



MINUTES

City Council Regular Session

September 10, 2024

City Council Chambers, 350 Kimbark St., Longmont, CO

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The September 10, 2024, Regular Session of the Longmont City Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Joan Peck in the City Council Chambers.

The Longmont City Council meets in person for two regular session meetings and one study session meeting each month.

Regular and study session meetings are live-streamed and can be watched at:

- *The City's Agenda Management Portal webpage*
at <https://www.longmontcolorado.gov/online-services/agendas-and-minutes/agenda-management-portal>
- *The City's YouTube channel* at <https://Bit.Ly/Longmontyoutubelive>
- *Via Longmont Public Media's website*
at <https://LongmontPublicMedia.Org/Watch/>
- *On Comcast Channels 8 or 880*

All City Council meetings are open to the public.

2. ROLL CALL - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Dawn Quintana, City Clerk, called the roll. Those present were Mayor Peck and Council Members Diane Crist, Susie Hidalgo-Fahring, Sean McCoy, Marcia Martin, Aren Rodriguez, and Shiquita Yarbrough.

Mayor Peck led the assembly in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. CHAIR REMINDER TO THE PUBLIC

Mayor Peck reviewed the procedures for Public Invited to be Heard and Public Hearings.

Public participation at regular and special City Council meetings is regulated by Rule 5 of City Council Rules of Procedure.

- **Speakers should sign up on the sheet outside of Council Chambers prior to the start of the meeting at 7 pm.**
- **Each speaker is limited to three (3) minutes and one person may not give or assign their time to others.** The Chair may regulate the time for public participation, may restrict cumulative or redundant presentations, and may require that each speaker's comments pertain to the subject under discussion
- **Only Longmont residents and employees of the City of Longmont may speak during "First Call – Public Invited To Be Heard" (Item 8) and must sign up on the list prior to the start of the meeting**
- **Persons wishing to speak on a specific Second Reading or Public Hearing Item (Item 10) are asked to add their name to the speaker list for the specific item prior to the start of the meeting**
- **Anyone may speak and no sign-up is required to speak during "Final Call – Public Invited To Be Heard" (Item 13)**

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. August 27, 2024 – Regular Session Minutes

MOTION

Sean McCoy moved, seconded by Susie Hidalgo-Fahring, to approve the August 27, 2024 – Regular Session Minutes as presented

Approved: Joan Peck, Diane Crist, Susie Hidalgo-Fahring, Marcia Martin, Sean McCoy, Aren Rodriguez, Shiquita Yarbrough

Dissented: None

Abstained: None

Carried: 7 – 0

5. AGENDA REVISIONS, AND SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS, AND MOTIONS TO DIRECT THE CITY MANAGER TO ADD AGENDA ITEMS TO FUTURE AGENDAS

Dawn Quintana, City Clerk, noted that a revised IGA was uploaded for Item 9J regarding R-2024-65.

- A.** *Item 9J – A revised IGA for R-2024-65 was uploaded Sept. 9, 2024 at 2 pm*

6. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

There was no report from the City Manager.

7. SPECIAL REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

- A.** A Proclamation Designating September 9-13, 2024, As "Disability Voting Rights Week" In Longmont, Colorado

Mayor Peck read the proclamation into the record and invited Maria Stepanyan from the Center for People with Disabilities to accept the proclamation and say a few words about Disability Voting Rights Week.

- B.** A Proclamation Designating September 15-21, 2024, As "National Co-Responders and Crisis Responders Week" In Longmont, Colorado

Mayor Peck read the proclamation into the record and invited C.O.R.E. Sergeant Andy Feaster and members of the Crisis Outreach Response and Engagement (C.O.R.E.) team to accept the proclamation and say a few words about the program and its successes.

8. FIRST CALL - PUBLIC INVITED TO BE HEARD

Robert Morris III, 170 South Pratt Parkway, expressed his appreciation for the proclamation for Disability Voting Rights Week and invited everyone to an upcoming

event called “Heartbeat for the Homeless”.

Allen Lenort, 2256 Aegean Way, secretary for the Longmont Elks, explained that the Elks organization celebrates the second week of September as Patriotism Week and shared some of the events to which the public is invited.

Dennis Klein, 306 Coffman Street, exalted ruler/CEO for the Longmont Elks, extended an open invitation to two public events: one on September 11 to remember those who perished as a result of the 9/11 events; and the other to rededicate the POW/MIA table.

Jamie Simo, 517 Independence Drive, asked the Council to reconsider their direction given June 25 to remove the requirement of buffers for onsite affordable housing.

Shari Malloy, 1632 Sherman Way, thanked the council for referring the open space tax measure to the ballot and encouraged the Council to not eliminate the buffer from affordable housing projects as proposed in Item 9A.

Matt Menza, 2235 Parkview Drive, talked about the airport and the importance of ensuring that it continues to thrive. After the Mayor cautioned him to not discuss the quasi-judicial matter of ModernWest 2, Mr. Menza concluded by inviting the public to the Airport Expo and Airshow on Saturday.

Zoiy Galloway, 308 South Anderson Street, spoke about being displaced from her home because of radiation harm from the advanced meter that had been installed on her home and she suggested the Council create awareness about radiation harm for the community.

John Grunsfeld, 229 Airport Road, commented that the current planning process is too ‘stove piped’ to catch all aspects of a development and suggested a broader look at projects was needed.

John Lembke, 744 Stonebridge Drive, talked about ranked choice voting and argued that Longmont should implement single winner and multi winner for at large seats and he asked the Council to refer ranked choice voting to the ballot.

9. CONSENT AGENDA AND INTRODUCTION AND READING BY TITLE OF FIRST READING ORDINANCES

Dawn Quintana, City Clerk, read the titles of the ordinances and the Second Reading and Public Hearing Date into the record and reviewed all of the items on the Consent Agenda.

The Second Reading and Public Hearing for all ordinances introduced on this consent agenda will be held on September 24, 2024.

MOTION

Joan Peck moved, seconded by Susie Hidalgo-Fahring, to approve the consent agenda except items A, D, I

Approved: Joan Peck, Diane Crist, Susie Hidalgo-Fahring, Marcia Martin, Sean McCoy, Aren Rodriguez, Shiquita Yarbrough

Dissented: None

Abstained: None

Carried: 7 – 0

- A. O-2024-60, A Bill For An Ordinance Amending Title 15 Of The Longmont Municipal Code On Land Use Regulations And Planning Approval Processes To Further Incentivize Affordable Housing Unit Generation**
(Item as presented on First Reading)

Don Burchett, Planning Manager, and Molly O'Donnell, Director of Housing and Community Investment, were present to answer questions from Council.

Mayor Pro Tem Hidalgo-Fahring explained that she had pulled the item based on concerns she heard from residents about the removal of the public process and asked for clarification about what types of development projects this change would apply to and how many.

Burchett explained that the proposed change would apply only to the preliminary plat process and was specific to single family and attached single family development of for sale lots when four or more lots are created through the platting process. The change would allow them to skip the preliminary plat and go through the final platting process. He further clarified that if a developer chose fee-in-lieu, the project would go through the preliminary plat process and the only way to bypass would be if the project proposed on-site affordable housing units. He also reviewed the process diagram and required noticing according to code with the council. He concluded noting that only a couple of recent projects might have benefited from this, the rest have chosen the fee in lieu option.

Council discussed concerns about the number of apartments being built and staff clarified that apartment buildings can go through the administrative approval process since 2018 code updates.

Council discussed concerns about the buffer requirement and whether or not projects would be allowed to build right up to a park or open space. Staff explained the difference between a setback and a buffer and noted the 150-foot setback from the riparian area was not impacted by these code changes but any project would have to meet code requirements for buffers and setbacks. They also discussed the typical maximum fence height when projects are adjacent to city open space and staff explained that the goal of that code is to make the spaces visible for the homeowners and neighbors to enjoy and protect.

Council engaged with staff to better understand pocket park requirements and examples of buffers. They also discussed the timing of the neighborhood meeting.

MOTION

Diane Crist moved, seconded by Sean McCoy, to direct staff to require the neighborhood meeting after the pre-application meeting under the newly proposed Inclusionary Housing Final Plat process

Council asked Burchett how this would be different and he explained that instead of the Planning and Zoning Commission making the decision, the decision making body would be the Planning Director with a two-week appeal period.

Approved: Joan Peck, Diane Crist, Susie Hidalgo-Fahring, Sean McCoy, Aren Rodriguez, Shiquita Yarbrough

Dissented: Marcia Martin

Abstained: None

Carried: 6 – 1

MOTION

Marcia Martin moved, seconded by Susie Hidalgo-Fahring, to pass **O-2024-60**, A Bill For An Ordinance Amending Title 15 Of The Longmont Municipal

Code On Land Use Regulations And Planning Approval Processes To Further Incentivize Affordable Housing Unit Generation as amended, on first reading

Approved: Joan Peck, Diane Crist, Susie Hidalgo-Fahring, Marcia Martin, Sean McCoy, Aren Rodriguez, Shiquita Yarbrough

Dissented: None

Abstained: None

Carried: 7 – 0

- B. O-2024-64,** A Bill For An Ordinance Making Additional Appropriations For Expenses And Liabilities Of The City Of Longmont For The Fiscal Year Beginning January 1, 2024

MOTION

Joan Peck moved, seconded by Susie Hidalgo-Fahring, to approve the consent agenda except items A, D, I

Approved: Joan Peck, Diane Crist, Susie Hidalgo-Fahring, Marcia Martin, Sean McCoy, Aren Rodriguez, Shiquita Yarbrough

Dissented: None

Abstained: None

Carried: 7 – 0

- C. O-2024-65,** A Bill For An Ordinance Conditionally Approving The Vacation Of One Access And Utility Easement And One General Utility Easement Located Within The Boundaries Of Westview Acres Subdivision, Generally Located At 8791 North 87th Street, West Of Airport Road And South Of Glenneyre Drive

MOTION

Joan Peck moved, seconded by Susie Hidalgo-Fahring, to approve the consent agenda except items A, D, I

Approved: Joan Peck, Diane Crist, Susie Hidalgo-Fahring, Marcia Martin, Sean McCoy, Aren Rodriguez, Shiquita Yarbrough

Dissented: None

Abstained: None

Carried: 7 – 0

D. O-2024-66, A Bill For An Ordinance Conditionally Approving The Concept Plan Amendment To The Westview Acres Concept Plan, Generally Located West Of Airport Road And South Of Pike Road

Council Member Crist stated that she pulled the item because she was hoping to encourage the developer to make the two additional units be attainable or 80% of AMI (Area Median Income) instead of providing fee-in-lieu for these units.

Staff confirmed that the current code outlines the options for the developer and is what must be followed and they noted that Council could give direction to amend the code for the future.

Council Members also discussed the lack of park access on the west side of the development and Don Burchett, Planning Manager, explained that the project is below the threshold for the requirement for a pocket park and the neighbors on the north, west and south were adamant about restricted access which resulted in the current plan design for the arterial sidewalk connection.

The Council then reviewed the Planning and Zoning recommendation of the condition of a robust privacy buffer and fencing as well as the two egress points for the development as required by the City.

MOTION

Diane Crist moved, seconded by Marcia Martin, to pass and adopt **O-2024-66, A Bill For An Ordinance Conditionally Approving The Concept Plan Amendment To The Westview Acres Concept Plan, Generally Located West Of Airport Road And South Of Pike Road**, on first reading

Approved: Joan Peck, Diane Crist, Susie Hidalgo-Fahring, Marcia Martin, Aren Rodriguez, Shiquita Yarbrough

Dissented: Sean McCoy

Abstained: None

Carried: 6 – 1

E.

O-2024-67, A Bill For An Ordinance Conditionally Approving The Vacation Of Two LPC Easements, Two Utility Easements, Two Sanitary Sewer And Water Easements, And Two Drainage Easements Located Within The Boundary Of Lots 5 & 6 Of Irwin Thomas First Filing Final Plat, Generally Located At 200 Bountiful Avenue, West Of Harvest Moon Drive And South Of East Ken Pratt Boulevard And Costco

MOTION

Joan Peck moved, seconded by Susie Hidalgo-Fahring, to approve the consent agenda except items A, D, I

Approved: Joan Peck, Diane Crist, Susie Hidalgo-Fahring, Marcia Martin, Sean McCoy, Aren Rodriguez, Shiquita Yarbrough

Dissented: None

Abstained: None

Carried: 7 – 0

- F. R-2024-61**, A Resolution Of The Longmont City Council Approving The Agreement Between The City And Kutak Rock LLP, For Construction Law And Construction Defect Litigation Special Counsel Services

MOTION

Joan Peck moved, seconded by Susie Hidalgo-Fahring, to approve the consent agenda except items A, D, I

Approved: Joan Peck, Diane Crist, Susie Hidalgo-Fahring, Marcia Martin, Sean McCoy, Aren Rodriguez, Shiquita Yarbrough

Dissented: None

Abstained: None

Carried: 7 – 0

- G. R-2024-62**, A Resolution Of The Longmont City Council Denying The Concept Plan Amendment Application For A Portion Of The Schlagel Williams Annexation Known As The ModernWest 2 Development, Generally Located South Of Rogers Road And East Of Airport Road

MOTION

Joan Peck moved, seconded by Susie Hidalgo-Fahring, to approve the consent

agenda except items A, D, I

Approved: Joan Peck, Diane Crist, Susie Hidalgo-Fahring, Marcia Martin, Sean McCoy, Aren Rodriguez, Shiquita Yarbrough

Dissented: None

Abstained: None

Carried: 7 – 0

- H. R-2024-63,** A Resolution Of The Longmont City Council Approving The Intergovernmental Agreement Between The City And County Of Broomfield, The County Of Boulder, And The City Of Boulder Concerning Participation In The Home Consortium

MOTION

Joan Peck moved, seconded by Susie Hidalgo-Fahring, to approve the consent agenda except items A, D, I

Approved: Joan Peck, Diane Crist, Susie Hidalgo-Fahring, Marcia Martin, Sean McCoy, Aren Rodriguez, Shiquita Yarbrough

Dissented: None

Abstained: None

Carried: 7 – 0

- I. R-2024-64,** A Resolution Of The Longmont City Council Authorizing The Exercise Of The City's Power Of Eminent Domain To Acquire Certain Real Property Interests Necessary For Public Purposes In Connection With The St. Vrain Greenway Trail Project

Council Member Crist stated that she pulled the item because she has concerns the project is going to get expensive for the City and because she thinks the City should table this for a short period of time because things are going to change in that corridor.

Staff clarified that Council already voted to take this action and that this item was only being brought back because of a clerical error that resulted in one legal description missing from the approved item. Additionally, staff noted that a final offer had been made to the property owner on August 15.

MOTION

Sean McCoy moved, seconded by Shiquita Yarbrough, to pass and adopt **R-2024-64**, A Resolution Of The Longmont City Council Authorizing The Exercise Of The City's Power Of Eminent Domain To Acquire Certain Real Property Interests Necessary For Public Purposes In Connection With The St. Vrain Greenway Trail Project

Approved: Joan Peck, Susie Hidalgo-Fahring, Marcia Martin, Sean McCoy, Aren Rodriguez, Shiquita Yarbrough

Dissented: Diane Crist

Abstained: None

Carried: 6 – 1

- J. **R-2024-65**, A Resolution Of The Longmont City Council Approving The Intergovernmental Agreement Between The City And The Boulder Regional Emergency Telephone Service Authority For Public Safety Answering Point Funding

MOTION

Joan Peck moved, seconded by Susie Hidalgo-Fahring, to approve the consent agenda except items A, D, I

Approved: Joan Peck, Diane Crist, Susie Hidalgo-Fahring, Marcia Martin, Sean McCoy, Aren Rodriguez, Shiquita Yarbrough

Dissented: None

Abstained: None

Carried: 7 – 0

10. ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARINGS ON ANY MATTER

- A. **O-2024-54**, A Bill For An Ordinance Designating The Tower Of Compassion As A Local Historic Landmark

Mayor Peck read the title of the ordinance into the record.

Jennifer Hewitt-Apperson, Principal Planner, gave a brief presentation about the pagoda which was donated in 1973 and is the first Japanese pagoda built

east of California. The property is eligible for designation since it is more than 50 years old and, designation would make it eligible for grants for rehabilitation and restoration work. If approved, staff would pursue listing the pagoda on the state and national registers of historic places. Hewitt-Apperson concluded noting that staff recommends designating the Tower of Compassion as a local historic landmark.

Mayor Peck opened a public hearing on this item. There being no one present to address Council on this issue, the public hearing was closed.

MOTION

Sean McCoy moved, seconded by Susie Hidalgo-Fahring, to pass and adopt **O-2024-54**, A Bill For An Ordinance Designating The Tower Of Compassion As A Local Historic Landmark

Approved: Joan Peck, Diane Crist, Susie Hidalgo-Fahring, Marcia Martin, Sean McCoy, Aren Rodriguez, Shiquita Yarbrough

Dissented: None

Abstained: None

Carried: 7 – 0

- B. O-2024-61**, A Bill For An Ordinance Authorizing The City Of Longmont To Lease The Real Property Known As Vance Brand Municipal Airport Hangar Parcel H-31B (The Premises) To Edward J Cook (Tenant)

Mayor Peck read the title of the ordinance into the record.

Council Member McCoy asked if there were any stipulations in regards to trying to get planes transitioned to electric.

Phil Greenwald, Transportation Planning Manager, explained that the leases don't carry that kind of information but reminded the Council that they had passed the resolution on sustainability at the airport and that is how those policy issues are moving forward at the airport.

Mayor Peck opened the public hearing on this item.

John Grunsfeld, 229 Airport Road, commended the Council and Council Member Martin in particular for the sustainability resolution for airport, and

noted that the Federal Aviation Administration was working on better fuels with the Environmental Protection Agency. He expressed his interest in seeing broader sustainability measures put in place at the airport than just the fuels.

Mayor Peck closed the public hearing.

MOTION

Sean McCoy moved, seconded by Shiquita Yarbrough, to pass and adopt **O-2024-61**, A Bill For An Ordinance Authorizing The City Of Longmont To Lease The Real Property Known As Vance Brand Municipal Airport Hangar Parcel H-31B (The Premises) To Edward J Cook (Tenant)

Approved: Joan Peck, Diane Crist, Susie Hidalgo-Fahring, Marcia Martin, Sean McCoy, Aren Rodriguez, Shiquita Yarbrough

Dissented: None

Abstained: None

Carried: 7 – 0

- C. O-2024-62**, A Bill For An Ordinance Conditionally Approving The Vacation Of A Five-foot-wide Utility Easement And A Portion Of A Five-foot-wide LPC Easement Generally Located South Of 9th Ave Along The Northern Boundary Of Lot 1 Trinity Subdivision

Mayor Peck read the title of the ordinance into the record. There was no formal staff presentation on this item.

Mayor Peck opened a public hearing on this item. There being no one present to address Council on this issue, the public hearing was closed.

MOTION

Susie Hidalgo-Fahring moved, seconded by Diane Crist, to pass and adopt **O-2024-62**, A Bill For An Ordinance Conditionally Approving The Vacation Of A Five-foot-wide Utility Easement And A Portion Of A Five-foot-wide LPC Easement Generally Located South Of 9th Ave Along The Northern Boundary Of Lot 1 Trinity Subdivision

Approved: Joan Peck, Diane Crist, Susie Hidalgo-Fahring, Marcia Martin, Sean McCoy, Aren Rodriguez, Shiquita Yarbrough

Dissented: None

Abstained: None

Carried: 7 – 0

- D. O-2024-63,** A Bill For An Ordinance Conditionally Approving The Vacation Of A Thirty-Foot-Wide Access Easement Across The North Side Of The CR5 Storage SP, LLC Property Generally Located South Of State Highway 119 And East Of Weld County Road 5

Mayor Peck read the title of the ordinance into the record. There was no formal staff presentation on this item.

Mayor Peck opened a public hearing on this item. There being no one present to address Council on this issue, the public hearing was closed.

MOTION

Susie Hidalgo-Fahring moved, seconded by Sean McCoy, to pass and adopt **O-2024-63,** A Bill For An Ordinance Conditionally Approving The Vacation Of A Thirty-Foot-Wide Access Easement Across The North Side Of The CR5 Storage SP, LLC Property Generally Located South Of State Highway 119 And East Of Weld County Road 5

Approved: Joan Peck, Diane Crist, Susie Hidalgo-Fahring, Marcia Martin, Sean McCoy, Aren Rodriguez, Shiquita Yarbrough

Dissented: None

Abstained: None

Carried: 7 – 0

11. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

The discussion and action on each item removed from the Consent Agenda is reflected under the item itself.

12. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. 2025 Proposed Budget Presentation

Teresa Molloy, Assistant Chief Financial Officer, explained that the presentation would cover the following aspects of the 2025 budget: employee compensation and benefits, retirement plans, insurance funds, self-insurance funds, and budget summaries.

Joanne Zeas, Chief Human Resources Officer, reviewed the recommendations from Mercer that had been implemented in 2024, explained that the municipal positions dataset had now been updated and said the City's pay philosophy would remain the same. In 2025, benchmarks are adjusted for the municipal positions, midpoints were updated for positions where the current midpoint is below the target market range and the recommendation is to pay at 100% of market for 2025. A 3% increase in salary ranges beyond the current market analysis is recommended, the Exceptional Pay budget will again be implemented, collectively bargained positions will be paid according to the updated contract and the step positions in Longmont Power and Communications would continue on the step rate to remain competitive. She also reviewed the benefits for 2025: there will be a 3.71% increase for Kaiser health care benefits, and the Choice PPO Plan will replace the Triple Option Plan; VSP would continue as the vision care provider; Delta would continue as the dental provider with a 2.95% increase and a two-year rate guarantee; and Mines & Associates would continue to provide the Employee Assistance Program benefits.

In the future, Zeas noted that staff hopes to look at benefits to ensure that the voluntary benefits offered are full spectrum, that salaries remain competitive, and to attain the desired goal of pay at 102% of market when the budget allows for that.

Jim Golden, Chief Financial Officer, then reviewed the status of the pension funds as outlined below.

Old Hire Police and Old Hire Fire Plans:

- Old Hire Police Plan has a negative unfunded liability (surplus) of \$13,256 and is 101.4% funded.
- Old Hire Fire Plan has a negative unfunded liability (surplus) of \$692,224 and is 137.3% funded.
 - Staff recommends a 2% increase per year for members of these plans or a total 6% increase in January.

General Employees' Retirement Plan:

- Was fully funded through 2008 and cannot be increased until fully funded.
- Includes a large base of 800 active and 500 retirees and beneficiaries.
- Plan to move aggressively to full funding because it has been 15 years since the last increase approved for this plan. On course to fully fund by 2045.
- Plan is now 83.6% funded which is good compared to other public plans.
- The contribution requirement decreased slightly to 15.2% of compensation and no changes to the employer or employee contribution are recommended in the 2025 budget.
- Recommend a contribution of \$200,000 from the Health Benefit Fund to GERP to cover the actuarial contribution requirement which will come back to council as a resolution for approval at a later date.

Police and Fire Retirement Plans:

- 3 years ago the City entered the FPPA system and no new employees have been allowed into the older plans. All new employees have to go to the FPPA DB plan.
- 2025 Contribution Requirements for the City will be:
 - City DC plan employees 12.10%
 - FPPA DB plan – re-entry employees 10.60%
 - FPPA Hybrid plan – re-entry employees 12.10%
 - FPPA DB plan – Post Nov 21 employees 10.50%

Golden then discussed the Health Benefit Fund:

- 2025 proposed budget includes health benefit cost inclusive of a 3.7% increase in cost from Kaiser.
- Kaiser costs since 2007 averaged aggregate blended premium increases are at 3.79% compared to industry average increases of 7% to 11%.
- City contributions to health benefit fund as a percentage of salary will remain at 14.5%.
- Fund also includes budget for wellness incentives, police and fire physicals, and public safety counseling.
- Fund balance projected to end 2024 at \$9.4 million and the balance is projected to increase in 2025 because the expected growth in salary will likely outpace the growth in premiums.

Golden then reviewed the Self-Insurance Funds:

- Liability Self Insurance Fund fund balance of \$4.1 million with \$1,119,999 of claim reserves
- Workers Compensation Self Insurance Fund fund balance at end of 2023 close to \$6 million with \$684,571 of claim reserves.

Overall, the 2025 proposed budget is \$469.67 million which is 5.79% and \$25.72 million more than the 2024 adopted budget of \$443.95 million. It includes 45 individual funds, and a large percentage of the increases or decreases in the individual funds are due mostly to capital expenses. Additionally, the Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) increased from \$63.04 million to \$71.01 million.

Next Golden reviewed the Sales & Use Tax Projections for the 2025 budget and noted that for 2025, Sales Tax revenue is projected at 3.18% and Use Tax at 2.4%, for a combined Sales & Use Tax of 3.08%.

Golden discussed the complexity with deriving Property Tax Revenue estimates due to various legislative changes. The 2025 proposed budget includes \$2.8 million less of property tax revenues than the 2024 budget based on the anticipated impacts of Proposition HH. After analyzing the information from last year and the legislation, the budget was created based on last year's property tax and staff recommends adopting the \$2.68 million projected property tax revenue for one-time expenses. After the final assessed valuation is known, and the impacts of HB24B-1001 are known, staff may recommend considering partial use for ongoing expenses.

Harold Dominguez, City Manager, added that the reason those property tax revenues are not proposed in ongoing expenses is to set up for the 2026 budget and make that budget process as manageable as possible because that is when it is anticipated that we will see impacts from the property tax legislation.

Golden then walked through the projected revenues and expenses for the 2025 budget, highlighting major shifts in both areas and explained that to help balance this budget, some ongoing expenses had been moved from ongoing to one-time, and other measures had been included such as the elimination of vacant positions and a reduction of the Exceptional Pay budget from 2% to 1%.

Golden shared the Reserve Policy Targets and updated the Council of the proposed amounts included in the 2025 budget for the reserves: TABOR Reserve at 5.3% and \$6,301,519; Emergency Reserve at 8.0% and \$9,520,672; and Stabilization Reserve at 7.34% and \$8,740,062. The Total Reserve Target for 2025 is 20.6% and \$24,562,253.

Council asked how the reserve funds were invested and if they would be accessible should there ever be an emergency and Golden responded that they were invested in various places and said up to \$100 million of the funds are readily available, if needed.

Lastly, Golden walked through the proposed Use of General Fund Balance as outlined in the presentation and discussed the Public Safety Fund Budget Summary. The Public Safety Fund has a total of \$2,071,572 of new ongoing expenditures, with less than \$1 million of new ongoing revenue which has forced the elimination of various vacant positions and the adjustment of three FTE police officers to the General Fund. Golden explained that the proforma for this fund, using conservative estimates, shows that with only 3% sales tax growth, this level of ongoing expenses is not sustainable.

Golden concluded his presentation cautioning that both funds are going to be challenged, particularly the Public Safety Fund, in the near future and that will need to be addressed by managing expenses or by additional revenue sources for the funds.

13. FINAL CALL - PUBLIC INVITED TO BE HEARD

JD Gleitz, 1632 Sherman Way, thanked the Council for their decision to deny ModernWest 2, said the property should ideally be left undeveloped, and that changes to Title 15 would help prevent issues if notification were required in the Airport Influence Overlay zone.

14. MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council Member McCoy talked about a story on 9news about park rangers and the dog beach at Union Reservoir and urged the public to stop by ArtWalk and the Callahan House this weekend.

Mayor Pro Tem Hidalgo-Fahring also mentioned ArtWalk on Saturday from 4 to 8 pm on Main Street and shared her excitement for an art and youth engagement project she

helped with at Countryside Village. She noted that the final projects will be displayed at the Art in Public Places booth at ArtWalk.

Mayor Peck alerted the Council she would be out of town over the weekend.

15. CITY MANAGER REMARKS

The City Manager had no additional items to bring before City Council.

16. CITY ATTORNEY REMARKS

The City Attorney had no additional items to bring before City Council.

17. ADJOURN

Current Balance in General Fund Council Contingency: \$102,486

MOTION

Sean McCoy moved, seconded by Diane Crist, to adjourn the meeting at 10:40 p.m.

Approved: Joan Peck, Diane Crist, Susie Hidalgo-Fahring, Marcia Martin, Sean McCoy, Aren Rodriguez, Shiquita Yarbrough

Dissented: None

Abstained: None

Carried: 7 – 0

CITY OF LONGMONT, COLORADO

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

The video of this meeting can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/@cityoflongmont>