

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

City Council



STAFF

Judge Jill A. Hueser, Chief Judge

SUBJECT

Items Relating to the Reappointment of Assistant Municipal Court Judges.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A. Resolution 2026-081 Reappointing Brandi Nieto as an Assistant Municipal Judge of the Fort Collins Municipal Court and Authorizing the Execution of an Employment Agreement.

B. Resolution 2026-082 Reappointing Kristin Brown as an Assistant Municipal Judge of the Fort Collins Municipal Court and Authorizing the Execution of an Employment Agreement.

C. Resolution 2026-083 Reappointing Sarah Simchowitz as an Assistant Municipal Judge of the Fort Collins Municipal Court and Authorizing the Execution of an Employment Agreement.

D. Resolution 2026-084 Reappointing Laura Hinojos as an Assistant Municipal Judge of the Fort Collins Municipal Court and Authorizing the Execution of an Employment Agreement.

E. Resolution 2026-085 Reappointing Whitney Stark as an Assistant Municipal Judge of the Fort Collins Municipal Court and Authorizing the Execution of an Employment Agreement.

F. Resolution 2026-086 Reappointing Linda Cooke as an Assistant Municipal Judge of the Fort Collins Municipal Court and Authorizing the Execution of an Employment Agreement.

G. Resolution 2026-087 Reappointing Jana Kaspar as an Assistant Municipal Judge of the Fort Collins Municipal Court and Authorizing the Execution of an Employment Agreement.

The purpose of this item is to reappoint Assistant Municipal Judges for the Fort Collins Municipal Court. The City Charter provides for the appointment of judges of the Municipal Court for two-year terms. Chief Judge Jill A. Hueser recommends that the named existing Assistant Judges be reappointed to serve in the absence of the Chief Judge.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends adoption of the Resolutions.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

These Resolutions reappoint Laura Hinojos, Whitney Stark, Linda Cooke, Jana Kaspar, Brandi Nieto, Kristin Brown, and Sarah Simchowicz as Assistant Municipal Judges for the Fort Collins Municipal Court and authorizes the Mayor to execute employment agreements with each appointee. Chief Judge Hueser recommends these appointments in order to provide adequate judicial resources to cover vacations, illnesses, scheduling conflicts, and cases in which one or more judges may have a conflict of interest.

Chief Judge Hueser has supervised each of these judges for two years or more and believes they are fair, impartial, and well-qualified judicial officers who should continue to serve as members of the Fort Collins Municipal Court bench. Chief Judge Hueser believes that each of these individuals will continue to serve the City of Fort Collins faithfully and professionally. The Assistant Municipal Judges may also serve as referees to hear civil infractions, camera radar, red light, and parking infractions, as assigned.

CITY FINANCIAL IMPACTS

The proposed rate of pay of \$110 per hour is consistent with the rates currently paid by other Front Range municipal courts. Assistant Municipal Judges serve on an as-needed basis, and the associated costs will be paid from the existing Municipal Court budget.

BOARD / COMMISSION / COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

None.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

None.

ATTACHMENTS / LINKS

1. Resolution 2026-081
2. Resolution 2026-082
3. Resolution 2026-083
4. Resolution 2026-084
5. Resolution 2026-085
6. Resolution 2026-086
7. Resolution 2026-087