

**CITY OF NORTHGLENN
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
March 8, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Leighty called a regular meeting of the Northglenn City Council to order on Monday, March 8, 2021 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, Goff, Duran Mullica, and Esquibel.

ABSENT

Council members Downing and Brown.

STAFF PRESENT

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Moment of Silence for
COVID-19 Victims
and Survivors

Mayor Leighty asked for a moment of silence to honor those who have lost their lives to COVID-19 and in support of those forever affected and who continue to be impacted by the pandemic.

**RESPONSE TO
RESIDENT INQUIRY:**

City Manager Geyer reported the recycling facilities at Jaycee Park and Northwest Open Space will be moved to the Maintenance and Operations facility due to inappropriate use and dumping at the drop-off sites.

**AGENDA ADDITIONS
AND DELETIONS:**

None.

INTERVIEWS:

Nicholas Walker

Nicholas Walker was interviewed for an alternate member position on the Liquor Licensing Authority. Mr. Walker provided information about his background and interest in serving on the Authority.

Michael Watkins

Michael Watkins was interviewed for the At-Large position on the Citizens' Affairs Board. Mr. Watkins provided information about his background and interest in serving on the Board.

PROCLAMATIONS:

Developmental Disabilities
Awareness Month

Mayor Leighty read the proclamation proclaiming March 2021 as Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month in the City of

Northglenn. Malley Drive Elementary School Principal Francesca Craver and Special Education/Significant Support Needs Teacher Mike Messerschmitt accepted the proclamation and spoke about the importance of inclusion for students and people with developmental disabilities.

Women’s History
Month

Mayor Leighty read the proclamation proclaiming March 2021 as Women’s History Month in the City of Northglenn. Former Mayor Kathleen Novak accepted the proclamation, acknowledged the great contributions of many women, and thanked City Council for the special recognition.

National Poison
Prevention Week

Mayor Leighty read the proclamation proclaiming March 14-20, 2021 as National Poison Prevention Week in the City of Northglenn. Fire and Life Safety Education Officer Pam Kutchen, North Metro Fire Rescue District, accepted the proclamation and spoke about the importance of poison prevention.

PRESENTATIONS:

Introduction of District
Attorney Brian Mason

Adams County District Attorney Brian Mason introduced himself to City Council. Mr. Mason spoke about his priorities for the District Attorney’s Office to reflect the community they serve and stated he looks forward to working with the City of Northglenn. Mayor and Council welcomed District Attorney Mason.

Northglenn Arts &
Humanities Foundation
Strategic Plan

Michael Stricker, Northglenn Arts & Humanities Foundation Director and City of Northglenn Recreation Programs Supervisor, presented the Foundation’s Strategic Plan to City Council. The presentation highlighted the new Recreation Center, Senior Center, and Theatre facility, Northglenn Arts programming, and the work of the Foundation. Mr. Stricker spoke about the Foundation’s funding structure, program changes due to the COVID-19 pandemic, public art, and the Foundation’s goals for creating access to the arts.

**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.

Beth McIlree spoke about CR-25 – Private Activity Bonds 2021 Assignment to CHFA, CR-27 – Northglenn Arts & Humanities Foundation Per Capita Funding, and CR-29 – Paid Family and

Caregiver Leave. Ms. McIlree inquired about programs available to assist young, first-time buyers obtain housing, using funding to support essential services and small businesses, and how the proposed Paid Family and Caregiver Leave benefits for City employees compare to benefits that most residents receive.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Council

Council member Peterson provided a report from the Legislative Policy Committee and stated the Committee took positions on the following legislation: HB21-1106 – Safe Storage of Firearms – support; HB21-1162 – Management of Plastic Products – support; SB21-64 – Retaliation Against an Elected Official – support; HB21-1163 – Allow Retailers to Absorb Sales or Use Tax – monitor; and HB21-1186 – Regional Transportation District Operation – support. He reported the Committee received information from the City’s lobbyist on the following bills: HB21-1195 – Regulation of Radon Professionals, SB21-122 – Opiate Antagonist Bulk Purchase and Standing Orders; and HB21-1051 – Public Information Applicants for Public Employment. Council member Peterson stated the City’s water resources staff, Pam Acre and Shelley Stanley, spoke to the Committee about six bills they are following which impact water resources and stormwater facilities.

Council member Witkovich reported the Outside Agency Funding Committee met to consider sponsorship requests and stated the Committee approved a sponsorship for the Ralston House Virtual Gala on March 14, 2021. Council member Witkovich announced a Ward 1 meeting will be held on Thursday, April 15, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. Council member Witkovich shared a story about Mayor Leighty extending kindness and generosity to a resident who needed assistance at Starbucks recently.

Council member Goff reported she attended the Colorado Communities for Climate Action (CC4CA) Legislative Committee meeting and stated they are very busy monitoring legislation. She stated the Committee is supporting HB21-1105 – Low-income Utility Payment Assistance Contributions, which may benefit the City’s residents. Council member Goff reported she testified before the State committee against HB21-1034 – Consumer Right to Use Natural Gas or Propane, and noted many municipalities testified against the bill. Council member Goff reported on the Diversity, Inclusivity, and Social Equity Board meeting and stated they are planning a Pride event for later in the year. She reported a Ward 3 meeting was held recently, noted they had 18 attendees, and thanked staff for the presentations during the meeting. Council member Goff acknowledged International Women’s Day and expressed appreciation for the proclamation issued for Women’s History Month.

Council member Duran Mullica announced she was elected to serve as Chair of the Adams County Council of Governments (ADCOG) Transportation Subcommittee, and reported on the North Area Transportation Alliance (NATA) meeting on February 25. She provided information about software issues and operator shortages impacting the N Line system and reported the N Line fares will be increasing on March 27, 2021. Council member Duran Mullica stated they had a great Ward 3 meeting, and is looking forward to seeing residents in-person soon.

Council member Esquibel announced that President Biden nominated Northglenn native Lieutenant General Laura Richardson of the United States Army as Commander in the United States Southern Command and when confirmed she will be promoted to a four-star general. He extended his congratulations to Lt. General Richardson and the Strickland family.

Mayor Pro Tem Willford announced she and Council member Esquibel will host a Ward 4 meeting on March 11, 2021 from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. She stated they will provide an update from the Homelessness Community Task Force and ways for residents to save energy and money.

Mayor Leighty reported she attended the virtual Adams County Regional Economic Partnership State of the Region event and the Metro Mayors Caucus meeting, which included a presentation on the Front Range Passenger Rail project. She thanked Malley Drive and Leroy Drive Elementary Schools for hosting her on Read Across America Day, and stated the virtual event allowed more classrooms to participate in the event. Mayor Leighty stated the Senior Hub is looking for Northglenn representation to help with the Meals on Wheels program the week of March 22-26, and asked anyone interested to reach out to her for more information. Mayor Leighty spoke about small acts of kindness in the community and stated Northglenn's kind residents are why she loves living here.

Staff

City Manager Geyer reminded everyone that a virtual community forum featuring the finalist candidates for the Deputy Police Chief position will be held tomorrow at 6:30 p.m. and stated the community can provide feedback on the finalists through the City's website.

City Attorney Hoffmann updated Council on recent lawsuits filed against the City and stated details will be provided to Council. Mayor Leighty inquired if the issues related to the mosque would fall under 'Response to Citizen Inquiry' to provide an update to Council. City Attorney Hoffmann spoke about the lawsuits and stated the City

Manager and Police Department have been working on other issues related to the mosque.

City Manager Geyer provided information about the Police Department's outreach to the mosque regarding additional security measures they could consider, and stated the Police Department is actively communicating with the mosque to mitigate any threats.

CONSENT AGENDA
MOTION TO PASS

Mayor Pro Tem Willford **MOVED** and it was **SECONDED** by Council member Duran Mullica to approve the consent agenda.

MOTION PASSED

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

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

OPPOSED - None.

ABSENT - Downing, Brown.

The following items were approved on the consent agenda:

- February 22, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes
- CR-27 – Northglenn Arts & Humanities Foundation Per Capita Funding
- CR-29 – Paid Family and Caregiver Leave

ORDINANCES –
First Reading:

CB-1969 – Supplemental
Appropriation and CIP
Carry Over

City Clerk Small read the title.

MOTION TO PASS

Mayor Pro Tem Willford **MOVED** and it was **SECONDED** by Council member Duran Mullica to approve CB-1969 on first reading.

Jason Loveland, Director of Finance, provided a summary of CB-1969.

MOTION PASSED

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

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

OPPOSED - None.

ABSENT - Downing, Brown.

RESOLUTIONS:

CR-25 – Private Activity
Bonds 2021 Assignment
to CHFA

City Clerk Small read the title.

MOTION TO PASS

Mayor Pro Tem Willford **MOVED** and it was **SECONDED** by Council member Peterson to approve CR-25.

Brook Svoboda, Director of Planning and Development, provided a summary of CR-25.

MOTION PASSED

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

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

OPPOSED - None.

ABSENT - Downing, Brown.

CR-26 – First Amendment
to Subdivision Improvement
Agreement for Karl’s Farm
Filing No. 1, Amd. No. 2
Final Plat

City Clerk Small read the title.

MOTION TO PASS

Mayor Pro Tem Willford **MOVED** and it was **SECONDED** by Council member Peterson to approve CR-26.

Brook Svoboda, Director of Planning and Development, provided a summary of CR-26.

MOTION PASSED

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

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

OPPOSED - None.

ABSENT - Downing, Brown.

CR-28 – Aquifer Storage
and Recovery Feasibility
Study Phase 2

City Clerk Small read the title.

MOTION TO PASS

Mayor Pro Tem Willford **MOVED** and it was **SECONDED** by Council member Goff to approve CR-28.

Tami Moon, Environmental Manager, provided a summary of CR-28.

MOTION PASSED

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

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

OPPOSED - None.

ABSENT - Downing, Brown.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Neighborhood Services
Level of Service – Council
Engagement

Brook Svoboda, Director of Planning and Development, provided information to Council regarding the level of service for Neighborhood Services and stated staff is recommending an engagement approach which includes individual interviews with Council members, a first study session regarding level of service expectations, and a second study session to present policy and operational recommendations to Council. There was discussion and it was the consensus of Council to move forward with the engagement plan as recommended by staff.

**PUBLIC INVITED
TO BE HEARD**

Mayor Leighty called for any person wishing to speak on items previously addressed by Council. There was no response.

Executive Session
MOTION TO PASS

Council member Goff **MOVED** and it was **SECONDED** by Mayor Pro Tem Willford to adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to Section 4.5(a) of the City of Northglenn Home Rule Charter for personnel matters.

MOTION PASSED

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

ADJOURNMENT

The City Council meeting adjourned to the Executive Session at 9:06 p.m.

JOHANNA SMALL, CMC
City Clerk

MEREDITH LEIGHTY
Mayor