

**Grand Junction City Council**  
**Minutes of the Regular Meeting**  
**February 5, 2025**

**Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Moment of Silence**

The City Council of the City of Grand Junction convened into regular session on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of February, at 5:30 p.m. Those present were Councilmembers Scott Beilfuss, Cody Kennedy, Jason Nguyen, Dennis Simpson, Anna Stout, Council President Pro Tem Randall Reitz and Council President Abram Herman.

Also present were City Manager Mike Bennett, City Attorney John Shaver, City Clerk Selestina Sandoval and Deputy City Clerk Krystle Koehler.

Council President Herman called the meeting to order. Stout student Gabby Rodriguez led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence.

**Appointments**

**Reappointment to the Grand Junction Regional Airport Authority Board**

Councilmember Stout moved to reappoint Linde Marshall to the Grand Junction Regional Airport Authority for a four-year term, seconded by Councilmember Kennedy. Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

**Public Comments**

Public comments were heard from Quin Rogriguez, Porcia Silverberg, Ricki Howie, Geneva Smith, Andy Smith, and Terry Betts.

**City Manager Report**

City Manager Mike Bennett reported that the City requested a correction to Daily Sentinel's article that reported City has spent over \$1 million on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> street pilot. The amount spent on the pilot is \$170,000. He summarized upcoming changes to that pilot and invited the public's continued feedback on EngageGJ.

**Boards and Commission Liaison Reports**

Councilmember Nguyen reported on the Urban Trails Walk.

Councilmember Stout reported on the Colorado Municipal League (CML) executive board and policy committee.

Council President Pro Tem Reitz gave an update on the Cesar Chavez festival.

Councilmember Beilfuss reported on the Martin Luther King March, the ribbon cutting at the Amazon facility, Commission on Arts & Culture, Historical Preservation Board, findings on the Resource Center, and Homeless Collation.

Council President Herman gave an update on the Colorado Municipal League Mayor Summit and expressed his gratitude to Jeff Hurd who made the time to meet.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

### **1. Approval of Minutes**

- a. Summary of January 13, 2025 Workshop
- b. Minutes of January 15, 2025, Executive Session
- c. Minutes of January 15, 2025, Regular Meeting

### **2. Set Public Hearings**

- a. Legislative
  - i. Introduction of an Ordinance Amending Title 10.14 Shared Micromobility Devices of the Grand Junction Municipal Code to Support Ending the Shared Micromobility Pilot and Transitioning to an Enduring Permit Program and Setting a Public Hearing for February 19, 2025
  - ii. Introduction of an Ordinance Setting the City Attorney's Salary and Setting a Public Hearing for February 19, 2025
  - iii. Introduction of an Ordinance to Extend the Prohibition on the Establishment of any New or Relocation of Existing Gaming Arcades or Gaming Uses within the City of Grand Junction and Setting a Public Hearing for February 19, 2025

### **3. Continue Public Hearings**

- a. Legislative

- i. An Ordinance for Supplemental Appropriations for Confluence Center of Colorado - Continued to February 19, 2025

#### **4. Agreements**

- a. Resolution Authorizing City Manager to Co-Sign a Contract to Purchase with Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) for Property Located at 123 Ute Ave, 317 S. 2nd Street, and 319 S. 2nd Street for the Mobility Hub Project
- b. Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Memorandum of Agreement Between the City of Grand Junction, City of Fruita, Town of Palisade, and County of Mesa, Colorado - **MOVED TO REGULAR AGENDA**

#### **5. Procurements**

- a. Authorization of Construction Contract for Crosby Avenue Utility Relocation Project
- b. Licensing Authorization of Construction Contract for Horizon Drive and G Road Roundabout
- c. Authorization of Construction Contract for Four Canyons Parkway - Phase 2A Utilities
- d. Authorization of Construction Contract for Waterline Replacement - Linden Phase 1
- e. Authorization of Services Contract for Utility Billing Printing and Mailing

#### **6. Resolutions**

- a. A Resolution Vacating a 15-foot Public Utility Easement Located at 1530 North Avenue

Councilmember Kennedy moved to adopt Consent Agenda Items 1 through 6, excluding item 4.b., seconded by Councilmember Nguyen. Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

#### **REGULAR AGENDA**

- 4.b. **Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Memorandum of Agreement Between the City of Grand Junction, City of Fruita, Town of Palisade, and County of Mesa, Colorado**

At the November 20, 2024, City Council adopted the Mesa County Safety Action Plan and pledged support for future participation in implementation projects. Mesa County applied for and received a Safe Streets For All (SS4A) implementation grant that will address Dangerous Behavior through Speed Feedback Signs as well as Protect Vulnerable Road Users through implementation of targeted education campaigns for drivers, pedestrians, and bicyclists. The \$245,000 project is funded by \$196,000 grant (80 percent) and then 20 percent partner contributions. The City's share of the match would be \$23,775. For that the City would receive six fixed and/or mobile speed feedback signs as well as safety messaging and outreach study. The Memorandum of Agreement formalizes the fiscal partnership between various governmental entities involved in the project.

Engineering and Transportation Director Trent Prall was available to answer questions about this item.

Council discussed the research and studies that went into the planning, the partnership with the County on the grant program, and that this brings awareness to drivers to slow down.

Councilmember Kennedy moved and Council President Pro Tem Reitz seconded to approve the request for the mayor to sign the attached Memorandum of Agreement regarding the FY 2024 Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Supplemental Planning and Demonstration Grant. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

**7.a.i. An Ordinance Proposing Amendments to the Charter of the City of Grand Junction, Colorado to Change the General Municipal Election Date from the First Tuesday in April of Odd Numbered Years to the First Tuesday in November of Odd Numbered Years and to Extend the Terms of Current Council Members to Coincide with the Change in Election Dates and Refer the Same to the April 8, 2025, Municipal Election**

At the City Council workshop on January 13, 2025, Council heard a presentation from Staff regarding options for conducting future municipal elections. Two options were presented, summarizing the pros and cons of keeping the regular municipal elections in April and those of moving them to November to coordinate with Mesa County Elections. Direction was given by Council to move forward with an ordinance for consideration at a regular meeting to place this on the April 8, 2025, ballot for a charter amendment to move elections to November.

City Attorney John Shaver was available to answer questions about this item.

Discussion ensued regarding the addition of ballot language to make the item clearer to voters. It was decided the ballot language for the first paragraph to read:

*Shall Article II, Section 3, Article II, Section 25, and Article IV, Section 35 of the City Charter be amended to: (i) change the date of general municipal elections to the general election date in November of odd-numbered years beginning in 2027; (ii) conduct such elections as coordinated elections with Mesa County in accordance with terms of an Intergovernmental Agreement for each such election; and (iii) amend and extend the terms of the City Council to implement such change in election date for the purposes stated in Ordinance 5246, and as follows and as described below?*

The public hearing was opened at 6:23 p.m..

There were no public comments.

The public hearing was closed at 6:23 p.m.

Councilmember Nguyen moved and Council President Pro Tem Reitz seconded to Ordinance No. 5246, an ordinance proposing amendments to the Charter of the City of Grand Junction, Colorado, to change the general municipal election date from the first Tuesday in April of odd-numbered years to the first Tuesday in November of odd-numbered years and to extend the terms of current council members to coincide with the change in election dates and refer the same to the April 8, 2025, Municipal Election ballot on final passage and ordered final publication in pamphlet form, incorporating the change in ballot language as summarized above. The motion carried 6-0 by roll call vote.

**7.a.ii. An Ordinance for an Amendment of the City Charter to be Placed on the April 8, 2025 Election Ballot to Change the Salary of the City Council and Providing for a Method to Increase the Salary by Ordinance in Future Years**

In 1999 Section 38 of the City Charter Council was amended to provide that City Council members are paid a salary of \$500.00 per month and the President of the Council is paid \$750.00 per month. The salaries have not been increased since 1999. Accordingly, the City Council has determined that it is appropriate to ask the voters if an increase should be approved. If amended, the salary increase would not become effective until 2027.

City Attorney John Shaver was available to answer questions about this item.

Council asked the same changes be made to the last line of the first paragraph of the ballot language:

*Shall Article IV, Section 38 of the City Charter be amended to increase the salary of City Council and to provide for a basis to set and to increase the City Council salary in future years, for the purposes as stated in Ordinance 5247, and as follows and as described below?*

The public hearing was opened at 6:36 p.m.

There were no public comments.

The public hearing was closed at 6:36 p.m.

Councilmember Nguyen moved and Councilmember Kennedy seconded Ordinance No. 5247, an ordinance proposing an amendment of the Charter of the City of Grand Junction, Colorado, to change City Councilmember salaries and refer the same to the April 8, 2025, Municipal Election ballot on final passage and ordered final publication in pamphlet form, incorporating the change in ballot language noted above. The motion carried 6-1 by roll call vote, with Councilmember Simpson voting no.

#### **8. Non-Scheduled Comments**

No comments were heard.

#### **9. Other Business**

Councilmember Kennedy thanked the downtown businesses for their input regarding the resource center and commented on accessibility to 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Street.

#### **10. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 6:42 pm.

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Selestina Sandoval, CMC

City Clerk

