

City of Greeley, Colorado  
**COUNCIL WORKSESSION REPORT**  
 June 23, 2020

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Gates, in the Council's Chambers at the City Center South Campus, 1001 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Gates led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

**3. ROLL CALL**

Cheryl Aragon, Interim City Clerk, called the roll. Those present were Mayor John Gates and Councilmembers Tommy Butler, Ed Clark, Michael Fitzsimmons, Dale Hall, Brett Payton and Kristin Zasada.

**4. REPORTS FROM MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS**

Councilmember Fitzsimmons reported that the NoCo Strong group would be meeting with the Governor the next day and that he would be participating in that meeting.

**5. COVID-19 UPDATE**

Dan Frazen, Emergency Operations Manager, provide a COVID-19 update noting an increase in cases since the last update. He provided State and County numbers, as well as hospital numbers which are down.

He stated that on July 1<sup>st</sup> Colorado would enter the Vast Great Outdoors phase.

He reminded the Council that the Bonell facility is closed, but can open if needed at any time, and shared that the Ranch facility is still available with 195 beds if needed.

It was noted that a written report would be provided on June 30<sup>th</sup> since there is no Council Meeting scheduled for that day.

With regard to the Downtown Recreation Center, Mr. Otto noted that it will come on board in late summer since the pool is down for work right now.

Greeley Area Recovery Fund (GARF)

Ben Snow, Economic Health and Housing Director, reported on and reviewed the GARF Dashboard. He stated that it is going at a pretty steady pace within the program.

Councilmember Zasada inquired about flexibility within this fund, such as to support the purchase or rental of security and tables for the new Downtown open container concept.

Mr. Snow stated that a lot of flexibility has existed within this program from the beginning and that supporting Downtown businesses for their open container concept has some promise.

### Monthly Financial Update

Robert Miller, Interim Finance Director, provided a brief review of the Monthly Financial Report. He noted that the crystal ball is cloudy, but staff is watching it closely so that the City can react appropriately.

## **6. NOVEMBER 2020 TAX RENEWAL INITIATIVES DISCUSSION – SURVEY/POLLING RESULTS AND NEXT STEPS**

Paul Fetherston, Assistant City Manager, reported that the Citizen Budget Advisory Committee (CBAC) and staff are recommending two renewals for the 2020 ballot. He stated that during the March 10, 2020, Work Session, the City Council was presented with information regarding potential ballot measures related to renewals of existing tax initiatives as a part of the November 2020 ballot – the Food Tax and the Keep Greeley Moving Tax.

Mr. Fetherston stated that in furtherance of the City Council’s consensus at that time, the City released a Public Polling and Outreach Consultant Services Request for Proposals through which Strategies360 – a Denver based firm – was secured. They surveyed/pollled 500 registered Greeley voters – which was made available via landline, SMS and mobile between May 29th and June 3rd. He noted that a copy of the polling results were included in Council’s packet and that representatives of Strategies 360 were present to discuss results.

Alex Dunn, Strategies360, was present and provided an in-depth review of their work polling and surveying the community. He noted that the work was done in May and June, so the information is very recent and relevant.

He shared that respondents seemed to recognize the need for additional funding for streets, but noted that voters do not seem as supportive of trails and open space and that there is more notable opposition to this over the tax renewals. He added that there appears to be an appetite for continuing existing revenue streams but not new tax measures.

Mr. Fetherston expressed that staff does not want to risk the food tax with the open space question since there does not seem to be enough support for it to pass. He added that staff is also concerned about placing them all on the ballot at the same time and stressed that the City cannot risk the food tax failing.

Councilmember Butler stated that he could support placing both the Keep Greeley Moving tax and the Food Tax on the ballot this year.

Councilmember Clark stated that he would support placing the Food Tax on the ballot this year, and place the Keep Greeley Moving renewal on a different ballot.

Councilmember Payton expressed support for the Keep Greeley Moving renewal in 2021 and the Food Tax Renewal this year.

Consensus was reached by Council to proceed with the Food Tax renewal this year and the Keep Greeley Moving renewal in 2021.

Mr. Fetherston stated that a communication plan will be brought back to Council in July.

**7. SCHEDULING OF MEETINGS, OTHER EVENTS**

No additional meetings or events were scheduled.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Gates adjourned the meeting at 7:53 p.m.



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Cheryl Aragon, Interim City Clerk