



MONTROSE CITY COUNCIL

July 29, 2026

A special meeting of the Montrose City Council was held on Wednesday, July 29, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of the Elks Civic Building at 107 S. Cascade Avenue. Said meeting was posted in accordance with the Sunshine Law.

PRESENT

Michael Badagliacco, Ed Ulibarri, Dave Frank, J. David Reed, Adam Woodden, Bill Bell, Ann Morgenthaller, Chris Dowsey, Greg Story, Lisa DelPiccolo, Blaine Hall, Larry Witte, Tim Cox, Matt Magliaro, Greg Stunder, Jonathan Roberts

GUESTS

Jan Edwards, Doug Glaspell, Dave Stockton, Janet Eckerdt, Beth McCorkle, Kim Spangrude, Greg Cairns, Jim Haugsness, Dave Bowman, Alice Murphy, John Brown, Jodi Woodden, Bob Nicholson, Ryan Sedgeley, Neonila Martyniuk, Holly Speaks, Anne Janik, Lesley Hallenborg, Karen Vaca, Don Vacca, Gerald Spangrude, Jacqueline Huff, Jo Clugg, Deb Kelly, Dana Kelly, Clara Carrasco, Cliff Faurer, Hayden Janssen, Karen Sherman-Perez, John Broadbooks, Katrina Davis

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Michael Badagliacco called the special meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENTS

Mayor Michael Badagliacco stated that public comment would be limited to the two topics on the special meeting agenda, with each speaker allotted three minutes. City Councilors discussed procedures for City Council comments and limited comments to the two proposed charter amendments on the agenda.

City Councilor J. David Reed requested that a statement he prepared be made part of the public record and available to the public.

Moving general municipal elections from April to November of even-numbered years

City councilors discussed an amendment to the City Charter to move general municipal elections to the November coordinated election ballot on even-numbered years. Potential benefits include cost reductions, increased voter participation, the availability of voters to track ballot status, availability of in-person and same-day voting, and decreased voter fatigue. Concerns raised included differing statutory requirements, the potential for municipal elections to become partisan in nature, voter focus on state and national aspects as opposed to local issues, and the extension of current City Council terms by seven months. It was pointed out that in 1994, elections were moved to April from November to avoid diluting the importance of city elections and to keep the focus solely on municipal issues.

Public comment was accepted.

Jim Haugsness questioned whether the amendments would be one combined ballot question or multiple individual ballot questions. Mr. Haugsness spoke in favor of individual questions.

Dave Stockton, John Broadbooks, Cliff Faurer, Bob Nicholson, Holly Speaks, Doug Glaspell, Ryan Sedgely, Beth McCorkle, Hayden Janssen, Katrina Davis, Dave Bowman, and Karen Sherman-Perez spoke in opposition to the proposed charter amendment.

John Brown spoke in favor of the proposed amendment to increase voter participation and in favor of voters deciding the issue.

Clara Carrasco questioned why municipal elections were moved from November to April in 1994 and spoke in support of knowing candidates' values as opposed to party affiliation.

Kim Spangrude questioned whether the transition of City Council member terms has been discussed and whether this proposed amendment was discussed with county elections staff.

Council discussed the terms of the current elected officials if the measure passes. It was suggested that the structure of the ordinance would include provisions for those who currently hold office. Other unintended consequences would also be researched and addressed in the ordinance language.

City Councilors discussed the timeline for placing the charter amendments on the November 3 ballot. City Attorney Chris Dowsey said that in order to meet legal notice publication deadlines, ordinance titles must be set by August 6. The agendas must be finalized for the September 1 meeting packet by Thursday, August 13.

Implementing a lifetime 8-year term limit for all City Council seats; removing the 6-year consecutive limit for the at-large seat to align with the 8-year total limit

City Councilors discussed the necessity of the amendment. It was pointed out that in the City's 144 year history, only four elected representatives had terms that exceeded eight years, and only two in the past 40 years. The potential benefits include encouraging leadership opportunities for new candidates, promoting periodic turnover of elected officials, and providing a consistent term-limit standard.

BRIEF RECESS

A brief recess was taken at 7:38 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 7:46 p.m.

Public comment was accepted.

Kim Spangrude raised concerns and suggested consulting county officials.

Beth McCorkle spoke in opposition to an eight-year lifetime limit and in support of an eight-year consecutive limit with required time away before running again.

Dave Stockton spoke in support of retaining a six-year limit for the at-large seat in line with the state constitution. Mr. Stockton also spoke in support of a term limit for serving as mayor.

Clara Carrasco questioned whether retaining institutional knowledge and addressing continuity of projects in process has been considered as part of the proposed amendment.

Cliff Faurer, Ryan Sedgeley, Bob Nicholson, and Greg Cairns spoke in opposition to the proposed amendment.

John Brown spoke in favor of the proposed amendment.

Holly Speaks spoke in favor of leaving the at-large term limit at six years.

Jim Haugsness spoke in opposition to disallowing Councilor J. David Reed's statement at the beginning of the meeting.

Dave Bowman spoke in opposition to the amendment and in favor of a term limit for serving as mayor.

Hayden Janssen spoke in favor of citizens showing up to provide comment and questioned whether a transition plan for consistency and loss of institutional knowledge has been discussed.

Karen Sherman-Perez requested more preparation for future discussions and more information available to community members.

City Council discussed whether appointments to unexpired terms would count against the eight-year maximum. Wording was suggested for the ordinance that would state that appointment to unexpired terms would not count. The short timeframe for drafting ordinances for each proposed amendment was discussed. City Attorney Chris Dowsey requested clear direction on moving forward due to the time constraints.

City Councilors were asked to indicate their support or opposition for directing Mr. Dowsey to draft ordinances for the two proposed amendments discussed this evening. J. David Reed and Dave Frank said no to both. Ed Ulibarri, Adam Woodden and Michael Badagliacco said yes to both.

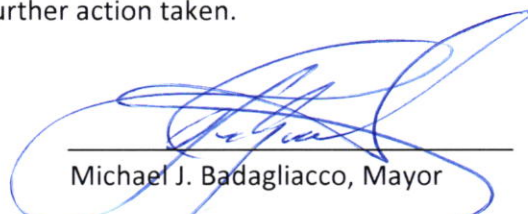
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. with no further action taken.

ATTEST:



Lisa DelPiccolo, City Clerk



Michael J. Badagliacco, Mayor

