

A regular meeting of the Montrose City Council was held on Tuesday, December 5, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of the Elks Civic Building. Said meeting was posted in accordance with the Sunshine Law.

PRESENT: Barbara Bynum, J. David Reed, Dave Frank, Doug Glaspell, Ed Ulibarri, Bill Bell, Ann Morgenthaler, Chris Dowsey, Greg Story, Lisa DelPiccolo, Briceida Ortega, Jim Scheid, Matt Smith, Scott Murphy, Christine Aslakson, Matt Magliaro, Erin Maxwell, Mark Tofflemoyer, Jody Moreland, Shani Wittenberg, William Reis, Jace Hochwalt

GUESTS: Melanie Bell, Amanda Gerhardt, Tim Stroh, Sydney Bell, Maggie Kusar, Shiloh Warthen, Hunter Barton, Graysen Vidmar

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Barbara Bynum called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

No changes were made to the agenda.

OATH OF OFFICE FOR CITY ATTORNEY CHRIS DOWSEY

City Clerk Lisa DelPiccolo administered an Oath of Office to City Attorney Chris Dowsey.

YOUTH CITY COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

City Council considered applicants Hunter Barton, Sydney Bell, Maggie Kusar, Shiloh Warthen, Jordyn Simo, Robin Kittell, Reign Icasiano and Graysen Vidmar for vacant positions on the 2023-2024 Montrose Youth City Council.

Youth City Council Coordinator Briceida Ortega reported that eight applications were received. Three applicants had scheduling conflicts and submitted videos. The applicants introduced themselves and answered a random question.

A motion was made by Dave Frank, seconded by J. David Reed, to appoint Hunter Barton, Sydney Bell, Maggie Kusar, Shiloh Warthen, Jordyn Simo, Robin Kittell, Reign Icasiano and Graysen Vidmar to the Montrose Youth City Council for the 2023-2024 term. All voted yes. Motion passed.

CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments were received.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

City Council considered the minutes of the November 13, 2023, special City Council meeting and the November 14, 2023, regular City Council meeting.

A motion was made by J. David Reed, seconded by Dave Frank, to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2023, special City Council meeting and the November 14, 2023, regular City Council meeting as presented. All voted yes. Motion passed.

ORDINANCE 2653 – FIRST READING

City Council considered Ordinance 2653 on first reading, an Ordinance of the City of Montrose, Colorado, creating the Otter Pond Circle Utility Relocation Special Improvement District.

Mayor Barbara Bynum recused herself from this agenda item because she lives within the neighborhood. Mayor Bynum left the City Council Chambers at 6:22 p.m.

Assistant City Attorney Chris Dowsey reported that the creation of a special improvement district (SID) was discussed at the November 6 work session, a resolution of intent to form a SID was adopted by City Council on November 14, and Ordinance 2653 creates the SID.

Mr. Dowsey stated that the Otter Pond dam, owned by the homeowners' association has failed. In order to repair the dam, city utilities must be relocated, and the HOA approached the city for assistance. Mr. Dowsey said that a petition was signed by a vast majority of the 85 lots within the HOA. The SID defrays the cost to the 85 lots as allowed by the Municipal Code. Mr. Dowsey stated that the City will pay contractors directly and assess costs to each lot within the HOA. Residents will have the option to pay up front or over 20 years at 4 percent interest. The 20-year repayment option involves a lien on the property which is assessed via property tax.

Public comment was accepted. No comments were received.

A motion was made by Dave Frank, seconded by Doug Glaspell, to pass Ordinance 2653 on first reading as presented. Barbara Bynum abstained from the vote. All others voted yes. Motion passed.

Mayor Bynum rejoined the meeting at 6:26 p.m.

APPROVAL OF STREET CLOSURES

City Council considered the closure of the 500 block of E. Main Street and Uncompahgre Avenue from N. First Street to Centennial Plaza from 6 a.m. until 6 p.m. for the Habitat for Humanity Rock the Block event on Saturday, June 22, 2024.

Deputy City Manager Ann Morgenthaler reported a street closure exceeding 10 hours in duration requires City Council approval, and Habitat for Humanity Executive Director Amanda Gerhardt was present to answer questions.

Ms. Morgenthaler said the proposal is to close the 500 block of E. Main Street as well as Uncompahgre Avenue from N. First Street to Centennial Plaza for a fundraising event. The event will also include a special events liquor permit with Black Canyon Boys & Girls Club as the permittee. Event organizers conducted extensive outreach to make sure business owners are supportive and aware of the event.

A motion was made by Dave Frank, seconded by Ed Ulibarri, to approve the closure of the 500 block of E. Main Street and Uncompahgre Avenue from Centennial Plaza to N. First Street from 6 a.m. until 6 p.m. for the Habitat for Humanity Rock the Block event on June 22, 2024, as presented. All voted yes. Motion passed.

RESOLUTION 2023-27

City Council considered Resolution 2023-27, authorizing a mail ballot election for the 2024 Municipal Election on April 2, 2024.

City Clerk Lisa DelPiccolo reported that a final version of the election plan is included in the meeting packet. Since the work session discussion, the deadline to certify the ballot content was set as February 6, 2024. A candidate information session will be held before the City Council meeting on February 6, and names will be drawn for ballot positions at that time.

Ms. DelPiccolo stated that candidate information packets will be available on the City website and at City Hall beginning on or before Monday, December 11, and candidates may circulate petitions from January 2 until January 22. Candidates are required to be at least 18 years old and a resident of the City and applicable Council District for at least 12 months preceding the date of the election.

Public comment was accepted. No comments were received.

A motion was made by J. David Reed, seconded by Doug Glaspell, to adopt Resolution 2023-27 as presented. All voted yes. Motion passed.

ORDINANCE 2651 – SECOND READING

City Council considered Ordinance 2651 on second reading, an Ordinance of the City of Montrose, Colorado, amending Ordinance No. 2599 which appropriated funds for defraying the expenses and liabilities of the City of Montrose, Colorado, during the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2023; said expenditures of the City of Montrose over and above those anticipated at the time of adoption of the original budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2023.

Finance Director Shani Wittenberg reported no changes to Ordinance 2651 since first reading. Ms. Wittenberg said that the Ordinance includes items that were approved by City Council throughout the year, and adoption of the Ordinance formally amends the original budget ordinance to reflect those expenditures.

Public comment was accepted. No comments were received.

A motion was made by Dave Frank, seconded by Doug Glaspell, to adopt Ordinance 2651 on second reading as presented. All voted yes. Motion passed.

ORDINANCE 2652 – SECOND READING

City Council considered Ordinance 2652 on second reading, an Ordinance of the City of Montrose, Colorado, updating Title 1 Chapter 14, of the Official Code of the City of Montrose, Colorado: amending Title 1 Chapter 14 Section 2 (1-14-2), regarding rules of procedure; amending Title 1 Chapter 14 Section 4 (1-14-4), regarding sentencing; Amending Title 1 Chapter 14 Section 5 (1-14-5), regarding enforcement of fines; and repealing and replacing other Code provisions to standardize cross-references in the Official Code of the City of Montrose regarding sentencing.

Assistant City Attorney Matt Magliaro provided an overview of changes to Municipal Court rules related to procedure and sentencing. Mr. Magliaro stated that Ordinance 2652 moves a portion of the Municipal Code related to sentencing to the Court Procedures section and modifies enforcement of fines to align with state law. Mr. Magliaro stated that the Municipal Court Judge supports the proposed amendments.

Public comment was accepted. No comments were received.

A motion was made by Doug Glaspell, seconded by Ed Ulibarri, to adopt Ordinance 2652 on second reading as presented. All voted yes. Motion passed.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NOMINATION FOR KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS BUILDING

City Council considered a recommendation for approval of a National Register of Historic Places nomination of the Knights of Pythias Building located at 33 S. Cascade Avenue in Montrose, Colorado.

Planner II William Reis reported that the property owners are seeking to add the property to the National Register of Historic Places and reviewed the process to attain designation. As a Certified Local Government, the City of Montrose is expected to comment before the Colorado Historic Preservation Review Board meeting on January 19, 2024.

Architect Tim Stroh, with Springboard Preservation Studio, was instrumental in preparing the application and was present to answer questions.

Mr. Reis reviewed the criteria for federal designation and stated that the property meets eligibility criteria because it is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history and the property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

Mr. Reis stated that the building is associated with the history of fraternal lodges in Montrose and was used as the second Knights of Pythias Lodge Hall in the City from 1909 to 1921. The building was the site of numerous gatherings, was available for rent as an Elks Lodge and was associated

with pattern of partnering lodges with retail on the first floor. Mr. Reis said the building is an excellent example of the Simplified Renaissance Revival Style popular during the early 20th century and was the work of local master architect John H. Antrobus as well as master contractors White & Okey who were responsible for many early buildings in the region.

Mr. Reis stated that City Council can recommend approval or denial or decline to make a recommendation. Mr. Reis recommended a vote to recommend approval. Inclusion on the Federal Register opens the possibility of tax credits for the building owners.

Public comment was accepted.

Mr. Stroh thanked the City for supporting the project and the local historic designation of the property.

A motion was made by J. David Reed, seconded by Dave Frank, to recommend the inclusion of the Knights of Pythias Building on the National Register of Historic Places. All voted yes. Motion passed.

STAFF REPORTS

No staff reports were provided.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mayor Pro Tem J. David Reed commended Public Works staff for the Buckley Park ribbon cutting event on December 2 and acknowledged all staff who contributed to the success of the Parade of Lights on December 2. Mr. Reed wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Mayor Barbara Bynum reported that the Parade of Lights was a community celebration with 104 parade entries. Mayor Bynum announced the winning parade entries. Grace Community Church won first place, Western Slope Four Wheelers came in second, and M&H Towing took third place.

City Councilor Doug Glaspell commended City staff for the teamwork that resulted in the success of the Parade.

City Council Ed Ulibarri thanked City staff, especially IT staff, for assistance during the year.

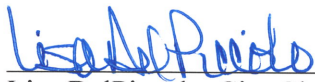
City Councilor Dave Frank commented on the success of the Parade and the extra effort on behalf of the Police Department. Mr. Frank wished everyone a joyous holiday season.

Mayor Bynum reported that the Fall Leaf Clean Up concludes on December 7 and snow removal information is available on the City website. Mayor Bynum wished everyone a happy new year.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

At 6:56 p.m., a motion was made by Dave Frank, to adjourn the meeting with no further action taken.

ATTEST:



Lisa DelPiccolo, City Clerk


Barbara Bynum, Mayor