

MINUTES

Regular Meeting of the Aurora City Council

Monday, August 14, 2023

1. **RECONVENE REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 14, 2023, AND CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Coffman reconvened the regular meeting of the City Council for August 14, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL**– Kadee Rodriguez, City Clerk

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Coffman, Bergan, Coombs, Gardner, Jurinsky, Lawson, Marcano, Medina, Murillo, Sundberg, Zvonek

Public call-in instructions were provided in both English and Spanish.

3. **INVOCATION/MOMENT OF SILENCE**– Mike Coffman, Mayor

Mayor Coffman led the prayer for the August 14th, Council Meeting.

4. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** (all standing)

5. **EXECUTIVE SESSION UPDATE**

Mayor Coffman provided an update on the Executive Session where they discussed a settlement offer.

6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

7. **PROCLAMATIONS OR CEREMONIES**

7.a. **Aurora International Month**

Mayor Coffman proclaimed August 2023 as Aurora International Month in the City of Aurora, Colorado.

Mayor Coffman read a land acknowledgment.

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8. **PUBLIC INVITED TO BE HEARD**

(non-agenda-related issues only)

Council heard public testimony on non-agenda-related items.

Mayor Coffman asked for the contact information of Tim Rohac, who expressed concerns about the prevalent lawlessness, homeless encampments, and abandoned vehicles in Aurora.

9. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Motion by Gardner, second by Coombs to adopt the agenda with items 11.a.2, 11.a.3, and 11.a.4 delayed until the next Council Meeting.

Voting Aye: Mayor Coffman, Bergan, Coombs, Gardner, Jurinsky, Lawson, Marcano, Medina, Murillo, Sundberg, Zvonek

10. **CONSENT CALENDAR - MOTIONS**

Any member of the Council may request an item to be removed from the Consent Calendar and considered separately. Any item removed will be considered immediately following the adoption of the remainder of the Consent Calendar.

10.a **Motions**

10.a.1 **Consideration to AWARD A COMPETITIVE BID CONTRACT to JHL Constructors Inc., Englewood, Colorado in the Amount of \$6,818,788.00 for the Binney Water Purification Facility Flocculation Sedimentation Building Project, Project No. 5922A**

Swirvine Nyirenda, Manager of Project Delivery Services, Aurora Water / Hanosky Hernandez, Senior Assistant City Attorney

10.a.2 **Binney Water Purification Facility Flocculation Sedimentation Basin Building Design Contract Amendment**

Consideration to AWARD AN AMENDMENT TO A COMPETITIVELY SOLICITED CONTRACT to Hazen & Sawyer, Greenwood Village, Colorado in the Amount of \$538,410.00 to Provide Construction Phase Services for the Binney Water Purification Facility Flocculation Sedimentation Basin Structure Design Project

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Swirvine Nyirenda, Manager of Project Delivery Services, Aurora Water /
Hanosky Hernandez, Senior Assistant City Attorney

- 10.a.3 **Consideration to AMEND AN OPENLY SOLICITED CONTRACT with ERO Resources Corporation, Denver, Colorado in the Amount of \$150,000.00 for Providing Pre-NEPA and Geotechnical Support Services for the Wild Horse Reservoir Project**

Richard Vidmar, Water Resources Manager, Aurora Water / Hanosky Hernandez, Senior Assistant City Attorney

- 10.a.4 **Consideration to EXTEND A COMPETITIVELY BID CONTRACT to Colorado Barricade Company, Denver, Colorado in the Not-to-Exceed Amount of \$101,00.00 for Rental of Barricade Equipment As Required through July 31, 2024, B-4605**

Mike Mills, Manager of Water Operations and Maintenance, Aurora Water / Hanosky Hernandez, Senior Assistant City Attorney

- 10.a.5 **Consideration to AWARD A SINGLE SOURCE CONTRACT to Waste Management Corporate Services, Incorporated, Pasadena, California in the Amount Not-to-Exceed \$475,000.00 for Landfill Services at the Denver Arapahoe Disposal Site (DADS) through August 31, 2024**

Mike Mills, Manager of Water Maintenance and Operations, Aurora Water / Hanosky Hernandez, Senior Assistant City Attorney

- 10.a.6 **Consideration to AWARD A SINGLE SOURCE CONTRACT to Caropractor Inc., Aurora, CO in the Amount of \$200,000.00 to Cover the Cost of Body and Frame Repairs to Emergency Response Vehicles and Other City Vehicles as Required through August 2024**

Ron Forrest, Fleet Manager, Public Works / Hanosky Hernandez, Senior Assistant City Attorney

- 10.a.7 **Consideration to AWARD AN OPENLY SOLICITED CONTRACT to HDR Engineering, Inc, Denver, Colorado, in the Amount of \$3,224,977.88 for Conducting a Multimodal Transportation Master Plan for the City of Aurora; R- 2316**

Huiliang Liu, Principal Transportation Planner, Planning and Development Services/ Hanosky Hernandez, Senior Assistant City Attorney

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10.a.8 **Contractor for Youth Violence Prevention Program Evaluation Services**

Consideration to AWARD AN OPENLY SOLICITED CONTRACT to University of Colorado Boulder, CO in the Amount of \$199,995.00 for an Educational Researcher Who Will be Assigned to the Youth Violence Prevention Program and Supervised by the Manager of the Youth Violence Prevention Program. R-2346

Joseph DeHerrera, Youth Violence Prevention Program Manager, Housing and Community Services / Hanosky Hernandez, Senior Assistant City Attorney

10.b **Planning Matters**

10.c **Appointments to Boards and Commissions**

10.c.1 **Consideration to Appoint One (1) Member to the Human Relations Commission**

Kadee Rodriguez, City Clerk / Tim Joyce, Assistant City Attorney

Motion by Coombs, second by Gardner to approve the Consent Calendar – Motions.

Voting Aye: Mayor Coffman, Bergan, Coombs, Gardner, Jurinsky, Lawson, Marcano, Medina, Murillo, Sundberg, Zvonek

11. **CONSENT CALENDAR – RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES**

Any member of the Council may request an item to be removed from the Consent Calendar and considered separately. Any item removed will be considered immediately following the adoption of the remainder of the Consent Calendar.

11.a **Resolutions**

11.a.1 **Purchase and Sale Agreement for Three (3) Shares of Stock in the Platte Valley Irrigation Company**

R2023-86 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF STOCK IN THE PLATTE VALLEY

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IRRIGATION COMPANY BETWEEN THE CITY OF AURORA AND KORWELL LAND HOLDINGS, LLC

Alexandra Davis, Assistant General Manager of Water Supply and Demand, Aurora Water / Stephen Cann, Senior Assistant City Attorney

11.a.2 **Intergovernmental Agreement with Arapahoe County for the 2023 Coordinated Election**

R2023-87 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, APPROVING THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN ARAPAHOE COUNTY AND THE CITY OF AURORA FOR THE COORDINATED ELECTION TO BE HELD NOVEMBER 7, 2023

Kadee Rodriguez, City Clerk / Andrea Wood, Criminal Prosecution Manager

11.a.3 **Intergovernmental Agreement with Adams County for the 2023 Coordinated Election**

R2023-88 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, APPROVING THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN ADAMS COUNTY AND THE CITY OF AURORA FOR THE COORDINATED ELECTION TO BE HELD NOVEMBER 7, 2023

Kadee Rodriguez, City Clerk / Andrea Wood, Criminal Prosecution Manager

11.a.4 **Intergovernmental Agreement with Douglas County for the 2023 Coordinated Election**

R2023-89 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, APPROVING THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN DOUGLAS COUNTY AND THE CITY OF AURORA FOR THE COORDINATED ELECTION TO BE HELD NOVEMBER 7, 2023

Kadee Rodriguez, City Clerk / Andrea Wood, Criminal Prosecution Manager

11.a.5 **Douglas County Department of Human Services – Aurora Police Department Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)**

R2023-90 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, APPROVING THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE AURORA POLICE DEPARTMENT AND DOUGLAS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES CHILD WELFARE

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Art Acevedo, Chief of Police / Megan Platt, Assistant City Attorney

11.a.6 **Authorizing the City's Private Activity Bond Allocation for 2023 to the Aurora Housing Authority**

R2023-91 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, AUTHORIZING THE ASSIGNMENT OF THE CITY'S 2023 PRIVATE ACTIVITY BOND ALLOCATION TO THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF AURORA, DBA AURORA HOUSING AUTHORITY

Alicia Montoya, Housing and Community Development Manager, Housing and Community Services / Tim Joyce, Assistant City Attorney

11.a.7 **Neighborhood Park Name for Green Valley Ranch East PA-13**

R2023-92 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, EXPRESSING THE AURORA CITY COUNCIL'S APPROVAL OF NAMING A NEIGHBORHOOD PARK IN GREEN VALLEY RANCH EAST "WANDER PARK"

Curt Bish, Planning Supervisor, Parks, Recreation and Open Space / Tim Joyce, Assistant City Attorney

11.a.8 **Opposing Strong Mayor Form of Government**

R2023-93 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, EXPRESSING THE AURORA CITY COUNCIL'S DESIRE TO OPPOSE A MAYOR/COUNCIL FORM OF CITY GOVERNMENT

Sponsor Name: Juan Marcano, Council Member

George Koumantakis, Client Services Manager, City Attorney

Council heard public testimony on the agenda item.

11.b **Finalizing of Ordinances**

11.b.1 **Update Charter Language to be Gender Neutral – Ordinance for 2023 Ballot**

2023-31 FOR AN ORDINANCE SUBMITTING TO A VOTE OF THE REGISTERED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, AT THE

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REGULAR MUNICIPAL ELECTION OF NOVEMBER 7, 2023, PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLES 2-2, 3-10, 3-14(4), 3-14(5), 3-14(7), 3-15(1), 3-15(3), 3-15(4), 3-16(6), 3-16(8)(a), 3-16(8)(j), 3-16(8)(j)(a), 3-17(2), 3-17(3), 5-2, 5-9, 6-5, 7-4(e), 7-4(f), 8-2, 10-1, 10-5, 10-8, 11-2, 11-3, 12-7, 14-9(6) & 15-9(6) OF THE CITY CHARTER CONCERNING NON-SUBSTANTIVE UPDATES TO THE CITY CHARTER TO CREATE GENDER NEUTRALITY BY REPLACING ALL GENDER SPECIFIC NOUNS AND ALL PERSONAL PRONOUNS WITH NON-GENDER SPECIFIC NOUNS, AND AMENDING ARTICLE 5-9 TO INCORPORATE DIRECTION THAT UNIFORM CODES ADOPTED BY THE CITY FOR INCLUSION IN THE CITY CODE SHALL FIRST BE AMENDED TO USE GENDER NEUTRAL REFERENCES TO PERSONS

Sponsor: Alison Coombs, Council Member

Jack Bajorek, Deputy City Attorney

11.b.2 **Amending Sections 54-133 and 54-151 of the City Code Pertaining to Unlawful Acts**

2023-32 FOR AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, AMENDING SECTIONS 54-133 AND 54-151 OF THE CITY CODE PERTAINING TO UNLAWFUL ACTS

Sponsor: Curtis Gardner, Mayor Pro Tem

Dan Brotzman, City Attorney / Jack Bajorek, Deputy City Attorney

11.b.3 **Eagle Ridge Zoning Map Amendment**

2023-34 FOR AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, REZONING A PARCEL OF LAND MEASURING 31.28 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, LOCATED WITHIN SUBAREA C, ALONG STEPHEN D HOGAN PARKWAY AND WEST OF PICADILLY ROAD, CITY OF AURORA, COUNTY OF ADAMS, STATE OF COLORADO FROM MIXED-USE REGIONAL DISTRICT (MU-R) TO MIXED-USE CORRIDOR DISTRICT (MU-C) AND AMENDING THE ZONING MAP ACCORDINGLY (EAGLE RIDGE ZONING MAP AMENDMENT)

Ariana Muca, Planner, Planning and Development Services / Rachel Allen, Senior Assistant City Attorney

Outside Speakers: Julie Gamec and Alicia Khine, THK Associates

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Motion by Gardner, second by Marcano to approve the Consent Calendar – Resolution and Ordinances with items 11.a.2, 11.a.3, and 11.a.4 removed.

Voting Aye: Bergan, Coombs, Gardner, Jurinsky, Lawson, Marcano, Medina, Murillo, Zvonek

12. **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Public hearings with or without related ordinances

12.a **Murphy Creek Industrial Metropolitan District**

R2023-94 A PUBLIC HEARING AND CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, APPROVING THE SERVICE PLAN FOR MURPHY CREEK INDUSTRIAL METROPOLITAN DISTRICT AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO AND THE DISTRICT

Cesarina Dancy, Senior Development Project Manager, Office of Development Assistance / Brian Rulla, Assistant City Attorney

Mayor Coffman opened the public hearing.

Cesarina Dancy, Senior Project Manager of the Office of Development Assistance, and applicant, Megan Kranichfeld, provided a summary of the item.

Mayor Coffman closed the public hearing.

CM Coombs expressed concern about the lack of specific information in the service plan regarding a \$24 million Debt Service Authority request. She asked about the infrastructure that would be developed with this funding.

C. Dancy deferred the question to the applicant. M. Kranichfeld provided a response.

CM Coombs asked if the \$24 million was determined based on specific anticipated needs or if it was a general request for the maximum amount, with details to be decided later.

M. Kranichfeld confirmed that the amount was indeed based on general budget estimates for those specific needs at the current project stage.

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Motion by Coombs, second by Medina to approve 12.a.

Voting Aye: Bergan, Coombs, Gardner, Jurinsky, Lawson, Marcano, Medina, Murillo, Zvonek

12.b **First Creek Powhaton Metropolitan Districts Nos. 1-12**

R2023-95 A PUBLIC HEARING AND CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, APPROVING THE SERVICE PLAN FOR FIRST CREEK POWHATON METROPOLITAN DISTRICT NOS. 1-12 AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, AND THE DISTRICTS

Cesarina Dancy, Senior Development Project Manager, Office of Development Assistance / Brian Rulla, Assistant City Attorney

Mayor Coffman opened the public hearing.

Cesarina Dancy, Senior Project Manager from the Officer of Development Assistance, and applicant, George Rowley, provided a summary of the item.

Mayor Coffman asked the applicant about the meaning of "50 mills" and "per and as adjusted."

G. Rowley provided clarification.

CM Coombs expressed gratitude for the applicant's clarification regarding the total amount of \$900 million spread across the 12 districts, which had been a point of misunderstanding in the previous meeting. She also asked about the initial district boundaries, noting that only three acres out of 981 acres were included initially. While recognizing the necessity for flexibility due to phasing, she questioned the extent of this flexibility and asked the applicant to explain the included small area.

G. Rowley provided an explanation.

CM Coombs requested clarification on the process of including and excluding areas within the districts, aiming to provide information to the public.

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G. Rowley responded.

Mayor Coffman closed the public hearing.

Motion by Medina, second by Jurinsky to approve item 12.b.

Voting Aye: Bergan, Coombs, Gardner, Jurinsky, Lawson, Marcano, Medina, Murillo, Sundberg, Zvonek

12.c **Tower Crossings South Zoning Map Amendment**

2023-36 A PUBLIC HEARING AND CONSIDERATION OF AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, REZONING A PARCEL OF LAND MEASURING 22.4 ACRES MORE OR LESS AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF TOWER RD AND E 32ND PKWY FROM BUSINESS/TECH DISTRICT (I- 1) TO MIXED-USE CORRIDOR (MU-C) AND AMENDING THE ZONING MAP ACCORDINGLY (TOWER CROSSINGS SOUTH ZONING MAP AMENDMENT)

Erik Gates, Planner, Planning and Development Services / Rachel Allen, Client Services Manager, City Attorney

Mayor Coffman opened the public hearing.

Erik Gates, Planner from the Planning and Development Services, provided a summary of the item.

CM Marcano expressed gratitude for the presentation and asked for further information about Exhibit D, specifically the labeled "Recreation Center." He wanted to understand this aspect in more detail.

E. Gates provided clarification.

CM Marcano then asked whether this referred to a private facility, to which E. Gates confirmed affirmatively.

Mayor Coffman closed the public hearing.

Motion by Bergan, second by Lawson to approve item 12.c.

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Voting Aye: Bergan, Coombs, Gardner, Jurinsky, Lawson, Marcano, Medina, Murillo, Sundberg, Zvonek

13. **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES**

13.a. **2023 IT Lease Purchase Authority**

2023-37 FOR AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY OFFICER TO ACQUIRE CERTAIN TANGIBLE AND INTANGIBLE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROPERTY DURING THE 2023 FISCAL YEAR, EITHER BY PURCHASE OR PURSUANT TO THE TERMS OF LEASE-PURCHASE AGREEMENTS TO BE ENTERED INTO BETWEEN THE CITY, AS LESSEE, AND LEASE INVESTORS, VENDORS OR THE AURORA CAPITAL LEASING CORPORATION, EACH AS LESSOR, AUTHORIZING OFFICIALS OF THE CITY TO TAKE ALL ACTION NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE TRANSACTIONS CONTEMPLATED HEREBY

Scott Newman, Chief Information Officer / Hanosky Hernandez, Senior Assistant City Attorney

Scott Newman, Chief Information Officer, provided a summary of the item.

Motion by Jurinsky, second by Coombs to approve item 13.a.

Voting Aye: Bergan, Coombs, Gardner, Jurinsky, Lawson, Marcano, Medina, Murillo, Sundberg, Zvonek

13.b. **Single Subject Ballot Initiatives**

2023-38 FOR AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, AMENDING SECTIONS 54-121 AND 54-131 OF THE CITY CODE PERTAINING TO BALLOT INITIATIVES

Sponsor: Curtis Gardner, Mayor Pro Tem

Dan Brotzman, City Attorney / Jack Bajorek, Deputy City Attorney

Mayor Pro Tem Gardner provided a summary of the item.

Motion by Gardner, second by Marcano to approve item 13.b.

Voting Aye: Bergan, Coombs, Gardner, Jurinsky, Lawson, Marcano, Medina, Murillo, Zvonek

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13.c. **Prohibiting the Sale of Cats and Dogs in Pet Shops**

2023-39 FOR AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, PROHIBITING THE SELLING OR DISPOSING OF DOGS OR CATS OTHER THAN THOSE OBTAINED FROM AN ANIMAL SHELTER, NONPROFIT HUMANE SOCIETY, OR NONPROFIT ANIMAL RESCUE ORGANIZATION

Sponsors: Danielle Jurinsky, Council Member / Juan Marcano, Council Member

Trevor Vaughn, Manager of Licensing, Finance / Angela Garcia, Senior Assistant City Attorney

Council heard public testimony on the agenda item.

CM Bergan acknowledged the concerns surrounding pet stores, encompassing the origins of pets and the conditions they faced in stores. She had also shown understanding about the worries linked to puppy mills providing pets to Colorado. She asked for clarification on how rescues were monitored in the past and how their adherence to appropriate standards was ensured.

Anthony Youngblood, Division Manager of Animal Services, responded.

CM Bergan asked if PACFA was the organization that was unable to regulate pet stores.

A. Youngblood clarified that it was USDA and that PACFA operated specifically within the state of Colorado.

CM Bergan asked if PACFA is responsible for regulating rescues and A. Youngblood confirmed.

CM Bergan asked whether PACFA was capable of conducting thorough and timely inspections of rescues. She mentioned searching for her rescue on the website but had not found any information about its regulation.

A. Youngblood responded.

CM Bergan voiced her concern for the health of all pets, underscoring the necessity of regulating and inspecting all sources from which pets are acquired.

CM Zvonek followed up with a question regarding regulations. He asked if, similar to the USDA's nationwide regulation of sales, pet stores in Colorado were required to obtain approval for what shelters received from PACFA.

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A. Youngblood clarified that while it wasn't an identical process, pet stores were indeed required to adhere to specific standards outlined in PACFA regulations.

CM Zvonek asked for clarification on pet store regulations. He asked whether pet stores were obligated to only acquire animals from USDA-regulated sources and those compliant with Colorado's PACFA regulations.

Trevor Vaughn, Manager of Licensing, responded that he was unsure about certain regulations and emphasized that he wasn't responsible for overseeing PACFA's inspections.

CM Zvonek asked about whether pet store operators in Colorado were obligated to buy animals only from sources regulated by PACFA. He also asked whether the proposed ordinance would prohibit all pet stores, regardless of their compliance with existing regulations, from purchasing puppies from licensed breeders.

T. Vaughn responded and provided clarification.

CM Coombs requested clarification on whether pet stores were restricted from buying pets from breeders, while individuals could still purchase pets directly from breeders within the City of Aurora.

T. Vaughn confirmed this understanding.

CM Bergan asked if rescues in Colorado that brought animals from out of state were subject to the same regulations by USDA.

A. Youngblood confirmed that yes, they were regulated in the same way, but not by the USDA but rather, by PACFA.

CM Bergan asked for further clarification, particularly whether this regulation applied even when the rescues brought animals across state lines.

A. Youngblood affirmed this, explaining that as soon as the animals crossed state lines and the rescue was licensed by PACFA, the regulation by PACFA would come into effect.

Mayor Pro Tem Gardner expressed his stance on the issue. He acknowledged the issues related to private pet stores but did not believe that was a sufficient reason to completely shut down such businesses. He cited a parallel by mentioning the potential scenario of Tesla building a car dealership in Aurora despite concerns about their supply chain involving child labor in Africa. He voiced his confusion about the idea of rejecting an entire business type based solely on negative aspects. He advocated for the establishment of appropriate regulations for commercial pet stores, similar to those governing private breeders and shelters.

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He expressed concern about the trend of eliminating industries whenever there were aspects disliked about them. He emphasized his reluctance to follow a path that involved banning industries due to specific concerns, viewing it as a slippery slope.

CM Jurinsky joined the discussion, noting that the proposal was not a rejection of private pet businesses in Aurora, given that there were currently none operating in the city. She pointed out the existence of a successful private pet store named Pet Palace in Aurora. After speaking with them, the store clarified why they had ceased selling dogs and cats, opting to focus on other aspects of their business. She highlighted that the ordinance aimed to prohibit the sale of puppies and kittens, not to eliminate private pet businesses. She recounted past instances of poor treatment of animals in the city, such as overcrowded cages in a mall store. She firmly opposed puppy mills, expressing support for the proposed ordinance and suggesting the need for improved regulations for shelters.

Mayor Pro Tem Gardner acknowledged the potential impact on businesses due to the proposed ordinance. He referred to a business owner from Centennial who had spoken during the meeting, and he also noted that several public commenters expressed a desire for Aurora's actions to inspire other municipalities to adopt similar measures. He expressed concerns about the possible repercussions for businesses in those other municipalities if they were to follow Aurora's lead. He stated his reluctance to move forward in that direction.

CM Zvonek agreed with the ordinance's intention to prevent pet stores from buying from puppy mills. However, he disagreed that the ordinance would effectively achieve this goal. He echoed the concerns raised by Mayor Pro Tem Gardner regarding the potential impact on businesses beyond Aurora's jurisdiction. He shared the belief that despite the admirable intention, he did not view this ordinance as the solution to address the existing lack of enforcement of regulations. He concluded by stating his intention to vote against the ordinance.

CM Jurinsky acknowledged the presence of a business owner from Centennial but stressed that every council member had been elected to serve the people of Aurora. She reminded everyone of their responsibility to their constituents. CM Jurinsky expressed her belief that the proposed ordinance wouldn't have any impact on the store owner's business in Centennial.

CM Bergan indicated her support for the ordinance while also emphasizing the need for more comprehensive regulations. She noted a potential loophole in the regulation of rescues, expressing concern that not all rescues might have been adequately regulated. She stressed the significance of regulating not only pet stores but also other aspects, ensuring that pets coming from out of state were appropriately regulated.

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Motion by Jurinsky, second by Marcano to approve item 13.c.

Voting Aye: Bergan, Coombs, Jurinsky, Lawson, Marcano, Medina, Murillo

Voting Nay: Gardner, Zvonek

14. **FINALIZING OF ORDINANCES**

Ordinances not approved unanimously at first reading.

14.a. **Police Reserve Force**

2023-35 FOR AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, ADDING A SECTION TO THE CITY CODE AUTHORIZING A RESERVE POLICE FORCE

Sponsor: Danielle Jurinsky, Council Member

Art Acevedo, Police Chief / Pete Schulte, City Attorney

Council heard public testimony on the agenda item.

Pete Schulte, Public Safety Client Manager for the City Attorney's Office, provided a summary of the item.

Mayor Pro Tem Gardner asked why the fire department was not present to speak on the item that had an impact on them and asked for clarification if the police would speak for them.

P. Schulte provided clarification.

Mayor Pro Tem Gardner voiced his agreement with Chief Oughton's opposition to the proposal. He disagreed with the notion of arming firefighters, as their role involves medical service rather than carrying firearms. He emphasized the distinct skills and personality traits required for each role. He welcomed the upcoming policy alteration that would prevent firefighters from participating in the program. He brought attention to a recurring issue where the fire department was not consulted on matters that impacted them. He cited past instances involving the police department, such as changes to the Civil Service Commission and the charter, where the fire department's perspective was overlooked. He stressed the need to regard the fire department as an equal pillar of public safety and urged for their inclusion in relevant discussions in the future.

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CM Bergan echoed Mayor Pro Tem Gardner's sentiment, expressing satisfaction with Aurora Fire Rescue's policy adjustment. She also expressed the desire for the fire department's input in future matters.

A. Acevedo responded, acknowledging the council members' point and clarifying that discussions with the fire department had indeed taken place.

CM Zvonek asked about the program's nature, specifically inquiring if it was voluntary.

P. Schulte confirmed that the program was indeed voluntary, highlighting that the ordinance did not contain any provisions for compulsory participation.

CM Zvonek asked for further assurance that no one would be obligated to take part, and P. Schulte affirmed this.

CM Coombs acknowledged the potential positive impact of the proposed program on community-police relations. She expressed gratitude to CM Jurinsky for accepting ordinance amendments and acknowledged Chief Acevedo and P. Schulte for their pre-discussion efforts. She raised concerns about the absence of engagement with another crucial stakeholder group—the community members affected by issues covered in the consent decree. She stressed the importance of addressing problems like racially biased policing and excessive use of force and noted that community voices had not been adequately heard beyond occasional comments. While she supported the concept, she was worried about deferring conversations with the community until the rulemaking stage, given historical mistrust. She highlighted challenges in trusting effective vetting and training due to past problems. She anticipated the initiative's likely passage despite her vote and announced her intention to hold Town Halls to gather community input. Recognizing the probable outcome, she stated his inability to support the initiative during the second reading due to concerns about community trust.

Mayor Coffman raised a concern regarding the assumption that training wouldn't apply to reserve officers. He asked Chief Acevedo for his input and clarification.

A. Acevedo responded.

P. Schulte stressed the commitment to transparency throughout the process, focusing on addressing conditions and concerns to ensure the initiative's success.

A. Acevedo provided additional information and clarification.

CM Lawson directed her concerns to Chief Acevedo, expressing apprehension about the possibility of external volunteers, potentially from other agencies, and the adequacy of their vetting. She noted that the vetting process had posed challenges in Aurora previously. She indicated that community members shared similar worries with her. She

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highlighted the community's unease about the identity and potential actions of these volunteers during critical situations, even when accompanied by trained officers. She emphasized that, based on the feedback she had received, the vetting of these volunteers was a substantial concern.

A. Acevedo addressed concerns regarding a vetting process for a reserve program within a police department.

In addition, P. Schulte explained a background check process related to law enforcement hiring.

A. Acevedo expressed hope for the potential advantages of the reserve program for recruitment purposes.

CM Jurinsky suggested tabling the item for a span of two weeks due to the prevailing atmosphere and cues from the room and the absence of CM Sundberg.

Mayor Coffman asked for clarification, asking if CM Jurinsky meant a motion to continue, to which CM Jurinsky confirmed.

CM Jurinsky indicated that the delay was necessary, taking into account their colleague's comments. Mayor Coffman duly acknowledged the request for a two-week postponement.

CM Marcano requested clarification from Chief Acevedo regarding a prior statement about the commencement of the program. According to the statement, the program's launch would commence after the Council approves the policy, a process that would actively involve community input and feedback.

A. Acevedo provided clarification.

P. Schulte added that this policy development process would take several months, potentially up to a year, before the program could become operational, even if it had received approval on that day.

Motion by Jurinsky, second by Gardner to continue item 14.a in the next regular Council Meeting.

Voting Aye: Bergan, Coombs, Gardner, Jurinsky, Lawson, Marcano, Medina, Murillo, Zvonek

15. **ANNEXATIONS**

15.a. **Front Range Airpark Annexation – Substantial Compliance**

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R2023-96 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, FINDING A PETITION FOR ANNEXATION OF A CERTAIN PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED IN SECTION 7, TOWNSHIP 3 SOUTH, RANGE 64 WEST OF THE SIXTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, COUNTY OF ADAMS, STATE OF COLORADO, TO BE IN SUBSTANTIAL COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 31-12-107(1), C.R.S., AND GIVING NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED ANNEXATION (Front Range Airpark) 653.11 ACRES

Jacob Cox, Manager of Development Assistance / Brian Rulla, Assistant City

Jacob Cox, Manager of Development Assistance, provided a summary of the item.

Council heard public testimony on the agenda item.

CM Bergan noted that, as explained by staff member Brian, the current meeting marked the first in a series of three. She clarified that this meeting centered around a petition for annexation. She pointed out that if the petition met the necessary criteria, approval was legally required.

J. Cox provided additional information.

Motion by Gardner, second by Zvonek to approve item 15.a.

Voting Aye: Bergan, Coombs, Gardner, Jurinsky, Lawson, Marcano, Medina, Murillo, Zvonek

16. **RECONSIDERATIONS AND CALL UPS**

16.a. **Resolution for Economic Development Plan 2023**

R2023-84 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, SUPPORTING THE APPROPRIATION OF GENERAL FUND REVENUES TO DEVELOP AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Sponsor: Mike Coffman, Mayor

Rachel Allen, Client Group Manager, City Attorney

Mayor Coffman expressed gratitude to the council members for reaching out to him and for engaging in fruitful discussions about economic development in the city. While valuing the input of business leaders, he emphasized that crafting an economic plan and vision for

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the city was not something that could be solely outsourced to them. He stressed the importance of a plan that would benefit all city residents, not just the business sector. He planned to continue these discussions and intended to withdraw the initial proposal, intending to reintroduce it in two weeks.

Kadee Rodriguez, City Clerk, asked if the Mayor and City Attorney's Office needed to vote on the item.

D. Brotzman provided an explanation.

Mayor Pro Tem Gardner asked the City Attorney, questioning the purpose of adhering to the old Garfield Jones Rules if any member could add agenda items based on their prerogative. He suggested that this practice rendered the rules irrelevant and suggested discarding them.

D. Brotzman provided clarification.

CM Jurinsky asked if the issue was meant to be revisited concerning section 14.a. Mayor Coffman confirmed this.

CM Jurinsky noted the absence of CM Sundberg's name on the list and suggested waiting for two weeks. She mentioned CM Sundberg's desire to participate in the vote and his feeling of regret for missing the previous vote. Therefore, it was agreed to postpone the matter for the specified period.

17. **GENERAL BUSINESS**

18. **REPORTS**

18.a. **Report by the Mayor**

None.

18.b. **Reports by the Council**

CM Jurinsky conveyed her disappointment at the actions taken, particularly noting the timing of pulling the resolution for Economic Development Plan 2023 before the present audience. She stressed the readiness of both sides to engage in the conversation, which had been proposed on several occasions. CM Jurinsky pointed out the growing number of participants who were eager for this discussion, with their numbers increasing each week. She criticized the choice to revisit the matter in two weeks, considering it a time-wasting decision for all involved, and shared her feelings of sadness about the situation.

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CM Murillo announced that her Town Hall will be on August 24th. After a break of a couple of months, the Town Hall featured presentations from the Highline Canal Conservancy and Xcel Energy, focusing on Northwest Aurora Alley Lighting. She extended an invitation for people to attend the event held at the MLK Library.

CM Marcano mentioned that the August Ward IV meeting had been replaced by a listening session attended by hundreds of Aurorans at the Aurora Public Schools Administration building, with Governor Polis visiting the town. Common themes discussed during this session included housing affordability, higher wages, improved and more frequent public transportation, and more efficient responses to public safety issues. He expressed gratitude to those who had participated in this event. He then announced that the subsequent Ward IV meeting was scheduled for Thursday, September 14th at Colorado Early Colleges at 6:30 p.m. The meeting's focus would be on Vision Zero and creating safer streets in Aurora. This topic held particular importance given the high number of traffic fatalities and accidents that occurred within the year. He expressed hope for good attendance at the upcoming meeting.

CM Coombs announced that City Council Members, staff, and local officials would be going on a Water Tour to learn about the water system on Wednesday. She mentioned that in addition to Global Fest, there was also the Meadowood Festival, an annual event taking place across from Meadowood Park on Saturday. She also announced their Town Hall for the month, which would take place on August 22nd at 6:00 p.m. at Heather Gardens clubhouse. The police and fire leadership would also be present during the meeting. She expressed the intention to coordinate with the community for a discussion on the police reserve force, potentially incorporating community feedback. She also mentioned planning an additional Town Hall listening session for the same topic before the meeting on the 28th.

CM Lawson provided updates about the Federal, State, and Intergovernmental Relations Report. Congress was in recess until September, but attention was being given to the unfolding budget process, with the federal fiscal year concluding on September 30th. Additionally, Colorado's state legislature commenced its interim committee meetings to discuss potential legislation for 2024, with progress being monitored across various committees. She made a reminder about the meeting of the Federal, State, and Intergovernmental Relations Committee that would take place on Friday, August 18th at 11:00 a.m. She mentioned that the committee would hear from CDHS on juvenile bed space. Lastly, she reiterated the previously discussed event, Global Fest, which would take place on Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Aurora Municipal Center.

CM Bergan thanked the nonpartisan volunteers who had diligently assisted in collecting her petitions. She shared that the petitions were acquired on Wednesday and submitted the following Thursday, extending her appreciation to all volunteers involved. She announced the grand opening of Nordstrom Rack, which would take place on Thursday at 8:00 in the morning. The event promised giveaways and a

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drawing for a \$1,000 gift card. She also mentioned that she had scheduled a community meeting for the Tollgate Crossing Community in response to recent concerns about public safety. The meeting would take place on August 23rd at the Southeast Recreation Center from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., and she mentioned that more information would be available on social media.

19. **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Coffman adjourned the regular meeting of the City Council.



MIKE COFFMAN, MAYOR

ATTEST:



KADEE RODRIGUEZ, CITY CLERK



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