

## Carpenter takes seat, retiring city clerk honored

By Jeanne Davant

Manitou Springs City Council has seven members again.

Matt Carpenter, who handily won election to the Ward 3 seat vacated in July by Shannon Solomon, was sworn in Tuesday night.

Earlier this year, a Council vote on four applicants to fill the seat on an interim basis ended in a tie between Carpenter and Karen Cullen.

In the Nov. 3 election, Carpenter won nearly 70 percent of the vote against Cullen.

Michael Gerbig, Jr., and Ingrid Richter, who ran unopposed and were elected to the Ward 1 and 2 seats, respectively, will be sworn in at the first meeting in January.

In a special meeting Tuesday, Council also appointed Kari Kilroy interim/acting City Clerk to fill the vacancy left by the retirement of long-time City Clerk Carol Lawson.

Council unanimously passed a resolution honoring Lawson, who served as City Clerk for 22 years and officially retired Nov. 1.

Former Mayor and current state Commissioner of Insurance Marcy Morrison read the resolution into the record and praised Lawson, with whom she worked for many years.

Councilwoman Donna Ford called Lawson "an extremely special lady" and "a woman of honor and integrity. I cannot tell you how wonderful it was to go in and talk to her ... She did more for the city than she was asked."

Mayor Eric Drummond said Lawson "not only was very knowledgeable but... always willing to go the extra step. I'm losing a friend here."

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