

CITY OF MONTE VISTA  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
August 1, 2024 - 6:00 P.M.  
City Council Chambers – 95 W. 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue

Monte Vista City Council met in regular session on the above date and time in Council Chambers located at 95 W. 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Monte Vista, Colorado.

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Becker called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilor Lorenz led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Becker led the prayer

C. ROLL CALL

Members present: Mayor Dale Becker, Councilor Jason Lorenz, Councilor Loren Howard and Councilor Brad Watson. Mayor Pro Tem Victor Sigala has been excused. A quorum was declared.

D. MODIFICATIONS TO AGENDA - None

E. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes of Regular Meeting July 20, 2024
2. Review and Approval of Accounts Payable

Councilor Howard moved to approve the consent agenda and the review and approval of accounts payable, Councilor Lorenz seconded, motion carried unanimously.

F. PROCLAMATIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, AND APPOINTMENTS - None

G. CITIZEN COMMENTS/SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. Citizen Comments
  - a. Jeremy Garner – Protested the prayer being said and at Council and his concerns with the police department.
2. Scheduled Appearances
  - a. Charlie Spielman – updated Council on the trees located at the Golf Course stated that Kirby had a tree specialist do a core sample on them and have found that they are in good condition and has asked that the City terminate the plans to remove the trees.
  - b. Charles Tarnutzer spoke to Council about his concerns about the closure of Franklin St. for the Railroad. Mr. Tarnutzer had several questions that he went over that he asked when he had a meeting with City Manager, Public Works Director and City Planner. Mr. Tarnutzer is concerned that there are 15 agencies that may be effected by the closure. Mr. Tarnutzer asked the Mayor if he had an attorney present and if so it would be of best practices to have an attorney check out with these agencies if this closure will affect them. Mr. Tarnutzer feels that the closure will negatively impact his property value. Mr. Tarnutzer would like to see plans of what is going to take place of the property when the closure takes place. City Manager Gigi Dennis stated that a public meeting was taken place and notice was sent out. Mrs. Dennis and Public Works Director Rob Vance stated that emergency services were notified and approval was given and they have

stated that the closure would not affect their services. Mr. Vance also explained the plans for the closure at Franklin to become parking lot or extending the park and the closure of Faraday restore it to just a vacant field. Mr. Vance stated that he spoke to CDOT Region 5 and they have stated that it does not affect them as long as it does not run into the CDOT right-of-way. Mr. Vance also stated that the closures have still not taken place because the railroad has to get approval from the Public Utility Company and as of now we are still not aware of where they are at with that process. Mr. Vance stated that the roads will not be closed until the approval from the PUC is completed. Mr. Tarnutzer asked if any of the safety organizations gave their ok in writing and if so he would like to see them. Citizen Monte Schoff spoke up and stated that he attended the public meeting and that there were members from several of the emergency services that spoke stating that they closure of Franklin and Faraday would impact emergency services in anyway.

H. PUBLIC HEARINGS - None

I. LICENSES/LIQUOR RENEWALS - None

J. RESOLUTIONS - None

K. ORDINANCES

1. Second Reading of Ordinance #928 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MONTE VISTA, COLORADO ADOPTING RULES AND REGULATIONS AS GUIDELINES FOR DESIGNATING SITE SELECTION AND CONSTRUCTION OF MAJOR NEW DOMESTIC WATER SYSTEMS AND MAJOR EXTENSIONS OF EXISTING DOMESTIC WATER SYSTEMS AND MUNICIPAL AND INDUSTRIAL WATER PROJECTS AS ACTIVITIES OF STATE INTEREST

City Attorney Gene Farish asked Council to approve the ordinance on second reading.

Councilor Howard moved to approve Ordinance #928 on second reading, Councilor Lorenz seconded, motion carried unanimously.

L. CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS/LEASES

1. Approval of DOLA Grant for Golf Course for \$200,000.00 – City Manager Gigi Dennis explained that she attended the Golf Course meeting on 7/31/2024 and that they are applying for the grant to help with the completion of the club house. With the Golf Course being City owned the grant has to run through the city.

Councilor Howard moved to approve submitting the DOLA grant for the Golf Course for \$200,00, Councilor Watson seconded, motion carried unanimously.

M. RECEIVE AND APPROVE FINANCIAL REPORTS - None

N. STAFF PROPOSALS, REPORTS, AND ACTIONS

1. City Clerk – Clerk Unita Vance presented a power point presentation showing some of the pictures from the Faith Hinkley Veteran's Memorial Park Fundraiser and the numbers. Mrs. Vance stated that they had a total of 32 vendors and 8 food trucks. There were 15 teams that registered for the corn hole tournament and about 70 cars and bikes for the poker run. Mrs. Vance stated that the event was very successful and with the fundraising of the event, bricks, sponsors, donors and prior funding the Faith Hinkley Veteran's Memorial Park will be completed before Veteran's Day.

2. City Manager Gigi Dennis stated that the Faith Hinkley event was successful and some vendors asked if we would be doing it again next year and Mrs. Dennis stated no but if the Chamber would like to do it we will give them our files. Mrs. Dennis stated that the Golf Course is coming up on their 100-year anniversary and that the trees at the golf course are probably as old. Mrs. Dennis stated that they have put on hold the removal of the trees and they will continue to work with the school and the Golf Course to come up with a solution. Mrs. Dennis let Council know that they need to appoint a Board of Adjustment based on the Ordinance #927 that was passed in June. Mrs. Dennis spoke about the Lariat Ditch project and that we should know if we receive the grant within 30 days. The Outdoor Recreation round table out of D.C. sent Chris Perkins to Monte Vista to see what Monte Vista has going and Mr. Perkins has written a letter of support for the Lariat Ditch project. Mrs. Dennis explained that we are still working on finding a structural engineer for the Vali 3 Theater and that Rob is working on getting all of that put together. Mrs. Dennis stated that the Upper Rio Grande County Board is looking at hiring a full time paid Economic Developer to fill the position of URGED to help out with Rio Grande County in the development phases. Mrs. Dennis explained that after the work session on the Employee Handbook that staff is working on it and will have a completed policy. Mrs. Dennis also wanted to thank Megan with the Flower Market for the donation of all the beautiful flowers that have been donated out at Ski Hi.

O. COUNCIL COMMITTEE, CITY COMMISSION AND COUNCILOR REPORTS

1. Mayor Becker thanked staff for all they did to make the Faith Hinkley Veteran's Memorial Park event successful. Mayor Becker reminded everyone if you see something say something. "Monte Strong".

P. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Q. RECESSED & ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING – Recessed

Attest:

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Dale Becker, Mayor

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Unita Vance, City Clerk