

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES

A meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held on Wednesday, May 21, 2025, in Council Chambers and via electronic meeting, starting at 6:00 p.m. Those in attendance were as follows:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Dr. Mark Rinne, Council President and Chairman; Dr. Michelle Aldrich; Dr. Kathy Emmons; Ken Esquibel; Mark Moody; Scott Roybal; Tom Segrave; and Jeff White (via Zoom). Absent: Pete Laybourn.

AGENDA ITEMS

10. ORDINANCE –2nd READING – Appropriating moneys for the City of Cheyenne, Wyoming, for the various purposes in conducting the municipal government of said City and fixing the amount of general and special taxes as part of the revenue required to meet the said appropriation, all for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026. (SPONSOR – DR. RINNE)

Mr. Roybal moved to approve on 2nd reading, seconded by Mr. Segrave.

Dr. Aldrich moved to amend by relocating the entire Parking Division (employees and budget) to the Building, Risk & Nuisance Division, seconded by Mr. Moody. Motion to amend failed with all members voting “NO” with the exception of Dr. Aldrich and Mr. Moody voting “YES.”

Dr. Aldrich moved to decrease the “Professional Development” line items in the City Council Division by \$1,750.00, the Mayor Division by \$15,000.00, and the City Attorney Division by \$5,800.00 and increase the “Regular Employee” line item in the City Council Division by \$18,128.00 and the remaining \$4,422.00 to benefits related to the Regular Employee, seconded by Mr. Moody. Motion to amend failed with all members voting “NO.”

Mr. Moody moved to decrease the “Professional Services” line item in the City Clerk Division by \$10,000.00 and revert funds back to General Fund Reserves, seconded by Dr. Aldrich. Motion to amend failed with all members voting “NO.”

Dr. Aldrich moved to decrease the “Professional Services” line item in the Planning & Development Division by \$28,000.00 and increase the “Temporary/Part-Time” line item in the Municipal Court Division by the same amount. Motion was withdrawn, as the motion upon advisement from Treasurer Lockman, that these funds are one-time funds and should not be utilized for reoccurring expenses.

Dr. Aldrich moved to decrease the “Professional Services” line item in the Planning & Development Division by \$235,000.00 and revert funds back to General Fund Reserves, seconded by Mr. Moody. Motion to amend failed with Dr. Emmons, Mr. Roybal, Mr. Segrave, and Mr. White voting “NO” and Dr. Aldrich, Mr. Esquibel, and Mr. Moody voting “YES.”

Mr. Esquibel moved to create a line item for “Speed and Noise Enforcement Overtime” in the Police Patrol Division with a total budget amount of \$100,000.00 for wages and benefits from General Fund Reserves, seconded by Mr. Segrave. Motion carried with all members voting “YES.”

Dr. Aldrich moved to decrease the “Memorials and Trophy Supplies” line item in the Mayor Division by \$600 and revert funds to General Fund Reserves, seconded by Mr. Moody. Motion to amend failed with all members voting “NO” with the exception of Dr. Aldrich and Mr. Moody voting “YES.”

Mr. Moody moved to remove all funding, in an amount of \$50,000.00, from the “Arts Cheyenne” line item in the Community Support Division and revert the funds to General Fund Reserves. Motion failed with all members voting “NO” with the exception of Mr. Moody voting “YES.”

Main motion, as amended, carried with all members voting “YES” with the exception of Dr. Aldrich voting “NO.”

Mayor Patrick Collins provided a brief overview of the Fiscal Year 2026 balanced Budget and noted a 3.8% increase over Fiscal Year 2025. Mayor Collins advised the budget includes 451 full-time employees with one new position in the Municipal Court. Mayor Collins provided information related to the employee compensation study and advised midway through the budget cycle a review of revenues would be conducted to determine if cost of living increases could be considered. Mayor Collins thanked all City departments and Treasurer Lockman and her staff for their work on the budget.

The Committee reviewed the budget department by department. Discussion included the use of “Professional Development” funds; the use of funds for employee events; funds needed for various city parking lots; and updating of the “Plan Cheyenne” plan document. Erin LeBlanc, Laramie County Senior Services, provided the committee with information related to services provided by the Senior Center and thanked the committee for their continued support. Britney Tennant, Cheyenne Animal Shelter, thanked the committee, Dr. Aldrich (the council liaison to the board), and Director Fountain for the positive relationship. Heidi McNeil, Volunteers of America, thanked the committee for their continued support. Kasey Mullins, Director of Nursing and Deputy Director, Cheyenne Laramie County Public Health, also thanked the committee for their support and noted a decrease in the department’s overall budget.

Following the department by department review the committee took a brief break at 7:14 p.m. and returned at 7:23 p.m.

Eric Fountain, Compliance Director, provided information related to the amendment to move the parking division. John Brodie, City Attorney, advised that ordinances would have to be updated to reflect the movement of the parking division. Robin Lockman, City Treasurer, provided information related to compensation for the amended “Regular Employee” in the City Council Division and Darrin Hass, Human Resources Director, provided information related to the revised pay grades and compensation study. Kylie Soden, City Clerk, advised the “Professional Services” line item in the City Clerk Division funds a contract employee. Charles Bloom, Planning &

Development Department Director, provided additional information related to the advantages of updating the “Plan Cheyenne” plan. Mayor Collins supported the additional funding for a new line item for “Speed and Noise Enforcement Overtime” and provided information related to recent patrol of these offenses. Mayor Collins also advised on employee plaques and the maintenance of public art.

There being no further items for the agenda to come before the Committee of the Whole, the meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Submitted by,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. McClelland". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter of the last name being a large, stylized 'M'.

Jennifer McClelland

Executive Assistant to the City Council