

City of Greeley, Colorado
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION REPORT
April 23, 2024

1. Call to Order

Mayor John Gates called the meeting to order at 6 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 Deb DeBoutez

Mayor Pro Tem Dale Hall

Councilmember Payton

Councilmember Johnny Olson - attended remotely via the City's Zoom platform

Councilmember Melissa McDonald

Mayor John Gates

Councilmember Tommy Butler – excused

4. Reports from Mayor and Council Members

Councilmember McDonald provided an update on the Citizen Action Project.

5. 2023 Preliminary Financial Review

Finance Director Tyra Litzau and Treasurer Robert Miller presented this item at 6:03 p.m.

Finance staff provided a preliminary report of the 2023 year-end financial results. The year-end closing process is still in progress along with preparation for the 2023 annual audit. The Preliminary 2023 End of Year Financial Report provides the revenue and expenditure information for 2023. The summary includes many of the trends and other highlights that were discussed throughout the year and during the 2024 budget process.

Overall fund balances are at/or above anticipated levels as presented in the 2024 budget. Available fund balances will be allocated through additional appropriations and the 2025

budget process. The City currently has sufficient reserves to meet reserve requirements and can adjust for unforeseen circumstances or events.

The City has seen some reductions in overall revenues at the end of last year. These areas are being watched closely going into 2024 and 2025. Any significant financial impacts will be reported in future quarterly financial updates to City Council.

Funding recommendations for encumbrances (funding commitments at year-end) and investing fund balances more than the expected fund balances were included in the first additional appropriation adopted on April 2, 2024.

There were no questions from Council.

6. Claims Reserve Fund

Finance Director Tyra Litzau and Risk & Safety Manager John Goodson presented this item at 6:18 p.m.

City Code Section 6-383(i) requires an annual report to be made to the City Council by the Risk Manager, in consultation with the Director of Finance, regarding the operation and management of the Claims Reserve. The Claims Reserve Fund (called the Liability Fund) was established to maintain adequate reserves to cover current and future liability claims not covered by the Health Fund or Workers Compensation Fund.

This was an informational presentation about the status and expenses of the Claims Reserve Fund in 2022 and 2023. Followed by Risk and Safety's next steps. The Risk Management Division will be focusing on increasing accountability, working with department to reduce the number of claims, and updating operating standards. Mr. Goodson recommended reviewing the City Code once the Risk Management Division has a director.

There were no questions from Council.

7. Initiative 1 - 2024 Oil and Gas Informational Overview

Community Development Deputy Director Donald Threewitt, Battalion Chief & Fire Marshal Robert Fries, and presented this item at 6:23 p.m.

Initiative 01-2024 requested staff to provide an overview of the current city regulatory scope and activity pertaining to oil and gas. The presentation included materials fulfilling this request, including a high-level clarification of the roles of the Colorado Energy and Carbon Management Commission (ECMC), and the City of Greeley in the permitting, development, operational oversight, closure and monitoring of oil and gas activities.

Councilmember DeBoutez requested clarification on the number of active and abandoned wells. Mr. Threewitt shared that this information is continually updated on the ECMC dashboard. There are currently 303 producing wells and 457 plugged and abandoned wells.

Councilmember McDonald inquired about the inspection rotation for the wells. Battalion Chief Fries explained, that since there are potentially multiple wells on the same site, the inspections do not always reflect annual inspections for each site. He also explained that the increase of inspections is attributed to many factors, the number of wells that went in, the completion phase, or perhaps the timing relative to the next year. Battalion Chief Fries confirmed that some of the sites have monitoring. Mr. Threewitt provided a summary of the process for plugged and abandoned wells.

Mayor Gates inquired about the position formerly held by Lieutenant Greg Becker. Battalion Chief Fries noted that the position has been filled and significant investments in the Community Safety Division will need to be made.

Staff will follow up with Council on the question regarding setback increase regulations.

8. Initiative 14 - 2023 Greeley Municipal Charter Review Options

City Clerk Heidi Leatherwood presented this item at 6:44 p.m.

Colorado voters authorized the option of home-rule governance for cities and towns in 1902. This amendment to the state constitution allowed municipalities to set up a form of government that allowed for greater control over local matters significant to its specific needs. When registered electors adopt a charter that documents details of the government's structure and powers, it enables the home rule jurisdiction to create policy on local issues rather than be strictly subject to the laws of the state.

The Greeley Municipal Charter was approved and adopted on June 24, 1958. Since the charter was adopted by the voters, all subsequent changes to the charter must be placed on the ballot and approved by the voters in the same fashion. The last full Charter Review was completed by a citizens' committee in 2001 and again in 2017, by a staff committee.

At the December 19, 2023, regular meeting, Council requested Initiative 14-2023, asking that staff bring back information and options associated with a proposed Charter Review.

In response to the initiative, Ms. Leatherwood shared the following information and requested consensus from the Council on the selection of one of the options below:

1. Full Charter Review
2. Partial Charter Review
3. Priority-Specific Charter Review
4. Delay Charter Review

Mayor Pro Tem Hall asked for clarification on when the last full review had been completed and if the City has a periodic review plan. Ms. Leatherwood replied that the last full review was in 2017. Interim City Attorney Stacey Aurzada explained that the City updates specific areas as needed, however, if the Council would like to put something in place that is more structured, this can be done by ordinance.

Mayor Pro Tem Hall asked for more information on hard costs to complete a full charter review and a timeline if that were started.

Council consensus was to proceed with a follow-up report to gather specific hard costs in completing a full charter review expecting to take at least 12 months. The City Clerk will come back with more information regarding these costs including the option for a facilitator and the timeline to complete a full charter review.

9. Scheduling of Meetings, Other Events

None.

10. Executive Session for the purpose of receiving legal advice related to, and determining positions, developing strategy, and instructing negotiators all related to the 2024 Greeley Police Officers' Association collective bargaining agreement negotiations

Recommended Motion:

A motion to go into an Executive Session to discuss the following matter as provided under C.R.S. Sections 24-6-402(4)(b) and 24-6-402(4)(e)(I), and Greeley Municipal Code Sections 2-151(a)(2) and 2-151(a)(5): To receive legal advice related to GPOA collective bargaining agreement negotiations and the determine positions, develop strategy, and instruct negotiations regarding collective bargaining with GPOA.

Councilmember Payton moved to approve the motion. Councilmember DeBoutez seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0 at 7:06 p.m. with Councilmember Butler absent.

The mayor added that Council will not return to the meeting after the adjournment of the Executive Session.

9. Adjournment

Mayor Gates adjourned the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

8. Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel reporting to Council.

The Executive Session was called to order at 7:15 p.m. for the purpose of receiving legal advice related to GPOA collective bargaining agreement negotiations and determining

positions, developing strategy, and instructing negotiations regarding collective bargaining with GPOA.

Present for participation in the executive session, which is convened in person and on zoom platform, in the Colorado Room of City Center South, were all members of Council, (Councilmember Olson attended virtually) except Councilmember Butler.

In addition, the following staff members attended:

Kimberly Southern-Weber

Halle Kemp

Stacey Aurzada

Ned Chapin

Mike Zeller

Caleb Weitz

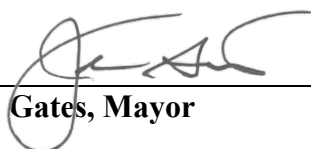
Raymond Lee

Mayor Gates cautioned each participant to confine discussion to the stated purpose and provided a reminder that no formal action may occur in the Executive Session. If at any point any participant believed that the discussion was going outside the proper scope of the Executive Session, participants were advised to interrupt the discussion and raise an objection.

The meeting concluded at 8:06 p.m.

The recording of this executive session will be retained as provided in the City's records retention policy and in conformity with the Colorado Open Meetings Law for a period of 90 days.

Approved:



John D. Gates, Mayor

Attest:



Jennifer Middleton, Deputy City Clerk