

**CITY OF NORTHGLENN
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
June 22, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Leighty called a regular meeting of the Northglenn City Council to order on Monday, June 22, 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.

PRESENTATIONS:

June Neighborhood Beautification Awards

Ms. Jenni Murphy, Community Outreach Coordinator, provided information about the Northglenn Neighborhood Beautification Program and stated the awards being recognized are for the Yard of the Month category. Mayor and Council congratulated those receiving awards for the month of June.

The residents recognized were: John, Lisa, and Liam Furlong, Tim and Katie Fox, David and Elaine LeMaster, Fred and Barbara Tapia, Jimmy Brown and Mariah Tritz, Alberta Baca and Marc Aguilar, Robert and Jinger Hill, the Dolph Family, Patricia Abbate, Sharon Abeyta, Soloman and Alma Palma, Troy and Amanda Enderle, and Roman DeHerrera and Amy Trujillo.

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.

A statement was read on behalf of Sunny Hoagland, 1962 Truda

Drive, demanding a police oversight board and providing examples of their experiences with racism.

Rudy Cesena, Jr. spoke to Council about the Police Department complying with Senate Bill 20-217 and expressed a need for a police oversight board.

Alex Morgan, Ward 3, spoke to Council about a need for a police oversight board to include People of Color to examine the impact of and establish accountability for the Northglenn Police Department.

David Dinsmore spoke about events related to the Northglenn Police Department and asked Council to consider creating a police oversight board.

Michelle Dinsmore, Ward 4, spoke to Council about discriminatory and racist behaviors she experienced while growing up in Northglenn, and asked Council to create a police accountability board to support the community.

Lauren Weatherly, Ward 4, spoke about policing and wanting police officers to lead with humanity and not use of force. Ms. Weatherly stated people are interested in a new vision of public safety and a focus on racial justice, and asked Council to value the individuals who are speaking up about creating a police oversight board.

Zen Kretsinger, Ward 3, spoke to Council about creating a safer, more welcoming, and anti-racist environment, and provided information about the characteristics of white supremacy culture from *Dismantling Racism* by Kenneth Jones and Tema Okun.

P-T. Morgan spoke to Council about military training and policing. He stated he is not anti-police and believes a police oversight board would be beneficial to prevent issues before they occur.

Wesley Dunbar, 10458 Ogden, spoke in favor of a civilian oversight board and spoke about Sir Robert Peel's 9 Policing Principles. Mr. Dunbar stated he is a proponent of community policing, mental health assessments, non-violent methods of policing, and restorative justice.

Aaron Hoagland, 1962 Truda Drive, stated he agrees with the other speakers and he is in favor of a police oversight board to guide and judge the actions of the police. Mr. Hoagland spoke about the meaning of defunding the police and provided information about why he does not support school resource officers or armed officers in schools.

Ambur Martinez, Ward 3, stated she is in support of a police oversight board. She provided information about her family and their experiences with police officers, and stated she does not support armed officers in schools.

Bryan Weatherly, Ward 4, expressed his support of a civilian oversight board for the Police Department. He spoke about the law enforcement interactions he observed during the recent protests after George Floyd's murder and stated Northglenn cannot pretend it is immune to the racial issues currently being emphasized in other parts of the country.

Kirk Sarrell spoke in support of the other callers and the issues they presented regarding a police oversight board and reallocating police funding to support the community's needs.

City Clerk Small played a voicemail from Sonja J., Ward 4, stating her support for a police oversight board. She expressed concern about the settlement paid by the City for a wrongful death lawsuit and asked City Council to address racism and police accountability in Northglenn.

City Clerk Small played a voicemail from Tran Wills, Ward 4, regarding establishing a civilian police oversight board. She spoke about police misconduct and provided suggestions about the structure and functions of an oversight board.

City Clerk Small read an email from Riley Geistmann, Ward 3, asking Council to acknowledge there is a possible conflict of interest with internal affairs review of police matters that would not be present in a civilian oversight board, and asking Council to take action to address systemic racism.

City Clerk Small read an email from Don and Bernie Mathison, Ward 4, regarding banners. The email stated they support the Police Department, do not want the Police Department defunded, and do not support the city government using taxpayer dollars to support any unconstitutional activities.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Council

Council member Esquibel thanked the individuals who provided public comment tonight.

Mayor Pro Tem Willford reported she participated in the Colorado Communities for Climate Action annual retreat last week and spoke

about the work of the organization to advocate for climate action in the state. Mayor Pro Tem Willford inquired about a letter residents received in the last utility bill regarding industrial pretreatment violations. Mr. Kent Kisselman, Director of Public Works, spoke about the information provided in the letter and the City's process of reporting cross-contamination violations at businesses. Mayor Pro Tem Willford took a moment of personal privilege to address questions that have been brought to her attention regarding her commitment to the City and support of the Police Department employees. She stated she has listened to residents who have reached out to her about policing and the City's policies after George Floyd's murder and she has asked questions as a Council member about the Department's policies. Mayor Pro Tem Willford stated she has done the same with other issues such as the new recreation facility and traffic calming policies. Mayor Pro Tem Willford clarified that she is not anti-police, but she is anti-police brutality and anti-status quo. She spoke about her duties as a Council member and asked Council, residents, and staff to reach out to her if they have additional questions about her position.

Council member Duran Mullica reported the Regional Transportation District (RTD) is targeting September 24, 2020 to open the N Line and spoke about boosting ridership in the area. She reported RTD will be creating an accountability committee and stated more is to come on how the north area representative will be selected for the committee. Council member Duran Mullica stated she is looking forward to the discussion later in the meeting related to a police oversight board.

Council member Goff thanked everyone who has provided public input and encouraged as many people as possible to share their perspectives with Council. Council member Goff reported she and Council member Duran Mullica will be at the Food Truck Grab 'n Go events in Ward 3. Council member Goff reported she participated in the Anythink Library District Board meeting on June 17, and stated they discussed the District's financial position, re-opening processes, and addressing racial equity in their organization.

Council member Downing reported she has attended several virtual meetings and stated she is excited about the N Line opening in September. She reported she attended the Adams County Council of Governments (ADCOG) Subregional Forum, which included several transportation updates. Council member Downing reported she attended the National League of Cities (NLC) Public Safety and Crime Prevention Steering Committee meeting, and thanked everyone for providing public comment tonight.

Council member Brown thanked everyone who called in to provide public comment.

Council member Witkovich thanked all of the residents who provided public comment earlier in the meeting. Council member Witkovich reported she attended the Historic Preservation Commission meeting and announced they are moving forward with a project for the Deza Estates neighborhood. She reported several meetings have been held for the Elevate Small Business Grant taskforce and noted the deadline for businesses to apply for assistance is June 30, 2020. Council member Witkovich reported the Outside Agency Funding Committee met on April 16 and announced that applications for the COVID-19 Nonprofit Grant Program are being accepted now through July 10, 2020. She reported she attended the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting, the mask giveaway event, and the Telephone Town Hall on policing. Council member Witkovich reported she and Council member Peterson held a virtual Ward 1 meeting on June 20, and thanked Robert and Jinger Hill for calling in to be recognized for the beautification awards tonight.

Council member Peterson stated the Ward 1 meeting was the first virtual ward meeting of its kind. Council member Peterson provided a summary of the State legislative session and stated several bills were impacted by COVID-19 due to budget concerns at the state level. Council member Peterson provided information about proposed ballot initiatives for the November 3, 2020 statewide general election related to taxation, and reported the City's lobbyist will present information to Council on the legislative session and ballot initiatives at the study session on August 17.

Mayor Leighty thanked staff for their efforts on the Telephone Town Hall meeting regarding the Police Department. Mayor Leighty reported she attended the virtual Ward 1 meeting and stated it was very welcoming and professional. Mayor Leighty reminded residents to participate in the Cool Car Cruise on July 4th. She announced the Food Truck Grab 'n Go events will be held in each ward on June 23, June 26, and June 30, and stated masks, hand sanitizer, and goody bags will also be available at the food truck events.

Staff

City Manager Geyer reported City Hall will be open to the public from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. beginning July 1, and noted visitors will be asked to wear masks in city facilities.

City Clerk Small provided information about the June 30, 2020 Primary Election, stating Voter Service and Polling Centers are now

open through Election Day and the 24-hour ballot drop-off box at City Hall is also open to voters.

City Attorney Hoffmann reported he provided Council with information on Senate Bill 20-217 and asked Council to reach out to him with any questions.

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:

- June 8, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes
- CR-98 – Northglenn Urban Renewal Authority Appointment
– Leslie Carrico

ORDINANCES –
First Reading:

CB-1947 – 2009
International Fire
Code Amendment –
Fee Schedule

City Clerk Small read the title.

MOTION TO PASS

Council member Duran Mullica **MOVED** and it was **SECONDED** by Council member Brown to approve CB-1947 on first reading.

Mr. Brook Svoboda, Director of Planning and Development, provided a summary of CB-1947.

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.

CB-1948 – Supplemental
Appropriation and CIP
Carry Over

City Clerk Small read the title.

MOTION TO PASS

Council member Downing **MOVED** and it was **SECONDED** by

Council member Duran Mullica to approve CB-1948 on first reading.

Mr. Jason Loveland, Director of Finance, provided a summary of CB-1948.

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.

RESOLUTIONS:

CR-80 – Bunker Hill
Lift Station Replacement
GMP

City Clerk Small read the title.

MOTION TO PASS

Council member Downing **MOVED** and it was **SECONDED** by Council member Duran Mullica to approve CR-80.

Mr. Kent Kisselman, Director of Public Works, provided a summary of CR-80.

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-102 – Wastewater
Treatment Plant Master
Plan Update

City Clerk Small read the title.

MOTION TO PASS

Council member Downing **MOVED** and it was **SECONDED** by Council member Duran Mullica to approve CR-102.

Mr. Kent Kisselman, Director of Public Works, provided a summary of CR-102.

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.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

NGCC Master Plan

Phase 1 Implementation

June Update

Ms. Amanda Peterson, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services, provided an update on the construction of the new recreation center, senior center, and theatre facility. She reported the date for substantial completion of the project has been adjusted to October 6, 2021 due to delays associated with the building permit and hardware design. Ms. Peterson addressed questions from Council regarding plans for a small group tour of the construction site, operational information concerning COVID-19, and planning for situations that are not entirely known due to COVID-19.

4th of July Fireworks
Enforcement

Police Commander Heidi Walts provided information to Council about the Police Department's plans for fireworks enforcement related to the 4th of July holiday. Ms. Walts spoke about staffing and schedule adjustments, zero tolerance enforcement, and education that included written information, yard signs, and social media posts.

Ms. Walts addressed questions from Council about bilingual education materials, utilizing drones for enforcement, which phone number residents should call to report fireworks, sparklers and types of illegal fireworks, and other enforcement issues.

Diversity, Inclusivity,
Social Equity Next Steps

Ms. Rupa Venkatesh, Assistant to the City Manager, presented information about the City's Strategic Plan Item 6.1 – Race and Equity Initiative and next steps to address diversity, inclusivity, and social equity. Ms. Venkatesh provided information about a draft framework, including internal and external components, and items including permanent policy changes, the creation of a Diversity Advisory Board, if necessary, and other necessary changes based on community and internal feedback.

City Manager Geyer addressed questions from Council regarding a chief diversity officer for the City. Ms. Venkatesh addressed questions from Council related to the creation of an internal diversity, inclusivity and social equity committee and external components in the draft framework. There was discussion among Council about the framework and overall importance to advance the items, and it was the consensus of Council to move forward with the draft framework.

MOTION TO PASS

Council member Brown **MOVED** and it was **SECONDED** by Council member Downing to continue the meeting past 11:00 p.m.

MOTION FAILED

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

IN FAVOR - Willford, Goff, Duran Mullica.

OPPOSED - Leighty, Witkovich, Peterson, Downing, Brown, Esquibel.

ABSENT - None.

ADJOURNMENT

The City Council meeting adjourned at 11:00 p.m.

Note:

The following agenda items were not discussed due to the meeting adjourning: Light Pole Banners Recognizing Black Lives Matter and Police & Community Partnership Taskforce.

JOHANNA SMALL, CMC
City Clerk

MEREDITH LEIGHTY
Mayor