

CORTEZ CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2025

1. The work session was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers. Councilmembers present included: Mayor Rachel Medina, Mayor Pro Tem Dennis Spruell, Robert Dobry, Matthew Keefauver, April Randle, Bill Lewis and Lydia DeHaven. Staff members present included: Finance Director Randy Bailey, Lieutenant Angelo Martinez, Interim Community and Economic Development Director/City Planner Jason Armstrong, Parks and Recreation Director Creighton Wright, City Manager Drew Sanders, City Attorney Patrick Coleman, and City Clerk Danielle Wells.
2. Three applicants were interviewed for positions on various City Boards and Commissions.
 - a. Karen Sheek, applicant for the Library Advisory Board, highlighted her background in education and long-standing support of libraries. She emphasized the need for updated library space, praised staff as the library's greatest asset, and expressed her passion for contributing to programming, library services, and board collaboration.
 - b. Erik Hendrickson, applicant for the Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Advisory Board, highlighted his engineering background and federal parks experience, expressed commitment to serving the community with an open mind, and emphasized focusing on standards and collaborative recommendations for the good of Cortez.
 - c. Sam Jarvis, applicant for the Golf Advisory Committee, noted his 12 years of service, emphasized the need to address deferred maintenance—particularly the outdated irrigation system—and expressed commitment to advising council on future needs while continuing marketing efforts to promote Conquistador Golf Course.
3. Council held a general discussion on charter updates, the water master plan, rate increases, and potential lodging tax changes to support infrastructure. Members emphasized prioritizing water, streets, and parks, and noted that charter amendments may be required to allocate funds for these purposes. The conversation included strategies for long-term planning, ballot preparation, and improving city services with recognition that home-rule municipalities have discretion if approved by voters.

The work session was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.