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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, MARCH 16, 2022

# NEWS RELEASE

## City Council swears in new City Clerk, approves water rate reductions

**Durango, CO:** The Durango City Council started its meeting Tuesday night with the final approval of two hires, filling two key city positions.

Justin Carlton was appointed to the position of Director of Information Technology. Carlton was the IT Security and Network Manager for Durango. Carlton will replace Eric Pierson, who is retiring from the city after 33 years of service.

Deputy City Clerk Faye Harmer was appointed and sworn in as City Clerk, filling the open position left by Amy Phillips, who retires on April 1.

Councilors expressed their appreciation to the retiring employees and welcomed the two new managers.

There was a Legislative Public Hearing on city water rates. The proposed rate reduction means the average residential customer will see a \$6 a month reduction on their water bill, while the average commercial user will save just over \$43 a month.

The next public hearing was on the adoption of the North Main Gateway Urban Renewal Plan.

The City Council also adopted a Tax Increment Financing agreement between the city and the Urban Renewal Authority to help fund future public improvements.

There was also a public hearing on an easement for emergency access and other improvements to an apartment and townhome complex in Three Springs, which was approved in February.

There was a Quasi-Judicial hearing for the Gauge Apartments and annexation. The project is an 89-unit complex on Escalante Road, just south of the Rocket Apartments near Escalante Middle School. Fourteen of the units will be rent restricted, attainable units.

The next City Council study session will be Tuesday, April 5 at 2:15 p.m., followed by the next regular council meeting at 5:30 p.m. Find meeting agendas at [DurangoGov.org/Meetings](https://www.durangogov.org/Meetings) View meeting highlights in the [latest episode](#) of Council Connection or view the entire meeting on our [YouTube channel](#).

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