

MINUTES

WELD COUNTY COUNCIL

February 24, 2025

The Weld County Council met in regular session in full conformity with the Weld County Home Rule Charter at 6:30 p.m., Monday, February 24, 2025, at the Weld County Administration Building, 1150 O Street, Greeley, CO.



ROLL CALL:

The meeting was called to order by President Nancy Teksten. Councilmembers Elijah Hatch, James Welch and Jeff Reck were present, constituting a quorum of members. Also present was Council Secretary Linda Kane.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA :

Councilmember Hatch made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Councilmember Reck, and the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF DOCUMENTATION:

Approval of January Minutes

Councilmember Welch made a motion to approve the January minutes, seconded by Councilmember Hatch, and the motion carried.

Approval of 4th Quarter Report to the People

Councilmember Hatch made a motion to approve the 4th quarter Report to the People, seconded by Councilmember Welch, and the motion carried.

REVIEW PROGRAM:

There was none.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

OLD BUSINESS:

Interview Candidates for At-Large Vacancy

Councilmember Hatch made a motion to approve the interview process for the At-Large vacancy, it was seconded by Councilmember Welch, and the motion carried.

The first candidate was Mark Lawley of Eaton. He said it's important to elect government representatives who are responsible to the people. He sees the role of a councilmember as ensuring things run properly in a manner consistent with good governance.

He's had more than 40 years of experience working in government as an employee and as a consultant. He worked for Weld County in the past, acting as the director of public health.

The second candidate was Terry DeGroot of Kersey. He said he wants to be a voice of reason on the Council and to act as a liaison between the Council and citizens of Weld County. He said he's built relationships with Weld County representatives, the commissioners and state senators.

Mr. DeGroot owns a dairy farm and said he would represent the working class.

The third candidate was Ali Hobbs from Eerie who said she wants to serve her community. She said she would be a representative who is approachable and gets things done. She expressed her interest in learning more about county government in general.

The fourth candidate was Blair Howe of Greeley. He is an elected board member of the Front Range Fire Protection District. He said his responsibility as a councilmember would include overseeing the \$19 billion budget and delivering on services promised to the citizens.

He said he's enjoyed being an elected official in the Milliken and Johnstown fire service and being a councilmember would be a great opportunity to serve the community. He would look forward to the interactions between departments and would manage the responsibility effectively, with integrity and humility.

After tallying the rankings, there was a tie between Mr. DeGroot and Mr. Howe. Council was discussing how to break the tie when it agreed to public comment.

Terrie Meyer of Greeley and former councilmember Tonya Van Beber of Eaton both spoke on behalf of Mr. DeGroot, stating they support his appointment.

Council agreed to ask Mr. DeGroot and Mr. Howe another question to try to break the tie. Then Council President Nancy Teksten entertained a motion made by Councilman Hatch that she refrain from the vote according to Roberts Rules of Order, it was seconded by Councilman Welch, and another vote was taken where Mr. DeGroot received the majority vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

Appoint Candidate to At-Large Vacancy

Councilmember Reck made a motion to appoint Mr. DeGroot to the At-Large vacancy, it was seconded by Councilmember Hatch, and the motion carried.

Coordinator Reports/Councilman Reports

There were none.

Bills

Councilmember Hatch made a motion to approve bills, it was seconded by Councilmember Reck and carried. The bills were paid as follows:

- Weld County Phone Bill for January \$31.00
- Prairie Mtn Media – 3rd quarter RTTP \$132.00

ADJOURNMENT:

By acclamation, the meeting was adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Council Secretary, Linda Kane