

City of Greeley, Colorado
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION REPORT
February 13, 2024
6 p.m.

1. Call to Order

Mayor John Gates called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at 1001 11th Ave, Greeley, Colorado, with hybrid participation available via the City's Zoom platform.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Gates led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. 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 Payton

Councilmember Melissa McDonald

Mayor John Gates

Councilmember Johnny Olson - excused

4. Reports from Mayor and Council Members

Councilmember Butler provided an update on the homeless outreach with the new foundation team. He commended the staff and the work being done.

Mayor Gates echoed Councilmember Butler's comments on the homeless outreach. He expressed gratitude to Jerry Pickett and the streets crew for their stellar snow removal efforts and street clean-up.

5. Greeley-Weld Housing Authority Quarterly Update

Assistant City Manager Juliana Kitten introduced from Greeley-Weld Housing Authority Tom Teixeira to present the item at 6:02 p.m.

Executive Director of the Greeley-Weld Housing Authority, Tom Teixeira, provided a quarterly update to the Greeley City Council. The update included the current organizational structure of the Housing Authority, the 2023/2024 Housing Authority

budget, statistics of those they serve, and a breakdown of the Housing Authority's processes and resources.

Mr. Teixeira confirmed, for Mayor Gates, that the median income is set by Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Mayor Pro Tem Hall asked for clarification on the Board compilation. Mr. Teixeira confirmed that there are five City seats and four County seats, and explained the updates provided at the County Commissioners' monthly meeting. Mr. Teixeira stated that the County's involvement is limited to Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) with the State of Colorado Division of Housing.

Mayor Pro Tem Hall asked for clarification on vouchers. Mr. Teixeira explained that there are vouchers that are currently not being placed and there are about 50 people currently in process. The landlord decides if they would like to rent to the applicant. Ms. Kitten added that the Housing Authority is administrative, applicants are not currently provided with case management.

Councilmember Butler inquired about the unsupported vouchers. Mr. Teixeira went over the funding allocation, governance, and purpose of funding for these programs. Ms. Kitten added that the funding is taken away if not used. Councilmember Butler asked if there is a plan in place to utilize all the vouchers. Mr. Teixeira explained that funding is required to support the vouchers, the program is ran based on the number of vouchers or the cost to support them. Currently, the cost to support them exceeds the number of vouchers authorized.

Mr. Teixeira explained the waiting list. The two-year or longer waiting list contains 700 people. It is prioritized by persons considered to be elderly, disabled or homeless, experienced domestic violence, and/or longevity in the system.

Council thanked Mr. Teixeira for the update.

6. City of Greeley Polling Results

Chief of Staff Kelli Johnson introduced the item at 6:34 p.m. Special Projects Manager Kalen Myers and Vice President, Strategies 360, Alex Dunn were available for questions.

Ms. Johnson presented the results of a public poll of Greeley residents conducted late last year. Strategies 360 (S360), a public affairs and public opinion research firm, conducted a citywide poll of 500 Greeley residents in December.

The purpose of the poll included surveying residents on their attitudes about the city, their priorities for city programs and services, and their interest in potential tax proposals. S360 contacted residents via live interviews on cell and landline, as well as through web links sent to mobile phones. The interviewees were representative of a scientifically valid sample of the city's population.

This poll provided valuable information about community sentiment as staff explore potential 2024 ballot measures for Council consideration, including renewal of the food tax which is set to expire December 31, 2026. Staff requested feedback and comments from City Council to guide follow-up work.

Mayor Pro Tem Hall asked for clarification on Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) and the Food Tax calculations. Mr. Dunn explained the uninformed TIFIA numbers.

Ms. Johnson explained that understanding development is the next phase, this work is designed to identify the messaging so that we can be more articulate with the focus groups. Mr. Dunn confirmed this was an initial poll, and that marketing and communication will be the next step.

Councilmember Butler requested that a ballot title be reviewed at the March 12 work session. The City Attorney's office will provide information on March 12th and a subsequent work session may be required to bring the actual ballot language. Mayor Gates commented that at least four of the Councilmembers and the City Manager will not be able to attend the meeting in person. Mr. Lee offered that a special meeting for this topic could be set up.

Councilmember McDonald asked about the current public safety tax. Ms. Myers said that it is a 20-year sunset and was last renewed in 2018.

Councilmember DeBoutez asked about the 2025 development fees as another revenue source for public safety. Ms. Myers expressed that the current revenue streams can be combined.

Mayor Gates said that the results showed that residents do not want any more taxes. Councilmember McDonald added that public safety is her foremost priority.

Councilmember DeBoutez asked about the regional transportation tax and would like information as soon as it is available.

7. Scheduling of Meetings, Other Events

None.

8. Adjournment

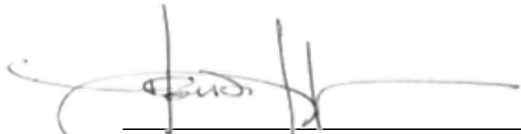
Mayor Gates adjourned the meeting at 7:26 p.m.

Approved:



John D. Gates, Mayor

Attest:



Heidi Leatherwood, City Clerk