

**CITY OF NORTHGLENN
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
July 10, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Leighty called a regular meeting of the Northglenn City Council to order on Monday, July 10, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in City Hall Council Chambers.

ROLL CALL Present were Mayor Leighty, Mayor Pro Tem Lukeman-Hiromasa, Council members Long, Jaramillo, Kondo, Burns, Goff, and Brown.

ABSENT Council member Walker joined the meeting telephonically at approximately 6:41 p.m.

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:
Flooding
City Manager Geyer reported there was significant flooding in Ward 1 due to heavy rainfall on the evening of July 4th and several homes south of 112th Avenue were impacted. City staff, water restoration, and landscape contractors have been meeting with property owners to survey damage and assess the situation. City Manager Geyer will be meeting with the City’s insurance provider on July 11th. An engineering consultant will also conduct an evaluation of roadway design in the area to determine if recent improvements were a contributing factor. Council will receive an update and legal advice during an executive session on July 17th.

AGENDA ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS: None.

PRESENTATIONS:
June Neighborhood Beautification Awards
Jenni Murphy, Community Outreach Coordinator, provided information about the Northglenn Neighborhood Beautification Program and stated the awards being presented are for the Yard of the Month and Water Wise Yard of the Month categories. Mayor and Council congratulated those receiving awards for the month of June 2023.

The residents recognized were: Lorraine Hall, Andy Doerr and Rick Pepin, Brad Hepler and Nicole Taylor, Marie and Tom Cardenas, Frankie and Lisa Dean, Luis Nava and Manuela Valenzuela, Scott and April Ellis, Toni Rae and Glen Irvin, Tilly and Mike Cummings,

Leo and Mary Weins, Don and Sonja Munson, Mary and Sid Hollender, Mike and Celeste Candelaria, Tom and Tammie LaRoche, Chang and Mai Xiong.

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.

Christina Cimino, Diversity, Inclusivity, and Social Equity (DISE) Board member, expressed concern about certain Council members' actions during the presentation of the Pride Month proclamation on June 5th. Christina provided some statistics, described personal life experiences related to LGBTQ+ issues, and requested Council members Long and Walker be censured for their actions.

Tom Lampo, 3951 Jackson Way, came forward to pray for the City of Northglenn.

Wes Dunbar, DISE Board member, expressed gratitude for the tremendously diverse community in Northglenn, commended Council for establishing the DISE Board, and called on everyone to look for ways to be open and inclusive to all members of the community.

Catherine Schyling, DISE Board member, expressed displeasure with Council members Long and Walker for their actions during presentation of the Pride Month proclamation. Catherine stated Council members are obligated to be respectful of all residents and employees, noting that every individual has a fundamental right to be treated with respect, dignity, courtesy, generosity, and fairness.

Celeste Jackson, DISE Board member, encouraged Council members Long and Walker to actively listen and engage with community members speaking tonight.

Cristin Premer, Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association of Northglenn member, expressed disappointment with the two Council members who stepped out of Council Chambers during the presentation of the Pride Month proclamation, stating Council members are elected or appointed to represent the entire community, not just those having the same views.

Luis E. Nava, 10861 Mildred Drive, expressed concern about people suffering from discrimination and called on Council to find solutions.

Chase Janis, DISE Board member, spoke about challenges faced by members of the LGBTQ+ community and the importance of Pride celebrations. Chase encouraged Council to consider the impact of members' actions related to the presentation of the Pride Month proclamation and to take appropriate action.

Autumn Romero, DISE Board member, expressed concern about the words used by Council members Long and Walker after the June 5th Council meeting, and requested Council member Long to step down from his position on Council before the 2023 Election.

Rayana Blackmon, DISE Board member, provided statistics and information related to the LGBTQ+ community, mental health issues, and suicide rates. Rayana stated that all human beings have feelings and everyone should consider the impacts of their words and actions on others.

George Stumpf, 9981 Melody Drive, expressed concern regarding speeding, roadway conditions, and general code enforcement issues in the City. George requested additional stop signs or speed bumps on Melody Drive and Croke Drive, road maintenance on Huron Street, 104th Avenue, and Washington Street, and suggested proactive code enforcement in the City with the implementation of a more stringent ban on camping.

Joe Brown, 2007 E. 115th Place, expressed concern regarding the request for Council to censure Council members Long and Walker, stating the issue has been blown out of proportion. Joe stated everyone is entitled to their own opinion and everyone should respect the sentiments made by Council members Long and Walker when they left Council Chambers during the Pride Month proclamation.

Betsy Goddard, 10735 Tancred Street, stated Council members are elected to represent the entire community and not just their own personal beliefs.

Casey Goddard, 10735 Tancred Street, expressed concern regarding Council member Walker's choice of words in recent comments about the Pride Month proclamation, stating words have consequences and meaning. Casey stated Council should listen to the community and take appropriate action.

Bjorn Magnus, 5231 E. 123rd Avenue, spoke regarding LGBTQ+ issues, stating elected officials do not get to choose who they represent. Council members should either step up to represent everyone or step down from their seat on Council.

COMMUNICATIONS:
Council Communications -
Request for Censure

Mayor Leighty stated Council communications will be split into two rounds; the first round of communications will be to address the request for censure of members of Council. The second round will be the customary opportunity for members to address items of a general nature.

Mayor Leighty reported that Council has received a memorandum from the Northglenn Next Committee, a group comprised of City of Northglenn employees, expressing concern that actions taken during the June 5th presentation of the Pride Month proclamation are inconsistent with the 2019-2023 City of Northglenn Strategic Plan and Item 6 of the City of Northglenn Vision Statement.

Mayor Leighty stated there are three options regarding the request for censure of members of Council; Council can make a motion for censure, Council can direct City Attorney Hoffmann to draft a resolution of censure to be considered at the next regular meeting, or Council can determine not to censure.

Council member Burns spoke about the tolerance paradox and thanked residents from Ward 1 that spoke during the meeting. Council member Burns expressed hope that everyone can learn from the situation.

City Attorney Hoffmann advised Council regarding case law, the meaning of censure, and forms of censure of an elected official.

Council member Burns stated she favors a motion for censure.

Council member Brown stated she represents residents of the entire City, not just Ward 2 and stated Council members should leave their personal feelings at the door. She provided information about her background and life experiences regarding discrimination and expressed regret for her support of Council member Long's appointment to Council. Council member Brown stated she favors a resolution of censure and called for Council member Long to step down from his seat on Council. She expressed that Council member Walker should be censured but should retain his seat on Council as he was elected by residents in his Ward and not appointed by Council.

Council member Goff referred to language in the Northglenn Pride proclamation, the City's Strategic Plan, and the City's Vision Statement. Council member Goff stated the majority of Council is committed to maintaining and celebrating diversity within the

community. Council member Goff stated she favors a resolution of censure.

Council member Jaramillo thanked those who came to speak to Council tonight. He stated he is an ally of the LGBTQ+ community and stands in support of the DISE Board, residents, staff, and colleagues on Council that have called for inclusivity for everyone. Council member Jaramillo stated he favors a resolution of censure.

Council member Kondo spoke regarding his life experiences with respect to diversity and his desire to learn from those with different viewpoints. He stated that Council has a fiduciary responsibility to the residents of Northglenn to focus on infrastructure in addition to being committed to the fair treatment of all. Council member Kondo stated he would prefer to praise in public and censure in private but understands that is not an option at this time. Council member Kondo deferred expressing his preferred option on censure until after Council members Long and Walker have had an opportunity to respond.

Council member Long thanked those who spoke tonight and stated he was taking notes while everyone was speaking earlier. He stated he does not have hate in his heart for anyone and stated his concern was the amount of money to be expended for the Pride event. He stated he previously met with City Manager Geyer and City Attorney Hoffmann to talk about cancelling the June 10th event due to his desire to cut back on money spent on special interest groups. As the budget for 2023 had already been approved by Council and contracts executed by staff for the event, it was suggested to address his concerns during the 2024 budget process. Council member Long provided information regarding his personal life experiences and expressed concern regarding gossip, people being provocative about the situation, and the silent majority being vilified by the media and outside agitators. Council member Long reiterated that his expression of non-support for the Pride Month proclamation was related to money going to special interest groups and not related to any individuals involved.

Council member Brown requested Council member Long to stay on topic and not address the decisions of previous Councils.

Council member Long stated he stepped away from the dais during the presentation of the Pride Month proclamation out of concern for the dollars spent on special interests. He also expressed concern regarding twelve-hour shifts for police officers.

Council member Brown called for Council member Long to stay on topic.

Council member Long offered a quote and reiterated his concern for money spent on special interests.

Mayor Pro Tem Lukeman-Hiromasa thanked everyone who came to speak to Council and provided information about her background and personal experiences regarding diversity and LGBTQ+ issues. Mayor Pro Tem Lukeman-Hiromasa expressed hope that everyone can come together to support one another, regardless of personal beliefs and ideologies. Mayor Pro Tem Lukeman-Hiromasa stated she favors a resolution of censure.

Mayor Leighty announced that Council member Walker had previously joined the meeting by telephone.

Council member Walker stated he joined the meeting during Public Invited to be Heard portion and will go back and listen to all comments made this evening. Council member Walker stated he had no further comment.

Mayor Leighty thanked everyone that came to the meeting tonight and invited all to come to future meetings and stay engaged with Council. Mayor Leighty stated the LGBTQ+ community is a not a special interest group. She stated that Council member Long never brought any concerns regarding the money budgeted for the Pride event to Council. She stated her main concern is that Council protocol has not been followed. She stated Colorado law prohibits discrimination and acknowledged the Northglenn Next Committee memorandum, stating employee sentiments have been heard. Mayor Leighty stated she favors a resolution of censure for Council members Long and Walker as a reminder that Council serves a larger community. Mayor Leighty stated professional decorum must be maintained and Council rules and protocol must be followed, even when members wish to express dissent.

Council member Kondo stated he favors a motion of censure, as a resolution of censure is too extreme.

Mayor Leighty reported that Council's consensus is to move forward with a resolution of censure to be presented for Council consideration at their July 24 meeting.

Council Communications -
Issues of a General Nature

Council member Burns reported she attended the 4th of July Festival and enjoyed the car show. She also attended a tour of the Water Treatment Facility and Wastewater Treatment Plant. Council member Burns thanked staff for taking care of property owners affected by flooding on July 4th and inquired about community

resources for the impending heat wave. City Manager Geyer stated Communications and Police Department staff will ensure residents receive necessary information to stay safe.

Council member Walker thanked the Police Department for their work on July 4th and expressed concern for those residents impacted by flooding; Council and staff will be working toward solutions.

Council member Brown stated the Neighborhood Nights event in Ward 2 was great. She requested staff reach out to T-Mobile to request better neighborhood notifications when work is planned to be done. Council member Brown reported that she attended and enjoyed the 2023 Colorado Municipal League (CML) Conference.

Council member Jaramillo agreed that the Neighborhood Nights event in Ward 2 was awesome. He also reported on the CML Conference, an event planning meeting with County Commissioner Baca regarding Hispanic Heritage Month, the 4th of July Festival, and a Northglenn Arts and Humanities Foundation (NAHF) meeting regarding long-range planning and the 2023 Sculpture Tour. Council member Jaramillo reported that, at their July 6th meeting, the Outside Agency Funding (OAF) Committee approved sponsorships for Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Adams and Broomfield Counties, The Cleo Parker Robinson Dance Company, and The Ralston House.

Council member Goff reported she attended the Colorado Communities for Climate Action (CC4CA) meeting, the Meeting of the Minds Luncheon at the CML Conference, a tour of the Water Treatment Facility and Wastewater Treatment Plant, the 4th of July Festival, and the OAF Committee meeting. Council member Goff thanked staff for their hard work on the 4th of July.

Council member Kondo reported he attended the CML Conference and a tour of the Water Treatment Facility and Wastewater Treatment Plant. Council member Kondo also acknowledged the passing of longtime City employee Don Woods and shared some personal recollections, expressing that Don made great contributions to the City and will be missed.

Council member Long reported he attended the Swearing-in Ceremony at the Police Department on June 14th and commended Police Chief May for a wonderful event. He also attended the Executive Council of Adams County Regional Economic Partnership (AC-REP) meeting, a tour of the Water Treatment Facility and Wastewater Treatment Plant, and a tour of the North Metro Fire Rescue District Training Facility. He thanked City Manager Geyer for future planning efforts regarding water resources

and expressed commitment to focus on the matter during the 2024 budget process. Council member Long thanked Mayor Leighty for practicing restraint while presiding over tonight's meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Lukeman-Hiromasa reported she attended the Police Department's Swearing-in Ceremony, the Business Retention and Expansion (BRE) Committee meeting regarding the 2023 Business Appreciation Event, and a meeting with County Commissioner Baca regarding the Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration. Mayor Pro Tem Lukeman-Hiromasa announced that, during the CML Conference, she was elected to a position on the CML Executive Committee for medium sized municipalities, and stated she is proud and honored to represent Northglenn. She also thanked City staff for working at the 4th of July Festival.

Mayor Leighty celebrated City employee Don Woods and his contributions to the City of Northglenn and expressed sympathy to staff members grieving his loss. She provided an update on the Community Co-Production Policing (CCPP) Advisory Board, stating the Board will have their first official meeting on July 11th. Mayor Leighty reminded everyone about the State of the City event on July 20th from 5:30 – 8:30 p.m.; all are encouraged to attend. She reported she also attended the CML Conference and offered congratulations to Mayor Pro Tem Lukeman-Hiromasa for being elected to the CML Executive Board and for presenting at the conference. She also attended the Metro Mayors Caucus Executive Committee meeting and will be joining the Housing and Mobility Forum. Mayor Leighty thanked staff for their hard work at the 4th of July event. Mayor Leighty thanked the Northglenn American Legion for partnering with the City of Northglenn on events throughout the year and stated they will be at the State of the City event. Mayor Leighty was delighted to have breakfast with former Mayor Antonio Esquibel when he was in town recently and enjoyed filming Chat with the Chief earlier in the day. Mayor Leighty thanked the OAF Committee for sponsoring The Cleo Parker Robinson Dance Company's "Dancing with the Denver Stars" fundraiser. Mayor Leighty is excited to be dancing in the event and proceeds will benefit children in Northglenn.

Staff

City Clerk Small read a letter from residents Louie and Maria Schimpf recognizing Council member Nicholas Walker for his help cleaning the property behind their house and listening to their concerns regarding traffic safety near the Studio School on Garland Drive and Grant Street. City Clerk Small also announced that information is available in the City Clerk's Office and on the City's website for anyone interested in running for City Council this November.

City Manager Geyer extended the City's condolences to the family of Don Woods. She thanked City staff for the 4th of July event and stated a debriefing report will be provided to Council within the next few weeks. The June 2023 report on the Safety Sensitive Zones Program has been sent out to Council and feedback should be sent to City Manager Geyer or Deputy Police Chief Darlin. City Manager Geyer reported that staff will be assessing the condition of the I-25 Corridor on a continual basis. The Northglenn Justice Center was also impacted by the flooding on July 4th; the City's insurance provider is assessing the damage. City Manager Geyer also reported that staff is looking into offering an electric lawn mower rebate program through the Regional Air Quality Council (RAQC) as Lowe's will not be able to participate in a program this year. Lastly, City Manager Geyer announced it is Parks and Recreation Month; there will be a free night at Kiwanis Pool on Thursday July 13th and paddle boat rentals will be free at E.B. Rains, Jr. Memorial Park on July 25th from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tickets are also now on sale for 2023-2024 Northglenn Arts Presents productions.

City Attorney Hoffmann reported he attended the CML Conference and will be providing legislative updates to Council within the next few weeks.

Mayor Leighty asked City Manager Geyer to have staff communicate information regarding the Safety Sensitive Zones Program to residents again to increase awareness and address questions.

Council member Kondo announced that North Area Fire Academy hosted a firefighter graduation ceremony at the Parsons Theatre in June. Graduates from multiple departments were honored and it was a great ceremony to host in Northglenn.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

May 2023 Update

Interim Deputy City Manager Loveland provided a financial report for the period ending May 31, 2023. Mr. Loveland spoke about revenue and expenditures in the General Fund, Water and Wastewater Fund, Stormwater Fund, Sanitation Fund, Conservation Trust Fund, and Capital Projects Fund. Mr. Loveland reported on the City's cash reserves and sales tax revenue.

CONSENT AGENDA **MOTION TO PASS**

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

MOTION PASSED

There was no discussion and the motion **PASSED**.
IN FAVOR - Leighty, Lukeman-Hiromasa, Long, Jaramillo,
Kondo, Burns, Goff, Brown, Walker.

OPPOSED - None.
ABSENT - None.

The following items were approved on the consent agenda:

- June 12, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes
- CR-90 – 2023 High Visibility Impaired Driving Enforcement Grant Acceptance
- CR-92 – Five Star Education Foundation Youth Recreation Scholarship MOU
- CR-93 – Northglenn Arts & Humanities Foundation Youth Theatre Scholarship MOU
- CR-94 – Adams County Open Space Grant Acceptance – Fox Run Park Improvements
- CR-97 – Adams County Open Space Grant Acceptance – Aquatics Adventure Course
- CR-99 – Adams County Open Space Grant Acceptance – Trail Map Signage & Stewardship

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

CB-2004 – Unified
Development Ordinance
Amendments

City Clerk Small read the title.

Mayor Leighty opened the public hearing on CB-2004 and called for anyone wishing to speak either “for” or “against” CB-2004. There was no response and the public hearing was closed.

CB-2009 – Fermented
Malt Beverage & Wine
Licenses & Tasting Permits

City Clerk Small read the title.

Mayor Leighty opened the public hearing on CB-2009 and called for anyone wishing to speak either “for” or “against” CB-2009. There was no response and the public hearing was closed.

ORDINANCES –

Second Reading:

CB-2004 – Unified
Development Ordinance
Amendments

MOTION TO PASS

Council member Brown **MOVED** and it was **SECONDED** by Council member Kondo to approve CB-2004 on second reading.

Brook Svoboda, Director of Planning and Development, provided a summary of CB-2004.

MOTION PASSED

There was no discussion and the motion **PASSED**.
IN FAVOR - Leighty, Lukeman-Hiromasa, Long, Jaramillo,
Kondo, Burns, Goff, Brown, Walker.
OPPOSED - None.
ABSENT - None.

CB-2009 – Fermented
Malt Beverage & Wine
Licenses & Tasting Permits

City Clerk Small read the title.

MOTION TO PASS

Council member Brown **MOVED** and it was **SECONDED** by Mayor Pro Tem Lukeman-Hiromasa to approve CB-2009 on second reading.

Johanna Small, City Clerk, provided a summary of CB-2009.

MOTION PASSED

There was discussion and the motion **PASSED**.
IN FAVOR - Leighty, Lukeman-Hiromasa, Long, Jaramillo,
Kondo, Burns, Goff, Brown, Walker.
OPPOSED - None.
ABSENT - None.

ORDINANCES –

First Reading:

CB-2007 – Rezone of
10691 Melody Drive to
Multifamily (RM-2)

City Clerk Small read the title.

MOTION TO PASS

Mayor Pro Tem Lukeman-Hiromasa **MOVED** and it was **SECONDED** by Council member Brown to approve CB-2007 on first reading.

Brook Svoboda, Director of Planning and Development, provided a summary of CB-2007.

MOTION PASSED

There was discussion and the motion **PASSED**.
IN FAVOR - Leighty, Lukeman-Hiromasa, Long, Jaramillo,
Kondo, Burns, Goff, Brown, Walker.
OPPOSED - None.
ABSENT - None.

RESOLUTIONS:

CR-91 – FCI
Amendment #4 for City
Hall Partial Guaranteed
Maximum Price #3

City Clerk Small read the title.

MOTION TO PASS

Council member Kondo **MOVED** and it was **SECONDED** by Council member Jaramillo to approve CR-91.

Brook Svoboda, Director of Planning and Development, provided a summary of CR-91.

MOTION PASSED

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

IN FAVOR - Leighty, Lukeman-Hiromasa, Long, Jaramillo,
Kondo, Burns, Goff, Brown, Walker.

OPPOSED - None.

ABSENT - None.

CR-95 – Event Center
Feasibility Study
Consultant Contract

City Clerk Small read the title.

MOTION TO PASS

Mayor Pro Tem Lukeman-Hiromasa **MOVED** and it was **SECONDED** by Council member Goff to approve CR-95.

Brook Svoboda, Director of Planning and Development, provided a summary of CR-95.

MOTION PASSED

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

IN FAVOR - Leighty, Lukeman-Hiromasa, Long, Jaramillo,
Kondo, Burns, Goff, Brown, Walker.

OPPOSED - None.

ABSENT - None.

CR-96 – 1st Amendment
to Alternate Defense
Counsel IGA

City Clerk Small read the title.

MOTION TO PASS

Mayor Pro Tem Lukeman-Hiromasa **MOVED** and it was **SECONDED** by Council member Kondo to approve CR-96.

Jason Johnson, Municipal Court Supervisor, provided a summary of CR-96.

MOTION PASSED

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

IN FAVOR - Leighty, Lukeman-Hiromasa, Long, Jaramillo,
Kondo, Burns, Goff, Brown, Walker.

OPPOSED - None.

ABSENT - None.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Land Use/Housing
Initiatives

The discussion item was postponed due to the late hour.

**PUBLIC INVITED
TO BE HEARD**

Mayor Leighty called for any person wishing to speak on items previously addressed by Council.

Beth McIlree, 11512 Gilpin Street, expressed disappointment regarding the censure discussion involving Council members Long and Walker, expressing that they have the right to make silent statements on issue. Beth also spoke about the amount of money spent on the Civic Center Campus, stating funds should have been spent instead on improvements to infrastructure, such as roads and parks, homelessness issues, and traffic control measures. She stated that Council meetings are not inviting for residents because too much time is spent on proclamations, presentations, and communications and not enough time is spent on passing ordinances that address issues.

Executive Session
MOTION TO PASS

Council member Goff **MOVED** and it was **SECONDED** by Council member Kondo to adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to Section 4.5(g) of the City of Northglenn Home Rule Charter for negotiations regarding city-owned land, Section 36.

MOTION PASSED

There was no discussion and the motion **PASSED**.
IN FAVOR - Leighty, Lukeman-Hiromasa, Long, Jaramillo,
Kondo, Burns, Goff, Brown, Walker.
OPPOSED - None.
ABSENT - None.

ADJOURNMENT

The City Council meeting adjourned to the Executive Session at 9:38 p.m.

JOHANNA SMALL, CMC
City Clerk

MEREDITH LEIGHTY
Mayor