



Town Council Meeting Minutes - Draft

Mayor Jason Gray
Mayor Pro Tem Laura Cavey
Councilmember Ryan Hollingshead
Councilmember Kevin Bracken
Councilmember Mark Davis
Councilmember Max Brooks
Councilmember Tim Dietz

Tuesday, December 17, 2024

6:00 PM

**Town Hall Council Chambers
100 North Wilcox Street
Castle Rock, CO 80104
www.CRgov.com/CouncilMeeting**

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COUNCIL DINNER & INFORMAL DISCUSSION

INVOCATION

Mayor Gray provided the Invocation.

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Mayor Gray, Mayor Pro Tem Cavey, Councilmember Hollingshead, Councilmember Bracken, Councilmember Davis, Councilmember Brooks, Councilmember Dietz

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mayor Gray wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year; and that they represent everyone even if we don't agree.

Councilmember Hollingshead wished everyone Merry Christmas. He asked that we take time before we vote on something during Council comments and be given advance notice of an item that will be brought up for a vote.

Councilmember Bracken requested Council vote on extending additional holiday time by giving Town staff a full day off for Christmas Eve. Hollingshead seconded.

Mayor Gray agreed with the 24 hour notice for an item to be voted on and agrees with making Christmas Eve a full day holiday.

Councilmember Brooks brought up that this has been common practice to make Christmas Eve a full day holiday; and maybe they should make a regular calendared holiday and would like to know the budget ramifications of increasing holiday time. Mayor Gray suggested we make this decision in October.

Councilmember Dietz feels adding holiday time on Christmas Eve is appropriate and agrees to look at the budget.

Councilmember Cavey stated we need to look at in the future. Citizens stepped up to vote for the tax increase and we need to be fiscally responsible.

Motion passes unanimously.

Moved by Councilmember Bracken, seconded by Councilmember Hollingshead, to extend additional holiday time by giving Town staff a full day off for Christmas Eve. Hollingshead seconded. The motion passed by a vote of:

Yes: 7 - Gray, Cavey, Hollingshead, Bracken, Davis, Brooks, Dietz

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Davis thanked people that helped him with his election, thanked people for caring about our Town, and congratulated several employees that were promoted over the past year.

Councilmember Brooks agrees as a courtesy that we give notice; but felt the dinner prior to the meeting was a good time to discuss the motion he was planning on making. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Councilmember Dietz stated this is a time to give - time, money, gifts. Veterans Hall is coming to Castle Rock, approximately 20,000 veterans are in Douglas County. Heroes Hall will be at the fairgrounds. Motion to recognize the development and construction of Heroes Hall to serve military veterans in DC. Cavey seconded.

Motion passes unanimously.

Moved by Councilmember Dietz, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Cavey, to recognize the development and construction of Heroes Hall to serve military veterans in Douglas County. The motion passed by a vote of:

Yes: 7 - Gray, Cavey, Hollingshead, Bracken, Davis, Brooks, Dietz

[PROC 2024-015](#)

Proclamation of Commendation to Municipal Judge Louis A. Gresh
(For Presentation - Approved on December 3, 2024 by a vote 7-0)

Mayor Gray read the proclamation into the record and presented it to Judge Gresh.

Mayor Pro Tem Cavey wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Appoint Councilmember Dietz and Mayor Gray to lead the selection committee for the Town's next Municipal Judge. The motion passed by a vote of:

Yes: 7 - Gray, Cavey, Hollingshead, Bracken, Davis, Brooks, Dietz

UNSCHEDULED PUBLIC APPEARANCES

Citizens that addressed Council:

Angela Thomas, resident, sent an email and was disappointed that no one responded. She requested Max Brooks resignation as Council is non-partisan and feels it is a conflict of interest when he serves for House District 45. She additionally requested that Council change notifications to 1/2 mile vs. 500 feet.

Mary Grothe shared her new business taking over The Park building starting

January 5 cooking healthy meals on Sundays for free. She is asking for support and donations and distributed packets to share with Council.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

[ID 2024-134](#)

Holiday Card Art Contest Award

Maia Yates with Parks and Recreation presented the item. Kate Neville was publicly recognized for her painting being chosen for the Town Christmas card.

[ID 2024-135](#)

Update: Calendar Reminders

[DIR 2024-022](#)

Discussion/Direction: Introduction to Designations for Liaisons to Town Boards and Commissions and other agencies (For Council Action on January 7, 2025)

[ID 2024-136](#)

Update: 2025 Major Projects List

[DIR 2024-023](#)

Discussion/Direction: Process to Appoint New Municipal Judge

Kristin Read, Assistant Town Manager, and Karla McCrimmon, Court Administrator, presented the process to appoint a new municipal judge.

Councilmember Cavey feels five years of experience as an attorney is not sufficient. and other factors need to be considered. Read stated that this is a minimum requirement and Council can expand on further qualifications.

Mayor Gray clarified that the Wednesday court date is coordinated with other municipalities as some judges and prosecutors work for multiple municipalities.

Councilmember Brooks confirmed the interviews would be a recommendation and Council makes the final decision. He requested that it may be appropriate for the Council to interview the finalists for a final decision.

[ID 2024-137](#)

Update: Wireless Communications Facilities

[ID 2024-138](#)

Update: Monthly Department Reports

[ID 2024-139](#)

Development Services Project Updates

Tara Vargish, Development Services Director, presented the item.

Councilmember Cavey asked about the proposed Quick Trip and noted that we have two other gas stations in that area.

Cavey asked if there is anything in the code that prohibits a concentration of fuel stations. Vargish confirmed we don't have any restrictions. Cavey also inquired about the Maher Ranch de-annexation.

[ID 2024-140](#)

Update: Quasi-Judicial Projects

TOWN ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mike Hyman, Town Attorney, commented on the code of conduct law that does not apply to Castle Rock as a Home Rule municipality since we adopted our own Code of Conduct.

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Moved by Councilmember Bracken, seconded by Councilmember Hollingshead, to Accept the agenda as presented. The motion passed by a vote of:

Yes: 7 - Gray, Cavey, Hollingshead, Bracken, Davis, Brooks, Dietz

CONSENT CALENDAR

Moved by Councilmember Brooks, seconded by Councilmember Bracken, to Approve the Consent Calendar as presented. The motion passed by a vote of:

Yes: 7 - Gray, Cavey, Hollingshead, Bracken, Davis, Brooks, Dietz

[RES 2024-123](#) **Resolution Approving the First Amendment to the Rueter-Hess Drought Water Supply Pilot Plan Intergovernmental Agreement between the Town of Castle Rock Water Enterprise and Denver Water, Parker Water and Sanitation District, and East Cherry Creek Valley Water and Sanitation District** *[Located in northwest and northeast Douglas County]*

[MIN 2024-023](#) **Minutes: December 3, 2024 Draft Minutes**

ADVERTISED PUBLIC HEARINGS & DISCUSSION ACTION ITEMS

[RES 2024-119](#) **Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Castle Rock Expressing its Strong Support for President-Elect Donald Trump's Immigration Policies and its Willingness to Lawfully Cooperate with Federal Immigration Officials in Implementing These Policies**

Citizens that addressed Council:

Amy Windju thanked Council and requested Council to ensure it is communicated with Castle Rock Police and to update the crime statistics that haven't been updated since February. She thanked the Town and the Police department for keeping us safe.

Carolyn Upton does not support the declaration.

Greg Upton, resident for two years from Michigan, agreed with his wife.

John Whitson, resident for 30 years, spoke in opposition of the declaration.

Keith Novak asked Council to reject the declaration.

Sheri Rich grew up in Castle Rock and does not support the resolution.

Councilmember Hollingshead feels they rushed the vote at the last meeting. Council and Police swore to uphold the Constitution and enforce the law, so the Resolution is not necessary and puts an unnecessary spotlight on our law enforcement. We have protocols to work with federal agencies.

Mayor Gray states the resolution feels partisan, but the key word is illegal. He feels we haven't gotten immigration right in over 50 years and noted that Obama deported the most immigrants of all administrations. Gray stated people should be here legally.

Dietz says the key word is illegal and believes in public safety.

Councilmember Brooks stated this is legal vs. illegal and we uphold the rule of law and address what is illegal. We support cops to go after what is illegal.

Mayor Pro Tem Cavey stated we are not trying to weaponize our police department, it is upholding our constitution and being proactive so our community stays safe.

Councilmember Bracken has friends he sponsored from other countries that have come here legally, and they are upset about illegal immigrants. This is a resolution of support that the federal government in trying to take control over this situation.

Councilmember Davis works in the construction industry and the people that work for them are legal citizens or have proper documentation to work here.

Moved by Councilmember Brooks, seconded by Councilmember Dietz, to Approve Resolution RES 2024-119 as presented. The motion passed by a vote of:

Yes: 6 - Gray, Cavey, Bracken, Davis, Brooks, Dietz

Abstain: 1 - Hollingshead

[DIR 2024-024](#)

Discussion/Direction of Applications for the 2024 4th Quarter Council Community Grant Program, Ten Applications

Trish Muller, Finance Director, presented the applications.

Dietz feels all 8 should receive \$1,000, Brooks seconded.

Mayor Gray asked Trish to ask that the Voyager program reapply.

Councilmember Brooks wants to be cautious when spending tax payer dollars.

Councilmember Hollingshead feels these programs do a lot of our community.

Councilmember Davis asked if anyone from After Prom was present. Davis asked if private donations can be made to these organizations. Trish will find out.

Moved by Councilmember Bracken, seconded by Councilmember Hollingshead, to Approve Discussion/Direction Item DIR 2024-024 as presented. The motion passed by a vote of:

Yes: 7 - Gray, Cavey, Hollingshead, Bracken, Davis, Brooks, Dietz

[RES 2024-120](#)

Resolution Approving the Pre-Annexation Agreement by and among JRW Family Limited Partnership LLLP and the Town of Castle Rock, Colorado, for the Pine Canyon Planned Development [535-acre site located on both the east and west sides of I-25. The portion of the property east of I-25 is generally north of Scott Boulevard, south of Black Feather Trail, west of Founders Parkway, and east of Front Street. The portion of the property west of I-25 is generally east of Prairie Hawk Drive, south of Highway 85 and bisected by Liggett Road]

Tara Vargish, Development Services Director, and Mark Marlowe, Director of Castle Rock Water, presented the item.

Councilmember Bracken asked about the groundwater supplying that area if it was developed in the County. Marlowe stated for long term sustainability it is better for them to be connected to our renewable water. Vargish stated we would not have a say if it was developed in the County.

Councilmember Davis stated if we annexed them, our PD zoning would establish the height limits and confirmed that we would look at road connectivity. He stated concern over one of the roads into the development.

Councilmember Cavey is concerned about traffic on Founders and Front Street and asked what the level of service when the community is fully developed. Dan Sailer, Director of Public Works, stated they will evaluate that. The Master Plan anticipated this area being developed.

Citizens that addressed Council:

Laura Zumwalt noted that the proposal has not been reduced from what was proposed to the County. She noted metro districts mill levy should be looked at.

Dana Bonham congratulated all Councilmembers re-elected and elected. She feels this development is best in the hands of our Town Council.

Tad Walden represents the Castle Pines Metro District. Most of their concerns were addressed by Mark Marlowe.

Mark Marlowe stated the Town would be able to provide the water we currently have to meet the 1.1 acre feet per home and they must meet the ColoradoScape requirements.

Moved by Councilmember Brooks, seconded by Councilmember Hollingshead, to Approve Resolution RES 2024-120 as presented. The motion passed by a vote of:

Yes: 7 - Gray, Cavey, Hollingshead, Bracken, Davis, Brooks, Dietz

[ORD 2024-011](#)

Ordinance Amending Title 17 of the Castle Rock Municipal Code Regarding Local Regulation of Natural Medicine Businesses (First Reading) [Continued from September 17, 2024 by a vote 7-0]

Mike Hyman, Town Attorney, presented the item.

Mayor Pro Tem Cavey asked if we open it up to the two existing businesses or

would it open it up to other businesses. Hyman stated there is a time limit that they must notify the Town by December 31, 2024 and have licensing in place by mid 2025.

Councilmember Brooks asked if we can state the two applicants and state there be no additional time and expressed interest by tonight.

Councilmember Davis asked about language changes One location is by his home.

Mayor Gray confirmed that this is only for the healing centers and they must submit written notice to seek an exemption by December 31, 2024, and January 31, 2025 they have filed the application with the state and will have one facilitator with a license, and June 30, 2025 for license to be issued and a licensed facilitator on board.

Councilmember Dietz asked what the strictest restrictions are. Hyman explained what the state statute allows us to limit.

Councilmember Davis asked what if additional houses are built. Hyman stated they can continue operating a business already established, but new businesses would be subject to new restrictions.

Citizens that addressed Council:

Susan MacAfee is a pharmacologist and toxicologist and is concerned of the effects of this medicine and asks the Council to limit it as much as possible.

Amy Windju asks Council to put in the strictest regulations on this medicine.

Dr. Adam Graves is here to save lives. 20 veterans a day, not including cops, firefighters or civilians commit suicide. The helps treat veterans with PTSD and asks to support the amendment.

Dana Bonham stated Colorado has we don't know if this would save veterans. We allow abortion, legalized marijuana, and asks Council to pass the strictest regulations possible.

Harry Young does not support having healing centers in the Town and would like the strictest regulations.

Amanda Budimlya lives in Sedalia, and moved from Colorado Springs after legalizing marijuana changed the environment. She feels it will attract people to move here that use the facility.

Harold Griffin is an ordained minister and requests more restrictions.

Reverend Richard Myers is a father, a veteran and he works with veterans every day. This medicine can be dangerous and is not for everyone but is for some.

Councilmember Dietz wants the strictest restrictions.

Mayor Gray confirmed the strictest restrictions is what is the proposed Ordinance. The amendment would give an exemption for existing businesses.

Dietz stated we need to keep Castle Rock safe and allowing this downtown is not good.

Councilmember Cavey feels this is a gateway to open this up to other things. We have worked very hard to keep downtown unique, vibrant, walkable, and people to come with their kids. This opens this door.

Councilmember Brooks said the state will continue to try to legalize things for profit. He is in favor of allowing the two existing businesses. He feels we do not extend the window to December 31.

Councilmember Hollingshead feels our gut instinct is against it because of how marijuana has evolved.

Councilmember Bracken feels we should put in the most restrictions to protect our Town.

Mayor Gray doesn't feel we know enough about it yet.

Moved by Councilmember Dietz, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Cavey, to Approve Ordinance ORD 2024-011 as presented. The motion passed by a vote of:

Yes: 5 - Gray, Cavey, Hollingshead, Bracken, Dietz

No: 2 - Davis, Brooks

QUASI JUDICIAL HEARINGS

[RES 2024-121](#) **Resolution Approving a Use by Special Review Application for an Accessory Dwelling Unit at 295 Gordon Court**

Tara Vargish, Director of Development Services, presented the item.

Citizens the addressed Council:

James McGue is the Owner of the property and wants it to house his daughter and grandchildren.

Moved by Councilmember Brooks, seconded by Councilmember Dietz, to Approve Quasi-Judicial Resolution RES 2024-121 as presented. The motion passed by a vote of:

Yes: 7 - Gray, Cavey, Hollingshead, Bracken, Davis, Brooks, Dietz

[RES 2024-122](#) **Resolution Approving a Site Development Plan for Single-Family Residential Development within the Dawson Trails Planned Development (Dawson Trails Filing No. 2, Tract Q) [55.98 acres, located south of Territorial Road and west of Dawson Trails Boulevard, Planning Area B1] Continued from December 17, 2024**

Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Cavey, seconded by Councilmember Hollingshead, to continue this item to January 7. The motion passed by a vote of:

Yes: 7 - Gray, Cavey, Hollingshead, Bracken, Davis, Brooks, Dietz

ADDITIONAL UNSCHEDULED PUBLIC APPEARANCES

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 10:43. pm.

Submitted by:

Lisa Anderson, Town Clerk

**Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Cavey, seconded by Councilmember Bracken, to Adjourn.
The motion passed by a vote of:**

Yes: 7 - Gray, Cavey, Hollingshead, Bracken, Davis, Brooks, Dietz