



**REGULAR COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES**

**Tuesday,
March 7, 2023**

6:00 P.M.

Council Chambers & Zoom

1. **Call to order** of regular council meeting at 6:02 p.m.
 2. **Roll call:**
 - a. **Present:** 6 - Mayor Labbe, CM Lauritzen, CM Grant, CM Luna-Leal, MPT Greene, and CM Forgens
 - b. **Absent:** 1 - CM Hill
- Staff Members Present:** Administrative Assistant Lori Tye, City Administrator Laurie Simonson, Planning Director Chapin LaChance
3. **Approval of the agenda:** MPT Greene **moved** to approve the agenda as amended, and CM Grant **seconded**. All present were in favor.
 - a. **Agenda Revisions:** Addition of presentation “A” – update regarding CLP grant that the Historic Preservation Commission applied for.
 4. **Housekeeping Matters:**

MPT Greene mentioned she was pleased with the way Officer Caraveo handled a couple that brought a dog to skijoring. Also said there was not enough advertisement stating it was a no-dog event, and hopes we can be more pro-active in the future.

5. Public comments for items not on the agenda:

Steve Prestache:

- Would like the Pledge of Allegiance to be said at City Council meetings.
- Whistleblowers face consequences – Believes he is facing backlash from the City for being a whistleblower - lost truck and trailer to the City, the truck was moved in an appropriate amount of time.
- Government bodies can wonder in to organized crime, as they have in the past.
- Conditional Use Permit in his neighborhood – concerned his grievances were not heard. The previous ordinance stated grievances “shall” be heard and now it states grievances to be heard are “discretionary.”
- Concerned that people are not being taken seriously when giving public comments at the meetings.

Luke Finkin:

- Helped Duffy put up the “No Dog” signs – will be more cognizant of placement next year.
- March 17th at 12:00 pm – St. Patrick’s Day Parade – temporary road delay – great response in the past from law enforcement – minor issues from oncoming traffic.

Pat Motika:

- Has lived in Leadville for over 30 years, has been attending St. George Church for over 20 years.
- Had heard there is potential for the City to financially assist them.
- Has seen huge growth within St. George in the last 20 years – has been a life saver for many in the community and would really appreciate if the City could help them continue their good work.

6. Consent Agenda:

CM Luna-Leal **moved** to approve the minutes of 2/21/2023; MPT Greene **seconded**. All present were in favor.

- a. Agenda Revisions: None

7. Actionable Items:

- a. St. George Financial Assistance Proposal
 - Requesting \$30,000 in financial assistance.

CM Luna-Leal **moved** to approve the City giving St. George \$30,000.00 from the contingency fund; MPT Greene **seconded**.

	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
CM Luna-Leal	*			
CM Lauritzen	*			
CM Grant	*			
MPT Greene	*			
CM Forgensi	*			
Mayor Labbe	*			
CM Hill			*	

8. Presentations & Discussions:

A. Discussion Regarding Diagonal Parking on the One Hundred Block of Fifth from Harrison

- Law enforcement been receiving concerns with the diagonal parking, especially when snow is covering the paint, and there is no signage to indicate that it's diagonal.
- Code requires a 24' roadway and at the moment, there is only 20' in front of the post office.
- There is 30% more available parking with diagonal spaces.
- Diagonal parking is more difficult for people to back out – less room to back up.
- Another solution is to make that part of the street a one-way.
- Emergency Management director Claire Skeen agrees it is a safety hazard to have diagonal parking on 5th in front of the post office.
- CM Forgensi asked that we do a press release a couple of times so the community is aware of the changes to the parking structure.
- CM Luna-Leal mentioned we need to have new signage stating that it is now parallel parking
- Mayor Labbe said it would be mid to late April before we are able to re-paint the lines due to the snow.

B. City Administrator Report – Laurie Simonson updated the City Council regarding the following:**Skijoring Weekend:**

- Leadville was showcased in the best possible way during skijoring last weekend.
- The Street Department did a great job preparing and cleaning up everything for the events.
- Interim Chief Chavez let her know that everything was cleaned up and Harrison was open again by 6:00 pm Sunday evening.
- The police department also did a spectacular job. There were no arrests. 32 traffic tickets were issued. No tows were needed. Dogs and alcohol were not as much of an issue as they were in the past. Explaining to people why no dogs were allowed was helpful, creating an understanding.
- The message boards worked well at the North and South end of town. There were only 2 semis that missed the detour sign and had to turn around.
- The departments got in the spirit and wore cowboy hats, which also created a fun photo opportunity.
- Duffy was very happy with all the support and thankful to the City.
- The other events during the weekend evenings had no issues or injuries and went well.
- Officer Caraveo helped her try to patch together a cyclist's bike, and when they weren't able to fix it, Laurie let the cyclist borrow her bike and Officer Caraveo took the broken bike to the finish line for them.

City Hall Staffing Updates:

- We've hired an HR Director, Erin Lusin, who starts Monday 3/15/2023.
- Good leadership and judgement, will be wonderful addition to our team.
- An Administrative Assistant position has been posted and an application has already been received. The applicant will come in on Friday 3/10/2023 for an interview.
- Drafting a position description and qualifications for the Police Chief opening. Will create an interview panel and suggested if City Council would like to choose someone to be on the panel.

Parklet Construction:

- With the warmer weather, the construction is coming along well. The roof is in progress right now, siding is on, ETA for expected completion date of the building is 1 month.
- Main Street will do a ribbon cutting for the opening.

Thank yous:

Special thank you to Shanti for keeping everything clean and tidy for the events last weekend.

C. Historic Preservation Commission CLP Grant:

- Lori Tye, administrative assistant and staff person for Historic Preservation Commission, announced that they've been awarded a \$25,000.00 grant.
- The funds will be dispersed between April and June of this year.
- This will help fund the survey needed, which will cost about \$32,000.00
- She is applying for 3 other grants to help fund the rest of the cost of the survey.
- The survey will be an intensive level survey which will give us the information on whether or not this structure is contributing to the National Historic District or not. It will provide information on

when it was built, who originally lived there, what it was used for. The building is near the Mining Museum between 8th and 9th Street.

-Eventually would like to have the entire district surveyed.

9. Public Meetings Planner: None

10. Mayor’s Report:

-Had friends visit for skjoring and was proud Leadville was represented so well.

11. Council Reports:

-CM Grant noted that on Saturday April 8th at 9:00 am, the 87th Annual Easter Egg Hunt at Ski Cooper will occur.

-CM Lauritzen noted that on Saturday April 1st Dr. Jeff will be here with Planned Pethood for a spay and neuter clinic at the animal shelter.

-CM Forgensi noted Mt. Evans will have it’s name changed to honor the Arapaho and Ute people who both consider themselves the Blue Sky People, and Mt. Evans will be renamed Mt. Blue Sky. The name will be officially changed after the Board of Geographic Names approves it on March 9th.

-CM Luna-Leal gave news that housing bills are moving through the State level that would be helpful to Leadville. “First Right of First Refusal” – It would force any sellers to notify the City first if a home goes on the market, this way the City has the first opportunity (15 days) to purchase it and potentially turn it into affordable housing. Will reach out to sources for funding for purchases of homes in smaller municipalities like ours. Mayor Labbe mentioned he would like to make sure the homes are at a fair market rate and not hiked up because the City might purchase it.

12. Adjournment: 7:38 p.m.

APPROVED this 21st day of March 2023 by a vote of 6 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining, 1 and absent.

CITY OF LEADVILLE, COLORADO

ATTEST:

By

Harold Coleen
Deputy City Clerk

