

SPONSORED BY: MAYOR LEIGHTY

COUNCIL MEMBER'S RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NO.

No. CR-104
Series of 2023

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A RESOLUTION CENSURING COUNCILMEMBER TIMOTHY LONG AND COUNCILMEMBER NICHOLAS WALKER

WHEREAS, on June 5, 2023, a Proclamation designating and proclaiming June 2023 as Pride Month in the City of Northglenn (the "Pride Proclamation") was read by the Mayor as part of the City Council's special meeting agenda;

WHEREAS, Councilmember Timothy Long and Councilmember Nicholas Walker walked out of the City Council Chambers prior to the reading of the Pride Proclamation;

WHEREAS, at the July 10, 2023 City Council meeting, members of the Northglenn community including members of the Diversity, Inclusivity, and Social Equity Board of the City of Northglenn appeared during "Public Invited to be Heard" and expressed various concerns with the actions and conduct of Councilmembers Long and Walker, including without limitation the following:

- A. Such conduct being inconsistent with the City being inclusive, and accepting, and creating an environment within the City of discrimination and bigotry;
- B. Creating an environment that makes members of the LGBTQ+ community feel unwanted, unwelcome, and unsafe; and
- C. Concern that Councilmembers Long and Walker were not representing the entirety of their constituency by their conduct;

WHEREAS, a request was also made as part of the statements made during "Public Invited to be Heard" that the City Council consider the action of formally censuring Councilmembers Long and Walker;

WHEREAS, in addition to the comments received during "Public Invited to be Heard" on June 5, 2023, the City Council received a copy of a memorandum dated June 22, 2023 to City Manager Heather Geyer from the Northglenn Next Committee (the "Northglenn Next Memorandum"), which Northglenn Next Committee is an internal committee of City employees focused on promoting diversity, equity, inclusivity, and belonging through employee engagement and education;

WHEREAS, the Northglenn Next Memorandum stated its concern that the conduct of Councilmembers Long and Walker was contrary to the Council-adopted vision, values, and goals created in the 2019-2023 City of Northglenn Strategic Plan; specifically, Strategic Goal #6 entitled "Diverse Community" which states as follows: "Maintain and celebrate our diverse community";

WHEREAS, members of the City Council in response to the statements made during "Public Invited to be Heard" and in response to the Northglenn Next Memorandum conveyed various concerns related to the conduct of Councilmembers Long and Walker, generally including, but not limited to, the following:

- A. Concern that individuals stated they felt unsafe based on the conduct of Councilmembers Long and Walker; and
- B. Concern that the conduct of Councilmembers Long and Walker violated the City Council's House Rules set forth in Resolution No. 20-114, Series of 2020, including maintaining a professional demeanor, respecting others, and committing to support Council decisions once decisions are made [as applied to Strategic Goal #6 from the 2019-2023 City of Northglenn Strategic Plan].

WHEREAS, the City Council is cognizant of the United States Supreme Court decision of *Houston Community College System v. Wilson*, 142 S.Ct. 1253 (2022), which recognizes the inherent power of an elected body to censure one of its members; and

WHEREAS, the City Council therefore directed that this Resolution to censure Councilmembers Long and Walker in writing be prepared for consideration by the City Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTHGLENN, COLORADO, THAT:

Section 1. The recitals set forth above are incorporated herein by this reference.

Section 2. The City Council hereby determines to censure Councilmember Timothy Long and Councilmember Nicholas Walker for their conduct in walking out of the City Council Chambers during the reading of the Pride Proclamation on June 5, 2023 for the reasons set forth above, and specifically finds that in addition to the impact it had on the community as described by the speakers during "Public Invited to be Heard," and in addition to the concerns raised by certain City employees as described in the Northglenn Next Memorandum, that such conduct was also contrary to the 2019-2023 City of Northglenn Strategic Plan, Strategic Goal #6, and therefore that such conduct also violated the City Council's House Rules set forth in Resolution No. 20-114, Series of 2020, including maintaining a professional demeanor, respecting others, and committing to support Council decisions once decisions are made.

DATED, at Northglenn, Colorado, this _____ day of _____, 2023.

MEREDITH LEIGHTY
Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM

JOHANNA SMALL, CMC
City Clerk

COREY Y. HOFFMANN
City Attorney