

January 6, 2026

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS, COLORADO

Council-Manager Form of Government

Regular Meeting – 6:00 PM

PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

5:00 PM

A) PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS – None.

REGULAR MEETING

6:00 PM

B) CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Jeni Arndt called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at 300 Laporte Avenue, Fort Collins, Colorado, with hybrid participation available via the City's Zoom platform.

C) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Jeni Arndt led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

D) ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Mayor Jeni Arndt
Mayor Pro Tem Emily Francis
Councilmember Julie Pignataro
Councilmember Tricia Canonico
Councilmember Melanie Potyondy
Councilmember Kelly Ohlson
Councilmember Susan Gutowsky

STAFF PRESENT

City Manager Kelly DiMartino
City Attorney Carrie Daggett
City Clerk Delynn Coldiron

E) CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA REVIEW

City Manager Kelly DiMartino provided an overview of the agenda, including:

- No changes to the published agenda.
- Items 1-7 on the Consent Calendar are recommended for adoption.
- Staff Report on new FortCollins.gov website.
- One discussion item.

F) COMMUNITY REPORTS – None.

G) PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY TOPICS OR ITEMS OR COMMUNITY EVENTS
(Including requests for removal of items from Consent Calendar for individual discussion.)

Kathryn Dubiel stated leadership is about impact and public service is about taking action on behalf of others, and those two items are connected. She provided examples of what good leadership and service look like and stated courage, integrity, and empathy are required to be a good public servant. She thanked Council for its service to the community.

Missy Abrams read an ode to Susan Gutowsky she wrote and thanked her for her service to the community.

Rachael Ardanuy asked for consideration of code changes related to marijuana licensing noting other local municipalities have increased revenue opportunities by expanding what is allowed by their marijuana licensing options. She discussed a guide she emailed from Denver which shows recent process updates related to liquor and marijuana licensing and asked Council to take a look at these.

Ezriah Schteir spoke about Flock cameras and stated he submitted a CORA request to Police Services regarding the number of searches conducted last year and how many led to the target of the search being found. He stated Police Services responded there were 22,656 searches but were unable to answer how many were successful. He stated the City is spending \$50,000 per year on the camera contract and suggested there may be other more beneficial uses for the funds. He also questioned whether the cameras meet the transparency expectations of residents.

Barbara Krupnik-Goldman thanked the departing Councilmembers for the time they have made to meet with her and listen to her concerns related to climate and air quality. She thanked Councilmember Ohlson for his work related to this and noted he is one that considered climate an urgent issue that requires action.

Patricia Babbitt thanked Councilmember Gutowsky for listening and for sharing resident concerns with the Council. She commented on Councilmember Gutowsky's recent suggestion that Council cut travel expenses and stated it was met with clear disapproval from other Councilmembers who instead have focused on budget cuts that will impact taxpayers. She stated she hopes the new Councilmembers will exhibit the same courage, critical thinking skill, and leadership of Councilmember Gutowsky.

Nell Davis shared support for paid on-street parking in Old Town. She noted the issues created by people going around blocks searching for spots in terms of increased emissions and stated the change would encourage people to park in garages.

Ann Hutchison shared her appreciation for outgoing Councilmembers and thanked them for loving Fort Collins and making this a better place. She provided examples where each excelled and noted the City is fortunate to have had them in leadership.

H) PUBLIC COMMENT FOLLOW-UP

Councilmember Pignataro asked about an upcoming staff report on the Flock cameras. City Manager DiMartino replied an item is being prepared for a February 27th work session.

I) COUNCILMEMBER REMOVAL OF ITEMS FROM CONSENT CALENDAR FOR DISCUSSION

None.

J) CONSENT CALENDAR

1. **Consideration and Approval of the Minutes of the December 16, 2025, Regular meeting.**

The purpose of this item is to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2025, Regular meeting.

Approved.

2. **Second Reading of Ordinance No. 208, 2025, Amending Section 2-606 of the Code of the City of Fort Collins and Setting the Salary of the Chief Judge.**

This Ordinance, unanimously adopted on First Reading on December 16, 2025, establishes the 2026 compensation of the Chief Judge. Council met in executive session on November 25, 2025, to conduct the performance review of Chief Judge Jill Hueser and to review the salary market analysis for this position.

Adopted on Second Reading.

3. **Second Reading of Ordinance No. 209, 2025, Amending Section 2-596 of the Code of the City of Fort Collins and Setting the Salary of the City Manager.**

This Ordinance, unanimously adopted on First Reading on December 16, 2025, amends City Code to establish the 2026 salary of the City Manager. Council met in executive session on November 25, 2025, to conduct the performance review of City Manager Kelly DiMartino and to review the salary market analysis for this position.

Adopted on Second Reading.

4. **Second Reading of Ordinance No. 210, 2025, Amending Section 2-581 of the Code of the City of Fort Collins and Setting the Salary of the City Attorney.**

This Ordinance, unanimously adopted on First Reading on December 16, 2025, amends City Code to establish the 2026 compensation of the City Attorney. Council met in executive session on November 25, 2025, to conduct the performance review of City Attorney Carrie Daggett and to review the salary market analysis for this position.

Adopted on Second Reading.

5. **First Reading of Ordinance No. 001, 2026, Staying the Operation of Ordinances Related to the International Building Codes.**

The purpose of this item is to stay the operation of Ordinance No. 201, 2025, Ordinance No. 211, 2025 (Building Code), Ordinance No. 212, 2025 (Energy Conservation Code), Ordinance No. 213, 2025 (Residential Code), Ordinance No. 214, 2025 (Existing Building Code), Ordinance No. 215, 2025 (Swimming Pool & Spa Code), Ordinance No. 216, 2025 (Property Maintenance Code), Ordinance No. 217, 2025 (Mechanical Code), Ordinance No. 218, 2025 (Fuel Gas Code), Ordinance No. 219, 2025 (Plumbing Code), and Ordinance No. 221, 2025 (National Electrical Code), until April 1, 2026 to clarify Council's intent that the previously adopted building codes remain in effect until that time.

Adopted on First Reading.

6. **Resolution 2026-001 Authorizing the City Manager to Execute Two Agreements Regarding Use of the City's Shares in the Water Supply and Storage Company.**

The purpose of this item is to approve two agreements regarding the use of the City's shares in the Water Supply and Storage Company ("WSSC"). The City's WSSC shares are needed to provide water service to the City's Water Utility customers.

The "Agreement Between the Water Supply and Storage Company and the Municipal Entity Stockholders" describes the framework for planning, design, construction, operation, maintenance, and funding of modifications to the WSSC system needed to ensure reliable water delivery to all shareholders ("WSSC System Modifications").

The "Cost Allocation Agreement for WSSC System Modifications" describes how the water provider shareholders, including the City, will share the costs related to the WSSC System Modifications. The City's share of such costs is approximately 6%. Both of these agreements are necessary for the City Water Utility to be able to fully utilize its WSSC shares for the benefit of the rate payers of the City Water Utility and the residents of Fort Collins.

Adopted.

7. Resolution 2026-002 Directing Evaluation and Proposed Arrangements for Reorganizing the Administration of Municipal Court.

The purpose of this item is to consider a resolution to direct staff to evaluate and propose arrangements for reorganizing the administration of Municipal Court. The primary objective is to enhance operational efficiency and improve customer service by moving business operations under the City Manager's Office.

Adopted.

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

Mayor Pro Tem Emily Francis moved, seconded by Councilmember Canonico, to approve the recommended actions on items 1-7 on the Consent Calendar.

The motion carried 7-0.

K) CONSENT CALENDAR FOLLOW-UP *(This is an opportunity for Councilmembers to comment on items adopted or approved on the Consent Calendar.)*

None.

L) STAFF REPORTS – Demonstration of New Website, FortCollins.Gov.

Amanda King, Chief Communications and Engagement Officer, provided information on the previous City website noting it was very complex and included over 6,000 PDF documents which have accessibility issues. She noted the new website's .gov extension adds legitimacy and consistency and stated the new website has a much simpler user interface. Additionally, she noted the new website complies with the State's new digital accessibility law.

King provided an overview of the new website and showed some of its features. She noted it is also mobile friendly.

Councilmember Potyondy thanked staff for their work and stated it is a great product.

Councilmember Canonico thanked staff for their work, particularly the efforts to comply with the digital equity bill.

Councilmember Gutowsky noted this work was a monumental task and stated the new site is beautiful. She advised people that there will likely be glitches and asked people to have patience as things are worked out.

Mayor Arndt also provided her thanks and stated the new site will serve people well.

M) COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS

Councilmember Susan Gutowsky

- Annual Report for the Museo de las Tres Colonias – now an officially curated museum which does a great job of interpreting the area's Hispanic history. Museo also participates in the Historic Homes Tour, Neighborhood Night Out, a spring planting event, and a Dia de los Muertos event.

N) CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR FOR INDIVIDUAL DISCUSSION

O) CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS PLANNED FOR DISCUSSION

8. Items Related to Expressing Gratitude and Appreciation to Outgoing Mayor and Councilmembers for Their Contributions to the Community as City Mayor and Councilmembers.

- A. Resolution 2026-003 Expressing Gratitude and Appreciation to Jeni Arndt for Her Service and Contributions to the Community as Mayor.*
- B. Resolution 2026-004 Expressing Gratitude and Appreciation to Susan Gutowsky for Her Service and Contributions to the Community as City Councilmember.*
- C. Resolution 2026-005 Expressing Gratitude and Appreciation to Tricia Canonico for Her Service and Contributions to the Community as City Councilmember.*
- D. Resolution 2026-006 Expressing Gratitude and Appreciation to Kelly Ohlson for His Service and Contributions to the Community as City Councilmember.*

The purpose of this item is to express gratitude and appreciation to the outgoing Mayor and Councilmembers for their contributions to the community as Mayor and Councilmembers.

STAFF PRESENTATION

City Manager DiMartino stated this item provides a focused opportunity to share appreciation for those whose Council terms are concluding. She commented on the collective service of the four Councilmembers and highlighted the following: Mayor Arndt's civility and tone she has set in terms of good governance, Councilmember Gutowsky's heart for service, Councilmember Canonico's connection with legislative and regional policy work, and Councilmember Ohlson's commitment and dedication to the entirety of the City organization, principled decision-making, and dedication to the City's Open Space program. City Manager DiMartino thanked the outgoing Councilmembers for their service.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ross Cuniff shared appreciation for the outgoing Councilmembers. He noted their service and dedication to the City were recognized and appreciated and specifically commended Councilmember Gutowsky, with whom he served for two years. He stated she is a tremendous advocate for neighborhoods, for regular people, for the environment and for good public process. He also commended Councilmember Ohlson and the incredible impact he has had on the

community. He stated he has been a constant friend and mentor to himself and many others, and has worked continuously on good governance, transparency, and environmental advocacy. He stated he has been a fantastic friend and ally for all good things in Fort Collins.

Linda Stanley stated she wanted to publicly express her thanks to Councilmember Ohlson for his service to the community and stated his work has made our part of the world a better place. She noted his tireless work on environmental and other policy issues and stated he has done his work in an honest and ethical way and has spoken his truth. She also shared some personal items and thanked him for everything. She stated she is very proud of the person he is and the service he provided and is looking forward to their retirement.

Gina Janett thanked Councilmember Ohlson for his years of service and for reading the massive amounts of policy and budget information that Council receives weekly. She thanked him for always responding to constituent requests for personal meetings and for listening to those with differing opinions. She thanked him for crafting policy language that lessened harm and stated he is well respected by all and will be missed. She also thanked Councilmember Gutowsky for meeting with people in the community and being supportive of things that matter to her, including historic preservation and the environment.

Eric Hamrick thanked the outgoing Councilmembers. He noted this is a tough job and he appreciated their service. He thanked Councilmember Gutowsky for her dedication to service and engagement. He thanked Councilmember Ohlson for over 40 years of public service and mentioned his tireless support for environmental issues, Natural Areas, parks and trails. He commented on his work to increase livability for neighborhoods and to maintain open space. He thanked him for speaking truth to power and wished him good luck in the future.

Scott Mason thanked the outgoing Councilmembers and noted their time and leadership over the years has made our City what it is today. He stated Councilmember Ohlson has been a great example of a selfless public leader who has fought tirelessly for transparent government, neighborhoods, and the environment. He wished him all the best in his retirement.

Travis Storin thanked the outgoing Councilmembers and commented on the virtues they possess, including that they are fundamentally decent people who sought offices for all the right reasons, they have done the work, and they treat the staff with kindness and respect while also holding them accountable. He highlighted Councilmember Ohlson for his years of service and the thoughtfulness and respect he experienced. He thanked all Councilmembers for their service.

Paul Patterson thanked the four outgoing Councilmembers for their service to the community and specifically commended Councilmember Gutowsky for meeting with constituents and listening to their concerns. He noted this is a much-needed skill.

David Roy acknowledged Councilmember Ohlson and thanked him for the number of years he has dedicated to the City and to the principles of democracy. He stated that he has always walked the talk and his integrity and honesty have never been questioned. He noted that Councilmember Ohlson believes that good government is open, accessible, and transparent, and that citizens deserve Councilmembers' best efforts. He commented on Councilmember Ohlson's efforts to preserve and fund Natural Areas and stated he is a leader that operates with courage and tenacity. He stated Councilmember Ohlson always speaks for the voiceless, the environment, and the disenfranchised and his work over the years has made the government and our City better. He thanked him for everything he has done for Fort Collins and the impact it will have for generations to come.

Katy Mason thanked all outgoing Councilmembers. She focused on the legacy of Councilmember Ohlson and his 40 years of service. She stated his passion and tenacity for improving Fort Collins

is unmatched and his vision and leadership related to Natural Areas is a legacy for the ages. She thanked him for his tireless pursuit of a better community and world.

Adrian Kley noted he has know Councilmember Ohlson most of his life. He stated he was six when Councilmember Ohlson first ran for Council. He stated he learned so much from him about government and history and stated the work ethic he observed will be an inspiration to him forever. He expressed gratitude to Councilmember Ohlson for being the best role model he could ask for.

Emily Gallichotte expressed her gratitude for the outgoing Councilmembers and noted the challenges that have been encountered over the past five years. She stated that she has interacted with all of the Councilmembers and is grateful for their service and the work they have done.

Joe Rowan expressed his gratitude to the outgoing Councilmembers. He thanked the Mayor for the opportunity to get to know her in a personal and professional manner. He thanked Councilmember Gutowsky and hoped she would find the serenity she deserved. He thanked Councilmember Ohlson for his work and service and commented on the vision he has had over the years and the lasting improvements that have resulted for the community.

Ezriah Schteir thanked Councilmember Canonico for her service to the community and for her willingness to engage with constituents. He admired the positive campaign she ran and how gracious she was when the outcome wasn't what was hoped for.

Philip Siefken thanked Councilmember Ohlson for his service to the community. He noted he has benefitted for a lifetime from his influence and has been impressed that he always answers the phone and cares about all community members. He noted his advocacy for neighborhoods and the impact this has had on his life.

Kathryn Dubiel thanked Councilmember Gutowsky for her service and commented on her unfailing and respectful behavior. She stated she showed that being a leader meant being respectful of all and acknowledging all points of view. She stated Councilmember Gutowsky held firm on principles to protect environment, home rule, transparency and support for business and that she could disagree without being disagreeable. She noted Councilmember Gutowsky was consistently out in the community, attending festivities and public meetings, and collaborating with community members. She stated she reported on these activities with genuine care to celebrate our vibrant community and always listened to public comments.

Amy Hoeven thanked the outgoing Councilmembers for achieving the mission of the City and stated she is more involved due to their example. She thanked Councilmember Ohlson for the years of service he has given to the community and to her and her family. She stated she has huge shoes to fill as Councilmember-elect and stated she looks forward to serving.

Cordelia Stone thanked all outgoing Councilmembers. She stated it has been her honor and privilege to work with Councilmember Ohlson since 1999 and to have been the beneficiary of the work he has done. She commented on an open space meeting she attended in 1999 and stated she was blown away by the knowledge and dedication the group was showing and stated she is honored to have been part of that work. She thanked Councilmember Ohlson for his work to protect open space for generations to come.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mayor Pro Tem Francis moved, seconded by Councilmember Pignataro, to adopt Resolution 2026-003 Expressing Gratitude and Appreciation to Jeni Arndt for Her Service and Contributions to the Community as Mayor.

Councilmember Potyondy noted she wrote notes to all outgoing Councilmembers. She noted her first introduction to government was when Mayor Arndt invited her in to help her write a bill. She stated that work put a fire under her regarding the importance of government and credited Mayor Arndt for her being in this position. She thanked her for inviting her into her journey.

Mayor Arndt thanked Fort Collins voters and provided information on those who had been elected as Mayor without serving as a Councilmember. She also thanked the Councilmembers for their trust and stated this group consists of some of the most hardworking and committed people she has ever met. She stated she was impressed every day and was not sure she would ever have this type of work environment again. She commented on things the Council has accomplished along with voters, including election changes, revised ethics rules and gifts policy, revised Council rules, URA movement, the CCIP referral, the Natural Areas tax extension in perpetuity, the 2050 climate, transportation, and recreation tax, Council pay, and Charter updates. She stated the City has good public process and stated she was honored to have worked with this group.

Councilmember Ohlson stated Mayor Arndt was one of twelve mayors that he served with and stated she is a force to be reckoned with. He stated she took the role of Mayor very seriously, had a quick, sharp wit that he appreciated, had good judgment, and agreed with him on style and substance on governance. He stated they have a good relationship today even though they had many policy differences.

The motion passed 7-0.

Mayor Pro Tem Francis moved, seconded by Councilmember Pignataro, to adopt Resolution 2026-004 Expressing Gratitude and Appreciation to Susan Gutowsky for Her Service and Contributions to the Community as City Councilmember.

Councilmember Potyondy stated it was incredible knowing Councilmember Gutowsky moved from being a teacher, to a school board member, to a Councilmember. She stated she loves her joy and the dedication of her adult life to this community. She stated it was heartwarming to see how much she is loved as she moves into this new life.

Councilmember Ohlson stated that no one can question Councilmember Gutowsky's commitment to community and neighborhoods. He stated that no Councilmember had attended more events than she did, and the community really appreciated that. He stated she, too, possesses a quick wit and does great voice imitations of people. He stated she is often the only one in the room who gets his references to movies, television, or music, and he wished her well.

Mayor Arndt stated she appreciated her one-on-one meetings with Councilmember Gutowsky and hoped these would continue. She commended her support for arts and culture and noted this played to her strengths. She stated the community appreciated her support in those areas as well.

Councilmember Gutowsky thanked everyone for the Resolution and recognition. She offered a tribute to her late husband and thanked the City and community for their support. She stated it has been a privilege to serve the community for the past 14 years and stated she loves and is in love with our beautiful city.

The motion passed 7-0.

Mayor Pro Tem moved, seconded by Councilmember Pignataro, to adopt Resolution 2026-005 Expressing Gratitude and Appreciation to Tricia Canonico for Her Service and Contributions to the Community as City Councilmember.

Councilmember Potyondy noted that Councilmember Canonico is a kind person, and she found her to be the most well-researched member on Council. She stated Councilmember Canonico dove deep and cared about issues and stated it was a pleasure to work with her.

Councilmember Ohlson noted that it took them a bit to find their way; however, once they did, he found it very productive and enjoyable. He commended the fact that Councilmember Canonico wanted to translate things into action and stated she shows up and does the hard work. He stated she was the only Councilmember that would fact check him in real time.

Mayor Arndt noted she would get information from Councilmember Canonico by text informing her of things and stated she is dedicated to service, is kind, and cares. She noted the juggling of life responsibilities and stated Councilmember Canonico did that well.

Councilmember Gutowsky echoed what has been said, particularly Councilmember Canonico's kindness and compassion. She commended Councilmember Canonico's work to enhance her knowledge as well as that of others and stated she is looking forward to what she will be doing next.

Councilmember Canonico thanked District 3 and all of Fort Collins for trusting her, engaging with her, asking hard questions, and offering encouragement. She stated serving the community has been one of the greatest honors and joys of her life and thanked Council for the friendship, debates, collaboration, laughter, and shared commitment to keeping Fort Collins innovative, future-focused, and ahead of the curve. She stated she is proud of Council's accomplishments, including advancing the goals of Our Climate Future through the 2050 tax, adopting a single trash hauler contract, launching a composting pilot program, expanding the trail network, moving forward on fleet electrification, working toward housing abundance and affordability, adopting updates to the Land Use Code, modernizing democracy, and making government more fun.

Councilmember Canonico stated she will always recognize the shared value of community leaving a legacy for future generations. She also expressed pride in the progress made in the southeast part of the city. She thanked City staff and commented on their extraordinary knowledge and work. She thanked her family for their love, patience, and unwavering support. She stated Fort Collins is a special place because people care so deeply about it.

The motion passed 7-0.

Mayor Pro Tem Francis moved, seconded by Councilmember Pignataro, to adopt Resolution 2026-006 Expressing Gratitude and Appreciation to Kelly Ohlson for His Service and Contributions to the Community as City Councilmember.

Councilmember Potyondy stated it has been lovely getting to know Councilmember Ohlson and what a kind human he is. She expressed gratitude for being able to work with him.

Mayor Arndt noted she has known Councilmember Ohlson since she was 22 and would wait on him at Cuisine Cuisine. She commented on applying for the Parks and Recreation Board and not being selected by Councilmember Ohlson. She stated serving with him on Council has been a joy and stated their disagreements were honest and thoughtful though they have always agreed on good and open governance. She stated it has been an honor to serve with him and that every accolade mentioned tonight was well deserved.

Councilmember Gutowsky stated she has thoroughly enjoyed working with Councilmember Ohlson and agreed that they share a similar sense of humor.

Councilmember Canonico agreed they had a bit of a rough start, but commended their work together. She thanked him for his service.

Councilmember Ohlson stated public service in Fort Collins is a big part of his life story and stated he is most comfortable in Council Chambers. He thanked the people of Fort Collins, stating it was a pleasure to serve them. He also thanked all City employees, past and present, for their dedication, integrity, and support, and noted they translate Council's words into action. He stated their work makes the City function. He stated his service on Council has always been interesting, sometimes frustrating, and occasionally fun, and stated each Councilmember has brought a different focus, dedication, to commitment to improving the community and environment. He thanked his wife, stating she has been his number one supporter, critic, tech support, and campaign manager. He expressed his gratitude to everyone he has worked with.

The motion passed 7-0.

Q) OTHER BUSINESS

- OB 1. **Possible consideration of the initiation of new ordinances and/or resolutions by Councilmembers.**

(Three or more individual Councilmembers may direct the City Manager and City Attorney to initiate and move forward with development and preparation of resolutions and ordinances not originating from the Council's Policy Agenda or initiated by staff.)

R) ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk