

MINUTES

Regular Meeting of the Aurora City Council

Monday, August 25, 2025

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:	Mayor Coffman	Amsalu Kassaw
	Françoise Bergan	Angela Lawson
	Alison Coombs	Ruben Medina
	Curtis Gardner	Crystal Murillo
	Stephanie Hancock	Steve Sundberg
	Danielle Jurinsky	

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Coffman reconvened the regular meeting of the City Council at 6:45 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL**

3. **INVOCATION/MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Mayor Coffman led in prayer for the August 25, 2025 meeting.

4. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

(All Standing)

5. **EXECUTIVE SESSION UPDATE**

Mayor Coffman provided an update on the Executive Session, stating economic development incentive and a property transaction were discussed.

6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

6.a August 11, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Moved by: Steve Sundberg

Second by: Amsalu Kassaw

Does Council wish to approve the minutes of the August 11, 2025 meeting?

Voting Aye: (11): Mayor Coffman, Françoise Bergan, Alison Coombs, Curtis Gardner, Stephanie Hancock, Danielle Jurinsky, Amsalu Kassaw, Angela Lawson, Ruben Medina, Crystal Murillo, and Steve Sundberg

7. **PROCLAMATIONS OR CEREMONIES**

The City Charter prescribes the Mayor may vote on resolutions and ordinances only to create or break a tie vote of Council Members present. The Mayor Pro-Tem is always permitted to vote on all items.

8. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Moved by: Stephanie Hancock

Second by: Angela Lawson

Does Council wish to adopt the agenda as presented?

Voting Aye: (11): Mayor Coffman, Françoise Bergan, Alison Coombs, Curtis Gardner, Stephanie Hancock, Danielle Jurinsky, Amsalu Kassaw, Angela Lawson, Ruben Medina, Crystal Murillo, and Steve Sundberg

9. CONSENT CALENDAR - MOTIONS

Any member of Council may request an item be removed from Consent Calendar and considered separately. Removed items are considered immediately following the adoption of the Consent Calendar.

Moved by: Françoise Bergan

Second by: Amsalu Kassaw

Does Council wish to approve the Motions Consent Calendar as presented?

Voting Aye: (11): Mayor Coffman, Françoise Bergan, Alison Coombs, Curtis Gardner, Stephanie Hancock, Danielle Jurinsky, Amsalu Kassaw, Angela Lawson, Ruben Medina, Crystal Murillo, and Steve Sundberg

9.a Motions

9.b Planning Matters

9.c Appointments to Boards and Commissions

9.c.1 Consideration to Appoint One (1) Member to the Historic Preservation Commission

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

10. CONSENT CALENDAR - RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

Any member of Council may request an item be removed from Consent Calendar and considered separately. Removed items are considered immediately following the adoption of the Consent Calendar.

Moved by: Françoise Bergan

Second by: Danielle Jurinsky

Does Council wish to approve the Resolutions and Ordinances Consent Calendar?

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Voting Aye: (10): Françoise Bergan, Alison Coombs, Curtis Gardner, Stephanie Hancock, Danielle Jurinsky, Amsalu Kassaw, Angela Lawson, Ruben Medina, Crystal Murillo, and Steve Sundberg

10.a Resolutions

10.a.1 Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Adams County to Use Moorhead Recreation Center as a Voter Service and Polling Center (VSPC)

R2025-88 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, APPROVING THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR THE USE OF PROPERTY OWNED OR CONTROLLED BY THE CITY OF AURORA FOR USE AS A VOTER SERVICE AND POLLING CENTER (VSPC) SITE BY THE ADAMS COUNTY CLERK AND RECORDER

Kadee Rodriguez, City Clerk / Andrea Wood, Assistant City Attorney

10.a.2 Concessionaire Agreement for the Korean War Memorial at Generals Park

R2025-89 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, EXPRESSING THE AURORA CITY COUNCIL'S APPROVAL OF THE CONCESSIONAIRE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO AND UN HERITAGE FOR KOREAN WAR FOR A KOREAN WAR MEMORIAL AT GENERALS PARK

A waiver of reconsideration is being requested to facilitate the fall 2025 construction timeframe of this memorial.

Nicole Ankeney, Manager of Planning, Design and Construction, Parks, Recreation and Open Space / Tim Joyce, Assistant City Attorney

Outside speaker: Becky Hogan, UN Heritage for Korean War Foundation

10.a.3 Aurora Police Department Grant Application to the Peace Officers Mental Health Grant Program

R2025-90 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, APPROVING THE CITY OF AURORA TO APPLY FOR THE 2025-2026 PEACE OFFICER MENTAL HEALTH GRANT APPLICATION THROUGH THE STATE OF COLORADO

Timothy Sherbondy, Grant Analyst II, Police / Mandy MacDonald, Assistant City Attorney

10.a.4 Approval to Utilize a Private Funding Grant Finder

R2025-91 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, APPROVING THE AURORA POLICE

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DEPARTMENT'S USE OF A THIRD-PARTY GRANT WRITING AGENCY TO PROVIDE NO-COST GRANT FUNDING RESEARCH AND APPLICATION ASSISTANCE

Timothy Sherbondy, Grant Analyst II, Police / Mandy MacDonald, Assistant City Attorney

10.a.5 Urban Watershed Study Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA)

R2025-92 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, APPROVING THE JOINT FUNDING AGREEMENT FOR WATER RESOURCE INVESTIGATIONS BETWEEN THE CITY OF AURORA ACTING BY AND THROUGH ITS UTILITY ENTERPRISE AND THE U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, COLORADO WATER SCIENCE CENTER, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR REGARDING THE SOUTH PLATTE RIVER SYNOPTIC STUDY

Richard Vidmar, Water Resources Manager, Aurora Water / Ian Best, Assistant City Attorney

10.a.6 Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Community College of Aurora (CCA) for Discounted Tuition Rates

R2025-93 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, EXPRESSING THE AURORA CITY COUNCIL'S SUPPORT FOR ENTERING INTO AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF COLORADO TO PROVIDE DISCOUNTED TUITION FOR CITY EMPLOYEES AT THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF AURORA

Jennifer Lorenzen, Deputy Director, Human Resources / Kim Skaggs, Assistant City Attorney

10.a.7 Development Agreement with Aerotropolis Industrial Development, LLC Regarding the Development of the Property Located at the Southeast Corner of Powhaton Road and 40th Avenue

R2025-94 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, EXPRESSING THE AURORA CITY COUNCIL'S SUPPORT OF THE AURORA TECHNOLOGY ENERGY CORRIDOR DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO AND AEROTROPOLIS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, LLC

Sponsor: Steve Sundberg, Council Member

Jeannine Rustad, Director, Planning and Business Development / Lena McClelland, Assistant City Attorney

10.b Finalizing of Ordinances

Ordinances approved unanimously at first reading.

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10.b.1 Aurora Places Comprehensive Plan Amendment

2025-07 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, AMENDING THE 2018 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO CHANGE THE PLACETYPE FROM INDUSTRY HUB TO EMERGING NEIGHBORHOOD FOR THE AREA GENERALLY LOCATED EAST OF POWHATON ROAD BETWEEN E 49TH AND E 26TH AVENUE (ATEC COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT)

Stacy Wasinger, Senior Planner, Planning and Business Development /
Lena McClelland, Assistant City Attorney

10.b.2 Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) Amendment for Setbacks and Easement Around Plugged Oil Wells

2025-68 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, AMENDING CHAPTER 135 OF THE CITY CODE AND ADDING SECTION 146-4.2.3(k) TO THE UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE PERTAINING TO PLUGGED OIL AND GAS WELLS

Jeffrey Moore, Manager, Energy and Environment Division / Dave Scott, Assistant City Attorney

10.b.3 Adding and Amending Provisions of the City Code Related to the Business Advisory Board

2025-80 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, ADDING SECTION 26-29 AND AMENDING SECTIONS 26-52 AND 2-772 OF THE AURORA CITY CODE CONCERNING THE BUSINESS ADVISORY BOARD

Jason Batchelor, City Manager / Andrea Wood, Assistant City Attorney

11. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Public hearings with or without related ordinances.

11.a Sandy Point – Zoning Map Amendment

2025-83 A PUBLIC HEARING AND CONSIDERATION OF AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, INITIALLY ZONING A PARCEL OF LAND MEASURING 242 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, LOCATED NORTH OF EAST 56TH AVENUE AND WEST OF FUTURE HAYESMOUNT ROAD AND TWO MILES EAST OF JACKSON GAP STREET TO AIRPORT DISTRICT (AD) AND AMENDING THE ZONING MAP ACCORDINGLY (SANDY POINT ZONING MAP AMENDMENT)

Rachid Rabbaa, Planner III, Planning and Business Development / Lena McClelland, Assistant City Attorney

Mayor Coffman opened the public hearing.

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Staff gave a brief presentation on the item.

Mayor Coffman closed the public hearing.

Moved by: Steve Sundberg

Second by: Danielle Jurinsky

Does the City Council wish to support the approval of the ordinance to a zoning map amendment for the initial zoning of 242 acres to Airport District (AD) for the Sandy Point – Zoning Map Amendment?

Voting Aye: (10): Françoise Bergan, Alison Coombs, Curtis Gardner, Stephanie Hancock, Danielle Jurinsky, Amsalu Kassaw, Angela Lawson, Ruben Medina, Crystal Murillo, and Steve Sundberg

11.b Colfax and 13th Avenue Station Area Plan 2025 Update to Comprehensive Plan

2025-84 A PUBLIC HEARING AND CONSIDERATION OF AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, AMENDING THE 2018 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO ADOPT BY REFERENCE THE "COLFAX AND 13TH AVENUE STATION AREA PLAN" ("13TH AVENUE STATION PLAN")

Daniel Krzyzanowski, Planning Supervisor, Planning and Business Development / Lena McClelland, Assistant City Attorney

Mayor Coffman opened the public hearing.

Staff gave a brief presentation on the item.

Mayor Coffman closed the public hearing.

Moved by: Amsalu Kassaw

Second by: Danielle Jurinsky

Does Council wish to support the approval of the ordinance to amend the city's comprehensive plan to adopt by reference the Colfax and 13th Avenue Station Area Plan?

Voting Aye: (10): Françoise Bergan, Alison Coombs, Curtis Gardner, Stephanie Hancock, Danielle Jurinsky, Amsalu Kassaw, Angela Lawson, Ruben Medina, Crystal Murillo, and Steve Sundberg

12. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

12.a Court Administrator Reporting to the City Manager

2025-85 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, DELEGATING TO THE CITY MANAGER THE AUTHORITY TO APPOINT AND REMOVE THE COURT ADMINISTRATOR

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Sponsor: Curtis Gardner, Council Member / Françoise Bergan, Council Member
Jason Batchelor, City Manager / Andrea Wood, Assistant City Attorney

Moved by: Curtis Gardner

Second by: Alison Coombs

Does the Council wish to support the approval of the ordinance relating to the Court Administrator Reporting to the City Manager?

Voting Aye: (7): Françoise Bergan, Alison Coombs, Curtis Gardner, Stephanie Hancock, Angela Lawson, Ruben Medina, and Crystal Murillo

Voting Nay: (3): Danielle Jurinsky, Amsalu Kassaw, and Steve Sundberg

13. FINALIZING OF ORDINANCES

Ordinances not approved unanimously at first reading.

13.a Eliminating the Independent Review Board

2025-72 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, ELIMINATING THE INDEPENDENT REVIEW BOARD

Jason Batchelor, City Manager / Andrea Wood, Assistant City Attorney

Staff gave a brief presentation on the item.

Moved by: Françoise Bergan

Second by: Stephanie Hancock

Does the Council wish to support the approval of Eliminating the Independent Review Board?

Voting Aye: (9): Françoise Bergan, Alison Coombs, Curtis Gardner, Stephanie Hancock, Danielle Jurinsky, Amsalu Kassaw, Angela Lawson, Crystal Murillo, and Steve Sundberg

Voting Nay: (1): Ruben Medina

13.b Eliminating the Human Relations Commission

2025-73 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, ELIMINATING THE HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

Jason Batchelor, City Manager / Andrea Wood, Assistant City Attorney

Council heard public comment on the agenda related item.

Mayor Coffman offered the same amendment for this Commission that they did for the Veterans Commission last meeting to meet quarterly for cost saving purposes.

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MPT Sundberg voiced concern that in recent HRC meeting minutes, they gave away \$2,000 to an attorney type group. He said that it is within their bylaws, but the bylaws need to be re-examined.

CM Bergan added they also had a candidate forum that was very partisan.

CM Jurinsky strongly urged a no vote against the amendment, as the intended purpose of this commission is no longer the case. She noted the first speaker apologized for some negative language he used toward council members but has not shown that over the course of several years, and it is unacceptable for any committee member to be so publicly disrespectful toward council members in their role. She pointed to the May 7, 2025 meeting of the Human Relations Commission, where they promoted a candidate event for specific council candidates. She expressed this commission has become absolutely partisan, geared toward activism, and goes against everything that Council has stood for and voted for. She added that they voted unanimously to spend \$250 on snacks to have a Know Your Rights event update, which essentially helps people evade law enforcement and is an exact policy of a sanctuary city, which we are not. She encouraged her colleagues to vote no on this amendment and yes to eliminate this commission.

Mayor Coffman asked the city manager if the appointment process works like any other board or commission for the individual members.

J. Batchelor answered that members of the Human Relations Commission are appointed by majority of Council with three-year terms.

Mayor Coffman expressed that they need to be careful about who they appoint and could always do a resolution to provide a mission statement for this commission.

CM Coombs voiced that commissioners serve at the pleasure of Council, which means they can also be removed by Council; therefore, they can remove someone instead of doing away with the whole Commission. She also noted that Mr. Futrell has not been on this Commission in two years. She stated that APD also attended the Know Your Rights training, which makes sure people understand their legal rights, and it is our responsibility to support our community members in appropriately exercising their legal rights and not paint that as wrong or horrible.

Mayor Coffman inquired if they are allocated appointments on the Human Relations Commission.

J. Batchelor responded that the only two boards or commissions that Council appoints directly are the Citizens Advisory Budget Committee and the Business Advisory Board, and all others are consensus appointments from Council.

Mayor Coffman shared that should change.

CM Gardner stated that this whole process started because Council directed staff to consolidate and/or eliminate boards and commissions to save money, and that is clearly not what this is, because all the eliminations that were up for a vote last time

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were not moved forward except for the IRB. He said based upon the reasons given tonight, this is clearly retribution. He added that we have the ability to control the bylaws and who sits on the Commission, so if we do not like those things, we need to change them, but it is disingenuous to single out one board and commission for elimination under the guise of efficiency. He supported keeping it in its current format like they have the rest but would also support the mayor's amendment.

CM Lawson voiced that she is not for sanctuary city and served on this commission before being on Council. She does not agree with everything they do, but said they have very good programs they have helped with youth, as well as other things. She agreed with the mayor's amendment and to look at the bylaws, as they are in charge of seeing who they want to be on the commission. She noted that there are people on this commission that do not like her and talk about her, but she does see the purpose for this commission and the good things they do.

CM Murillo felt that CM Jurinsky's comment alluded to the true intention of trying to eliminate this commission. She said this is one of our more active commissions and did not understand why we would get rid of it. She discussed leveraging staff time and the time of professionals, subject matter experts, and volunteers. She supported keep it as is but also supported the amendment.

CM Bergan said this all started a couple years ago when she and CM Coombs were going to cosponsor a resolution to consolidate some of the boards and commissions and they ended up not doing that but recalled that Council put together a resolution to direct the city manager to look at them and see what is much more efficient, so they were not using staff time. She believed that this was on the list that went to the policy committee that oversees board and commissions and did not recall having any kind of issues with it when recommendations were made. She asked the city manager if he made that recommendation.

J. Batchelor answered no. He stated that it was identified as part of the discussion but was not a recommendation. It was discussed at Study Session.

CM Bergan asked for clarification that the consensus of the Study Session from Council was these were the boards to be considered for elimination and were approved.

J. Batchelor responded yes.

CM Bergan expressed that she did not know whether there is real value to this commission or not, but felt it was hijacked in terms of what the mission should be. She suggested significant changes needed to be made to the bylaws if it moves forward, as she has never heard of a commission that gets to spend \$2,000 for a nonprofit group and have a budget of \$9,000 a year, even though as a Council majority, said they are done with funding nonprofits. She added that holding a candidate forum that is partisan is inexcusable. She was not in support of keeping the commission or the amendment.

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Mayor Coffman asked if he could offer another amendment requiring staff to come up with an appointment process similar to the CABC if the amendment passes.

P. Schulte answered yes, he could offer another amendment if this one passes, as they would have to come back for another reading anyway because it would be a substantial change. He recommended coming up with what they need to do for the final version of the ordinance if that is the direction of council so they are not doing it on the fly, and then they can bring it back to another council meeting in the future.

CM Hancock voiced the same concerns as CM Bergan. She observed that this commission has been highly partisan and suspect in terms of the timber, tone, and activities. She thought this was originally going to be a cost saving measure by consolidating committees but is concerned with how things stand right now.

CM Jurinsky asked for clarification that Council votes to appoint these members, but they go through the commission first in an interview process and that is who comes forward.

J. Batchelor answered yes that they post it, go through applications, interview, and the board will come forward with a recommendation.

CM Jurinsky noted that in the past, the only appointees being brought forward were who the commission wanted. She said holding and promoting a partisan candidate gathering should be automatic termination of the commission. She felt this commission should be eliminated, and perhaps rebuilt, as she did like the idea of making it a Council appointee commission and was willing to look into that.

P. Schulte showed Council the city code about the commission's authority, and said they are one of the few city commissions that can expend and donate money.

CM Bergan commented that she did not know what council authorized that in the past when no other boards or commissions had that authority. She made a substitute motion to delay this vote so they can bring it back with some parameters.

Mayor Coffman noted that when he was on the commission, Council gave an appropriation to the commission, then all the nonprofits would come before the commission, and then the commission would decide the allocation of those resources. It was unilateral that it did not go before Council for ratification.

Moved by: Françoise Bergan

Second by: Danielle Jurinsky

Does Council wish to continue this item to September 22?

Voting Aye: (10): Françoise Bergan, Alison Coombs, Curtis Gardner, Stephanie Hancock, Danielle Jurinsky, Amsalu Kassaw, Angela Lawson, Ruben Medina, Crystal Murillo, and Steve Sundberg

14. ANNEXATIONS

The City Charter prescribes the Mayor may vote on resolutions and ordinances only to create or break a tie vote of Council Members present. The Mayor Pro-Tem is always permitted to vote on all items.

15. RECONSIDERATIONS AND CALL UPS

16. GENERAL BUSINESS

CM Gardner made the motion to begin City Council Meetings 5 minutes after the public comment listening session ends but no earlier than 6:10 p.m.

CM Coombs asked why they cannot resume having public invited to be heard during the meeting, as this seems like a lot of shenanigans just to maintain this public comment listening session instead of having public invited to be heard.

Staff made a friendly amendment to allow 10 minutes between public comment and council meeting, as that would give them time to get everything switched over.

The friendly amendment was accepted.

Moved by: Curtis Gardner

Second by: Françoise Bergan

Does council approve of having council meetings begin 10 minutes after public comment listening session ends but no earlier than 6:10 pm?

Voting Aye: (10): Mayor Coffman, Françoise Bergan, Curtis Gardner, Stephanie Hancock, Danielle Jurinsky, Amsalu Kassaw, Angela Lawson, Ruben Medina, Crystal Murillo, and Steve Sundberg

Voting Nay: (1): Alison Coombs

17. REPORTS

17.a Mayor

Mayor Coffman directed people to visit his Facebook page for information on his activities.

17.b Council

CM Jurinsky attended the Ulta Grand Opening in Ward 6 and arranged a Hyland Hills Park Cleanup Event, along with MPT Sundberg, where several residents came and helped clean up. She thanked PROS for supplying the materials and tools for that. She helped organize an animal shelter golf tournament fundraiser that raised a little over \$1,000. She mentioned that agenda item 12.a was a terrible letdown of one of their city employees, discrimination, and she felt the sponsor had a personal vendetta. She was ashamed the city attorney's office did not respond to our court administrator's attorney and noted this court appointee is the only female they have and was denied deferred comp when hired, but the two male appointees hired after were given the deferred comp. She said this is a breach of contract and that the taxpayers of Aurora will have to bear the burden of paying out a lawsuit on this.

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CM Kassaw reported that he had his first ride along with Fire Station 11 and attended the Aurora Fire Rescue Promotional Ceremony, along with Mayor Coffman.

CM Murillo announced her next town hall will be this Thursday, at Moorhead.

MPT Sundberg stated that he enjoyed the neighborhood cleanup of Hyland Hills Park and was glad to see the I-225 hump near 2nd and 6th being repaired and to see APD out conducting pedestrian type interventions and writing citations. He noted that the electric bikes are everywhere, very fast, and are injuries waiting to happen.

CM Lawson expressed that the lawmakers are convening today for the fifth day of the Colorado Special Session. She explained the purpose of the current special session is to address the substantial budget shortfall of around \$750 million. She announced that Aurora's legislation, HB25-1112, the Local Authorities Enforce Vehicle Registration, is now in effect. Congress is still in recess and will return after Labor Day to address the FY26 budget.

CM Bergan extended condolences to the families of the two young people that passed away in a tragic motorcycle accident, as well as the Grandview High School community. She chaired the PED meeting in the last couple weeks, had the E-470 Executive Board Meeting and Board Meeting, Region 9 Opioid Meeting, spent two afternoons doing RFQ interviews for the Opioid facilitation process, attended the Water Policy Committee, had staff management meetings, went to the Open Space Board Meeting and had a tour of Ponderosa Preserve.

CM Coombs, CM Gardner, CM Medina, and CM Hancock had no report.

18. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Coffman adjourned the regular meeting of City Council.



MIKE COFFMAN, MAYOR



ATTEST:



KADEE RODRIGUEZ, CITY CLERK

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