

None

4. 2023 Triennial Review for Human Relations Board, Judicial Review Board, Museum Advisory Board, and the Parks and Recreational Advisory Board

City Clerk Heidi Leatherwood presented this item at 6:40 p.m. Deputy City Clerk Sarah Jacobsen was available for questions.

Ms. Leatherwood provided a summary of the data compiled on the boards' activities including attendance, vacancies, recruitment applications received, and frequency of meetings. Staff liaisons and board chairs were asked to attend the work session to answer any specific questions related to their Board.

2023 Triennial Boards Reviewed:

- Human Relations Commission with Chair Krissy Bhanji present.
- Judicial Review Board with Vice Chair Rasheed Garza present.
- Museum Board with Chair Mike Weiland present.
- Parks and Recreation Advisory Board with Chair Vicente Vega present.

Mayor Gates thanked the members of the Boards for attending and asked them to provide their candid opinions on whether their Boards are a productive use of time and beneficial overall to the city. Each of the board members expressed the importance of the work that

they do for the community and shared the positive impact their boards have on the people of this community.

Councilmember DeBoutez inquired if the City has budgeted for communication and engagement and event costs. City Manager Raymond Lee replied that currently, there isn't a budget allocated for Boards and Commissions costs but could be explored.

Councilmembers Butler and Olson thanked the chairs and boards for their service to the community.

After discussion, the Council consensus was to reauthorize these boards and draft an ordinance for the upcoming Council meetings in December.

5. Initiative 03-2023 Campaign Finance Contributions

City Attorney Douglas Marek presented this item at 6:56 p.m. City Clerk Heidi Leatherwood was available for questions.

Mr. Marek provided a response to the initiative requested at the February 7, 2023, City Council meeting where staff was directed to research information from other municipalities about campaign contribution limits and provide an update on the process for setting limits for individual campaign contributions.

Currently, neither the Greeley Municipal Code nor Colorado Revised Statutes set limits on campaign contributions for municipal elections. New state legislation will be effective in 2024 to impose limits on campaign contributions for local municipalities that have not set their own requirements.

Mr. Marek recommended that the City Council provide guidance to the City Clerk and City Attorney for drafting an ordinance that establishes campaign contribution limits and provides an administrative process for addressing disclosure requirements, complaints, and enforcement issues.

Councilmember Payton asked if the City could have zero campaign finance limits or set higher finance limits. Mr. Marek discussed home-rule authority and explained that if the City adopts any portion of the campaign finance reform, it is a home-rule municipality process. It is possible to leave no limits and develop a process for handling reporting and complaints. It could be drawn up in sections for no limits, reporting, complaints, and enforcement.

Mayor Pro Tem Hall asked for clarification on small donor committees. Mr. Marek discussed the differences between an independent issue committee relative to sponsors, and fundraising events relative to State limits.

Councilmember Butler said that this is an issue of trust and not setting limits may impact the community's trust in Council. He added that if large contributions are received, it could affect the outcome of an election.

Councilmember DeBoutez for details on the small donor group and what must be disclosed. Mr. Marek replied that he would need to investigate. Councilmember DeBoutez expressed a concern that the limitations may intimidate viable candidates.

Councilmember McDonald expressed the importance of keeping inflation in mind, particularly with marketing costs.

After discussion, the Council consensus was to proceed accordingly on an initial contribution limit similar to the City of Broomfield with \$1750 for Councilmembers and \$2500 for Mayoral candidates with a process for filing and enforcing noncompliance.

6. Chief Human Capital Officer Overview

Chief Human Capital Officer Kimberly Southern-Weber presented this item at 7:34 p.m.

Ms. Southern-Weber provided an overview of the work in 2023 that the Office of Human Capital accomplished and plans for 2024.

Councilmember DeBoutez thanked Ms. Southern-Weber and emphasized the importance of being trusted stewards.

Mayor Gates thanked Ms. Southern-Weber and commented on the city staff taking the survey feedback seriously.

7. Scheduling of Meetings, Other Events

None.

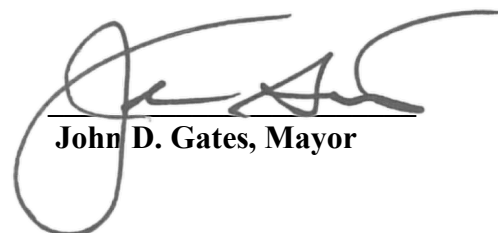
9. Adjournment

Mayor Gates adjourned the meeting at 7:42 p.m.

Approved:

Attest:



Heidi Leatherwood, City Clerk

John D. Gates, Mayor