

City of Greeley, Colorado  
**CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION**  
December 30, 2024

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor 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 Heid Leatherwood called the roll.

The following were present:

Councilmember Tommy Butler

Councilmember Deb DeBoutez

Mayor Pro Tem Dale Hall

Councilmember Johnny Olson

Councilmember Melissa McDonald

Mayor John Gates

Councilmember Brett Payton - Absent (Excused)

**4. Public hearing and second reading of an ordinance amending Title 24 of the Greeley Municipal Code relating to regulation of Natural Medicine Businesses**

Chief Planner Caleb Jackson introduced the item at 6:01 p.m.

Mr. Jackson explained that Colorado voters approved the Natural Medicine Health Act in November of 2022 which resulted in the adoption of state regulations for natural medicine businesses. The state will begin accepting applications for licensing natural medicine businesses effective December 31, 2024.

Mr. Jackson noted that natural medicine does not include marijuana but includes psilocybin and psilocyn. These ingredients are infused into a consumable product and are naturally occurring psychedelics found in more than 200 species of mushrooms. Natural medicine businesses are prohibited from retail sales, but can facilitate psilocybin therapy, often lasting 6-8 hours. Participants must have a transportation plan to avoid driving while impaired. Additionally, businesses can cultivate, test, or manufacture the products.

Natural medicine business cannot co-locate with a liquor or marijuana establishment, businesses must have 1000-foot setback from schools and childcare centers, and there can be no retail operations for take-home natural medicine.

Mr. Jackson explained that the City must allow natural medicine businesses and could not adopt regulations that are unreasonable or conflict with state law. The city can adopt regulations appropriate to the time, place, and manner, including required setbacks from additional uses.

Mr. Jackson provided information on other municipalities including several that were allowing natural medicine businesses in industrial zones and one that had imposed a temporary moratorium.

The proposed ordinance permits businesses in industrial medium and high intensity zones, establishing stricter setback requirements than the State, as well as spacing requirements, secured entrances, and operation hours. He provided a map showing the areas and setback buffers.

Councilmember Olson asked about the spacing requirements and security measures. Mr. Jackson said the setbacks would be 1,000 feet for lots or parcels and related business/facilities as noted in the zoning regulations. He also noted that all entrances had to be equipped with cameras, and customers had to be 21 to enter, with hours of operation from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Councilmember DeBoutez inquired if healthcare providers had been contacted and noted her concern was this was a therapeutic operation but placed in a non-medical setting. Mr. Jackson replied that no discussions have taken place with healthcare providers, and they would continue to see how other municipalities handle the issue.

Councilmember Butler asked if anyone had expressed interest in setting up such a business. Mr. Jackson replied that they had not heard of any. Councilmember Butler asked for clarification on the setbacks, if it was from the end of the lot or the building. Mr. Jackson replied that the setbacks were from property line to property line.

Mayor Gates requested an explanation as to why Windsor responded with a temporary moratorium. Mr. Jackson said Windsor adopted a 60 or 90-day temporary moratorium and staff would watch to see if Windsor would be allowed to impose the moratorium.

Councilmember Olson inquired if the City would be issuing permits. Mr. Jackson noted that customers would apply through planning and zoning for a permit and enforcement would be monitored by code compliance.

Mayor Gates opened the public hearing at 6:12 p.m.  
With no public comment, the hearing was closed at 6:13 p.m.

**Mayor Pro Tem Hall moved to adopt the ordinance. Councilmember McDonald seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0 with Councilmember Payton absent at 6:13 p.m.**

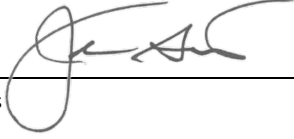
5. A motion authorizing the City Attorney to prepare any required resolutions, agreements, and ordinances to reflect action taken by the City Council at this meeting and any previous meetings, and authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to sign all such resolutions, agreements, and ordinances

**Councilmember Butler moved to approve the motion. Mayor Pro Tem Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote 6-0 with Councilmember Payton absent at 6:14 p.m.**

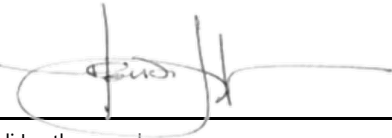
6. **Adjournment**

With no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Gates adjourned the meeting at 6:14 p.m.

Approved

X   
\_\_\_\_\_  
John Gates  
Mayor

Attest

X   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Heidi Leatherwood  
City Clerk