

**CITY OF NORTHGLENN
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
April 27, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Leighty called a regular meeting of the Northglenn City Council to order on Monday, April 27, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting was held remotely with electronic participation by all members of the City Council.

ROLL CALL Present were: Mayor Leighty, Mayor Pro Tem Willford, Council members Witkovich, Peterson, Downing, Brown, Goff, Duran Mullica, and Esquibel.

ABSENT None.

STAFF PRESENT City Manager Geyer, City Attorney Hoffmann, and City Clerk Small.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

RESPONSE TO RESIDENT INQUIRY: None.

AGENDA ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS: None.

PROCLAMATIONS:

Arbor Day Mayor Leighty read the proclamation proclaiming April 27, 2020 as Arbor Day in the City of Northglenn. Ms. Amanda Peterson, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services, spoke about Arbor Day and the City’s tree program, and thanked Council for issuing the proclamation.

National Day of Prayer Mayor Leighty read the proclamation proclaiming May 7, 2020 as a National Day of Prayer in the City of Northglenn. The following members of the community spoke about National Day of Prayer: Mr. Ihsan Riahi, Masjid Ikhlas Metro Denver North Islamic Center; Reverend Kae Madden, Church of the Beloved; and Deacon Taylor, Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church.

Public Service Recognition Week Mayor Leighty read the proclamation proclaiming May 3-9, 2020 as Public Service Recognition Week in the City of Northglenn. City Manager Geyer provided information about Public Service Recognition Week.

Archaeology & Historic
Preservation Month

Mayor Leighty read the proclamation proclaiming May 2020 as Archaeology & Historic Preservation Month in the City of Northglenn. Council member Downing accepted the proclamation on behalf of the Northglenn Historic Preservation Commission and Northglenn Historic Preservation Foundation.

PRESENTATIONS:

Tri-County Health
Department Update

Dr. John Douglas, Tri-County Health Department (TCHD) Executive Director, presented information to Council on the status of the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Douglas provided data related to the Safer at Home Order, TCHD's approach and efforts in response to the pandemic, and the role of the Department. Dr. Douglas addressed questions from Council regarding ventilators, statistics for homeless individuals, the status of antibody testing, and data on hospital admissions and deaths. Council also inquired about whether Tri-County Health will consider an order to require patrons to wear masks inside essential businesses.

COVID-19 Response

City Manager Geyer provided a COVID-19 update and presented information about the City's ongoing efforts in response to the pandemic. City Manager Geyer spoke about the City's road to economic recovery plan and stated additional information will be presented to Council on May 4. City Manager Geyer reported on City services, Telephone Town Hall meetings, and community resources. City Manager Geyer addressed questions from Council regarding curbside services at retail businesses, the availability of lunches at Northglenn High School over the summer, and whether there is an increased demand at food banks. There was discussion regarding funding the City will receive from Adams County through the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act and programs Council would prefer to support with the funding.

**PUBLIC INVITED
TO BE HEARD**

Mayor Leighty called for any person wishing to address City Council on matters of community interest related to City business not set for public hearing to speak.

City Clerk Small read comments submitted by Mr. Chris DeMay regarding the Elevate Small Business Grant Program (CR-78). Mr. DeMay stated he would not normally support a grant program, but the COVID-19 pandemic has caused unique circumstances which are impacting small businesses. Mr. DeMay asked Council to consider two items while discussing and voting on the program: 1) the work of previous Councils to grow and maintain a reserve fund balance; and 2) providing the grant funds to businesses in two monthly payments

to cover 50% of their rent or mortgage payment.

City Clerk Small read comments submitted by Mr. Jim Lynch regarding CR-78 – Elevate Small Business Grant Program. Mr. Lynch stated the assistance program should be a low- or no-interest loan program, and commented on supporting businesses who are able to survive the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Lynch stated that less fortunate residents may need the City’s help more than merchants at this time.

City Clerk Small read comments submitted by Ms. Kathie Novak regarding CR-78 – Elevate Small Business Grant Program. Ms. Novak expressed concern about the proposed grant program for the following reasons: 1) the expenditure amount for the program should be posted so the public may comment; 2) there are other ways to assist businesses that would also benefit the City, which could include intense marketing of businesses, assisting with landscaping and grounds maintenance, offering tax rebates for meeting certain criteria, or offering tax incentives for landlords who forgive rent or lease payments for their tenants; 3) the City should identify the drivers for our local economy and be sure that we are supporting these drivers; and 4) many residents who have lost jobs and are suffering may oppose a million dollar bail out for businesses.

Ms. Rosie Garner spoke to Council about CR-78 – Elevate Small Business Grant Program. Ms. Garner provided her perspective as a former City Council member, a current member of the Northglenn Urban Renewal Authority, and as a resident, and stated she believes the City’s top priorities should be safety, infrastructure, and services. Ms. Garner expressed the following concerns about the grant program: 1) there has not been an opportunity for public input; 2) by allocating \$850,000 to the program, the Council does not seem to be prioritizing the risk it is taking if the lack of revenue stream is prolonged and the recipients of the grants cannot recover for other reasons; and 3) the program as presented needs to be a loan program to include performance measures to absolve all or part of the loan.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Council

Council member Witkovich reported she attended the North Metro Fire Rescue District’s Board meeting and thanked City Manager Geyer for her continued work through the COVID-19 pandemic. Council member Witkovich reported that she and her husband planted two trees in honor of Arbor Day.

Council member Peterson reported he has been connecting with residents and receiving a lot of great feedback on the Northglenn Hug signs.

Council member Brown reported she has received input from residents on the proposed small business grant and loan programs, and asked for permission to contact staff to schedule a virtual meeting for the Youth Commission. Council member Brown spoke about the Northglenn Cares Facebook page and asked residents to be mindful of others regarding the use of fireworks.

Council member Downing reported she has attended several virtual meetings hosted by History Colorado with other Certified Local Governments. Council member Downing reported she has received many positive comments about the Northglenn Hug campaign, and acknowledged the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District for their decision to not ask for refunds from organizations who are unable to continue with productions during this time. Council member Downing thanked staff for all of their hard work.

Council member Goff reported she participated in several virtual events last week including a Community Reach Center webinar on understanding the impacts of trauma and wellness and reported the agency is open for anyone needing assistance. Council member Goff reported she participated in the Adams County Regional COVID Coordinating and Update Session and a Colorado Roadmap to Greenhouse Gas Reductions meeting. She reported she listened to the Governor's press conference and stated information can be found at [Covid19.colorado.gov](https://www.covid19.colorado.gov). Council member Goff acknowledged staff for their efforts and for the input provided by residents during public invited to be heard.

Council member Duran Mullica provided transportation updates and announced that Bike to Work Day has been rescheduled to September 22, 2020. Council member Duran Mullica reported she received an update from the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) Commission and spoke about forecasts related to the gas tax and impacts to CDOT. Council member Duran Mullica provided an update on the Regional Transportation District's N Line Project and noted a hand-off of the project is scheduled for May 4 with an August/September 2020 opening date. Council member Duran Mullica recognized parents who are now homeschooling their children along with the support of their teachers.

Council member Esquibel reported he has been attending weekly Adams County Senior Citizen Taskforce Meetings and has been assisting Adams 12 seniors with finding scholarships. Council member Esquibel thanked the residents who provided input during public invited to be heard earlier in the meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Willford thanked the volunteers at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Food Bank and encouraged all to consider donating items to the food bank. Mayor Pro Tem Willford recognized a resident who was clearing brush for their neighbor so they could view Croke Reservoir and encouraged residents to continue to take care of one another. Mayor Pro Tem Willford reminded residents of the North Metro Fire District's Board election and provided information about obtaining an absentee ballot. Mayor Pro Tem Willford echoed Council member Esquibel's comments thanking those who spoke to Council earlier in the meeting, and noted that Ms. Kathie Novak is a past Mayor of the City of Northglenn. Council member Willford asked Council if there is support to send Tri-County Health Department a letter regarding a mandatory order for the use of masks.

There was discussion about the public's use of masks, awareness and education campaigns, and enforcement of an order.

Mayor Leighty inquired about compiling a list of Northglenn businesses to allow residents to choose restaurants located within the City. Mayor Leighty thanked staff and the residents for participating in the Telephone Town Hall meetings. Mayor Leighty spoke about residents who do not have access to the same information as Council and stated it is beneficial to have rules that apply to the region instead of individual cities. Mayor Leighty thanked Council for their work and for engaging with residents during this time.

Staff

City Manager Geyer reported the physical yard signs will be continued for the Northglenn Hug campaign and spoke about the new virtual component of the program. City Manager Geyer provided information on food programs offered at Adams 12 schools.

Mayor Leighty asked for input from Council about the suggestion to require masks to be worn in the City. There was discussion and it was the consensus of Council to create a public service announcement regarding the importance of wearing masks.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION TO PASS

Council member Downing **MOVED** and it was **SECONDED** by Council member Brown to approve the consent agenda.

MOTION PASSED

There was no discussion and the motion **PASSED**.

IN FAVOR - Leighty, Willford, Witkovich, Peterson, Downing, Brown, Goff, Duran Mullica, Esquibel.

OPPOSED - None.

ABSENT - None.

The following items were approved on the consent agenda:

- April 13, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes
- CR-76 – Youth Commission Reappointment – Ben Cathcart

RESOLUTIONS:

CR-77 – NGCC Phase
1 Security and Access
Control Contract

MOTION TO PASS

Council member Peterson **MOVED** and it was **SECONDED** by Council member Brown to approve CR-77.

City Manager Geyer provided a summary of CR-77.

MOTION PASSED

There was discussion and the motion **PASSED**.

IN FAVOR - Leighty, Willford, Witkovich, Peterson, Downing,
Brown, Goff, Duran Mullica, Esquibel.

OPPOSED - None.

ABSENT - None.

CR-78 – Elevate Small
Business Grant Program

MOTION TO PASS

Council member Brown **MOVED** and it was **SECONDED** by Council member Peterson to approve CR-78.

City Manager Geyer provided a summary of CR-78.

MOTION TO TABLE

Mayor Pro Tem Willford **MOVED** and it was **SECONDED** by Council member Duran Mullica to table CR-78.

MOTION FAILED

There was discussion and the motion to table **FAILED**.

IN FAVOR - Willford, Brown, Duran Mullica, Esquibel.

OPPOSED - Leighty, Witkovich, Peterson, Downing, Goff.

ABSENT - None.

Continue Meeting
Past 11:00 p.m.

MOTION TO PASS

Mayor Pro Tem Willford **MOVED** and it was **SECONDED** by Council member Brown to continue the City Council meeting past 11:00 p.m.

MOTION PASSED

There was no discussion and the motion **PASSED**.

IN FAVOR - Leighty, Willford, Witkovich, Peterson, Downing,
Brown, Goff, Duran Mullica.

OPPOSED - Esquibel.

ABSENT - None.

MOTION TO AMEND

Mayor Pro Tem Willford **MOVED** and it was **SECONDED** by Council member Duran Mullica to amend CR-78 by decreasing funding for the grant program to \$500,000.

MOTION FAILED

There was discussion and the motion to amend **FAILED**.
IN FAVOR - Willford, Brown, Duran Mullica, Esquibel.
OPPOSED - Leighty, Witkovich, Peterson, Downing, Goff.
ABSENT - None.

**FRIENDLY
AMENDMENT**

A friendly amendment was accepted to 1) provide grants in two half-month payments; 2) designate three Council members to sit on the Grant Review Taskforce; 3) utilize CARES Act funding for the program; and 4) add a statement to the grant program regarding the City reserving the right to approve grants supporting businesses across all areas and to support diverse businesses.

MOTION PASSED

There was no discussion and the main motion, including the friendly amendment, **PASSED**.
IN FAVOR - Leighty, Witkovich, Peterson, Downing, Goff.
OPPOSED - Willford, Brown, Duran Mullica, Esquibel.
ABSENT - None.

CR-79 – Colorado
Enterprise Fund
COVID-19 Relief Loan

City Clerk Small read the title.

MOTION TO PASS

Council member Duran Mullica **MOVED** and it was **SECONDED** by Council member Brown to approve CR-79.

City Manager Geyer provided a summary of CR-79.

MOTION PASSED

There was discussion and the motion **PASSED**.
IN FAVOR - Leighty, Witkovich, Peterson, Downing, Goff.
OPPOSED - Willford, Brown, Duran Mullica, Esquibel.
ABSENT - None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:
CB-1944 – Supplemental
Appropriation and CIP
Carry Over

City Clerk Small read the title.

Mayor Leighty opened the public hearing and called for anyone wishing to speak either “for” or “against” CB-1944. There was no response and the public hearing was closed.

ORDINANCES –

Second Reading:

CB-1944 – Supplemental
Appropriation and CIP
Carry Over

MOTION TO PASS

Council member Downing **MOVED** and it was **SECONDED** by Council member Brown to approve CB-1944 on second reading.

Mr. Jason Loveland, Director of Finance, provided a summary of CB-1944.

MOTION PASSED

There was no discussion and the motion **PASSED**.

IN FAVOR - Leighty, Willford, Witkovich, Peterson, Downing,
Brown, Goff, Duran Mullica.

OPPOSED - Esquibel.

ABSENT - None.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Northglenn New Normal
Plan

The Northglenn New Normal Plan discussion was postponed due to the time.

**PUBLIC INVITED
TO BE HEARD**

Mayor Leighty called for any member of the public wishing to speak on items previously addressed by Council to speak. There was no response.

ADJOURNMENT

The City Council meeting adjourned at 12:49 a.m.

JOHANNA SMALL, CMC
City Clerk

MEREDITH LEIGHTY
Mayor