

**CITY OF NORTHGLENN  
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
April 22, 2024**

**CALL TO ORDER** Mayor Leighty called a regular meeting of the Northglenn City Council to order on Monday, April 22, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in City Hall Council Chambers.

**ROLL CALL** Present were Mayor Leighty, Mayor Pro Tem Lukeman-Hiromasa, Council members Burns, Kondo, Roper, Goff, Nowicki, and Walker.

**ABSENT** Council member Jaramillo.

**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.

**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.

Tim Long, 10661 Utrillo Lane in Ward 4, made statements regarding the City budget, potential Council member conflicts of interest necessitating recusal, support for residents that were affected by flooding on 112<sup>th</sup> Avenue in 2023, and the Mental Health Transitional Living Home.

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

**PROCLAMATIONS:**  
Arbor Day Mayor Leighty read the proclamation proclaiming April 26, 2024 as Arbor Day in the City of Northglenn and presented the proclamation to Senior Arborist Joel Szymanski and Arborist Technician Louis Vadeen.

National Day of Prayer Mayor Leighty read the proclamation proclaiming May 2, 2024 as a National Day of Prayer in the City of Northglenn and presented

the proclamation to Jody and Doug Forsythe, representatives of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, and Ihsan Riahi, representative of Masjid Ikhlas Metropolitan Denver North Islamic Center.

National Public Service  
Recognition Week

Mayor Leighty read the proclamation proclaiming May 5-11, 2024 as National Public Service Recognition Week in the City of Northglenn. The proclamation was presented to City Manager Geyer, Department Directors, and staff members representing a variety of City departments that provide services to the community.

**PRESENTATIONS:**

Youth Commission  
Quarterly Update

Meera Bipin, President of the Northglenn Youth Commission presented a quarterly report to Council which highlighted the Commission's 2024 Priority Projects focusing on public health and community engagement. The Commission is working on initiatives such as distributing information on naloxone access, organizing a canned food drive, and participating in community events. Meera also discussed the Commission's involvement in conferences and meetings with legislators, emphasizing the group's commitment to advocacy and learning. Council thanked Meera for the presentation and expressed appreciation for the Commission's efforts, offering support for future projects, including potential collaborations.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

Council

Council member Burns provided a report on the monthly Youth Commission meeting, commending the group for their representation with state legislators. Council member Burns also commended the Community Co-Production Policing Advisory Board for hosting two community drop-in meetings, expressing desire to have other boards and commissions expand the practice to increase community engagement.

Council member Walker presented an update from the Legislative Policy Committee, highlighting opposition to Senate Bill 24-194, Special District Emergency Services Funding and House Bill 24-1460, Law Enforcement Misconduct. Council member Walker also reported on other positive developments from the Legislative Session and stated that he provided testimony before the Colorado General Assembly on House Bill 24-1107, Judicial Review of Local Land Use Decisions.

Council member Walker thanked those who spoke to Council earlier in the meeting and requested Council consensus to direct City Attorney Hoffmann to explore filing a formal ethics

complaint against Senator Faith Winter for her conduct during the April 3, 2024 community meeting. Council reached consensus to receive clarification from City Attorney Hoffmann regarding the process before deciding whether to file a formal ethics complaint against Senator Winter.

Council member Nowicki reported that he enjoyed a recent Business After Hours event and thanked the Economic Development Department, Lizzie's Axe Throwing, Itacate Mexican Food, and The Happy Dumpling for hosting and providing food for the event. He reported that he also attended a meeting of the Northglenn Senior Organization to discuss the future of Civic Center Campus and the need to address parking concerns. Lastly, Council member Nowicki addressed public comments made earlier in the evening regarding potential conflicts of interest necessitating recusal; he clarified that the disclosure during the April 8<sup>th</sup> Council meeting was regarding a previous employment application for a director level position with the State of Colorado's division that oversees the Mental Health Transitional Living Home. Council member Nowicki reiterated that the application did not pose a conflict of interest and he would have recused himself from the vote if he could not remain impartial.

Council member Goff stated that she enjoyed the trip the Jodie Bliss Studio and Gallery to see the artwork for the new City Hall. She also reported on the Legislative Policy Committee meeting, highlighting Senate Bill 24-195, Protect Vulnerable Road Users, which could potentially provide funding for trail and bike lane improvements. Council member Goff reported that she testified before the General Assembly on behalf of Colorado Communities for Climate Action (CC4CA) regarding House Bill 24-1449, Environmental Sustainability Circular Economy and Senate Bill 24-195, Protect Vulnerable Road Users. She also expressed gratitude to Planning and Development Director Svoboda for meeting with staff from the Governor's office on House Bill 24-1313, Housing in Transit-Oriented Communities.

Council member Kondo reported on his participation at a protest at the Mental Health Transitional Living Home and his attendance at the Business After Hours event at Lizzie's Axe Throwing. He invited residents to attend the next Ward 3 meeting where the Strategic Plan will be discussed and reminded Council that the Rocky Flats Stewardship questionnaire is due on April 25<sup>th</sup>.

Council member Roper provided reports from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and Historic Preservation Committee meetings. She also reported that she enjoyed visiting the Jodie Bliss Studio and Gallery, expressing admiration for the vision of

the art installation planned for City Hall. Council member Roper invited everyone to attend the Ward 4 meeting at Prost Brewery on Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Pro Tem Lukeman-Hiromasa expressed condolences to the family of Phil Carney who previously served on City Council and the Northglenn Urban Renewal Authority (NURA), noting that he made significant contributions to the community. Mayor Pro Tem Lukeman-Hiromasa reported on her attendance at the Business Retention Committee, NURA, and Legislative Policy Committee meetings and invited residents to attend the Ward 4 meeting which will focus on water related topics and the Strategic Plan. Lastly, she encouraged Council members to register for the Colorado Municipal League (CML) District meeting on May 15<sup>th</sup>, noting that it is an honor for Northglenn to host the event.

Mayor Leighty expressed gratitude to residents, Council, staff, State Representative Jenny Willford, and State Senator Kyle Mullica for their efforts regarding the Mental Health Transitional Living Home, stating it is a crucial moment for the City of Northglenn. She also reported on her attendance at an Adams County Mayors meeting with Regional Transportation District (RTD) and Mile High Flood District. She noted that the Northglenn Youth Theatre is celebrating their 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and stated that she is excited to participate in Derby Day on April 27<sup>th</sup>. Lastly, she addressed public comments made regarding the City's finances, offering clarification about the City's budgeting process and the responsiveness of the City's Finance Department. She encouraged residents with questions about the budget or municipal finance to reach out for clarification, expressing the City's commitment to transparency.

#### Staff

City Manager Geyer made announcements regarding the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Awards, the bocce ball court at Danahy Park, the return of the goats to the Oscar Arnold Nature Area for weed control, natural fertilizer, fire mitigation, and soil stabilization, the Arbor Day celebration at the Senior Center on April 25<sup>th</sup>, temporary lane closures on eastbound 112<sup>th</sup> Avenue between Larson Lane and Irma Drive, the 112<sup>th</sup> ditch and roadway improvement project, funding requests for hazard mitigation assistance through the Colorado Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, and the Highland Hills Park and Recreation District's 2023 Annual Report.

City Attorney Hoffmann expressed condolences for the passing of Phil Carney, noting that he not only contributed greatly to the City but was also well-regarded by those who knew him. City Attorney Hoffmann then provided clarification regarding Council member

Nowicki's obligation to vote based on the Northglenn City Charter's unique provision regarding conflicts of interest; Council member Nowicki's application for a job did not disqualify him from voting on matters related to the Mental Health Transitional Living Home. Lastly, City Attorney Hoffmann expressed satisfaction regarding progress made on issues related to the Mental Health Transitional Living Home but emphasized the need to continue advocating for formalization of commitments and agreements. He also expressed the need for future legislation to ensure the protection of municipal interests in state decisions.

**CONSENT AGENDA**  
**MOTION TO PASS**

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

**MOTION PASSED**

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

IN FAVOR - Leighty, Lukeman-Hiromasa, Burns, Kondo, Roper, Goff, Nowicki, Walker.

OPPOSED - None.

ABSENT - Jaramillo.

The following items were approved on the consent agenda:

- April 8, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes
- CR-92 – DOLA Peace Officers Behavioral Health Support & Community Partnerships Program Grant Acceptance
- CR-94 – Adams County Speed Enforcement Saturation Patrols Mutual Aid Agreement

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

CB-2019 – Unified  
Development Ordinance  
Amendment

City Clerk Small read the title.

Mayor Leighty opened the public hearing on CB-2019 and called for anyone wishing to speak either “for” or “against” CB-2019. There was no response and the public hearing was closed.

CB-2020 – Executive  
Session Process

City Clerk Small read the title.

Mayor Leighty opened the public hearing on CB-2020 and called for anyone wishing to speak either “for” or “against” CB-2020. There was no response and the public hearing was closed.

CB-2021 – Supplemental  
Appropriation & CIP  
Carry Over

City Clerk Small read the title.

Mayor Leighty opened the public hearing on CB-2021 and called for anyone wishing to speak either “for” or “against” CB-2021.

Tim Long, 10661 Utrillo Lane, spoke against CB-2021, expressing concerns about the change in fund balance and inquiring about the City’s five-year financial proforma.

**ORDINANCES –**  
**SECOND READING:**

CB-2019 – Unified  
Development Ordinance  
Amendment

**MOTION TO PASS**

Council member Kondo **MOVED** and it was **SECONDED** by Council member Goff to approve CB-2019 on second reading.

City Attorney Hoffmann provided a summary of CB-2019.

**MOTION PASSED**

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

IN FAVOR - Leighty, Lukeman-Hiromasa, Burns, Kondo, Roper, Goff, Nowicki, Walker.

OPPOSED - None.

ABSENT - Jaramillo.

CB-2020 – Executive  
Session Process

**MOTION TO PASS**

Council member Nowicki **MOVED** and it was **SECONDED** by Council member Burns to approve CB-2020 on second reading.

City Attorney Hoffmann provided a summary of CB-2020.

**MOTION PASSED**

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

IN FAVOR - Leighty, Lukeman-Hiromasa, Burns, Kondo, Roper, Goff, Nowicki, Walker.

OPPOSED - None.

ABSENT - Jaramillo.

CB-2021 – Supplemental  
Appropriation & CIP  
Carry Over

**MOTION TO PASS**

Mayor Pro Tem Lukeman-Hiromasa **MOVED** and it was **SECONDED** by Council member Goff to approve CB-2021 on second reading.

Deputy City Manager Loveland provided a summary of CB-2021.

**MOTION PASSED**

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

IN FAVOR - Leighty, Lukeman-Hiromasa, Burns, Kondo, Roper, Goff, Nowicki, Walker.

OPPOSED - None.

ABSENT - Jaramillo.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

New City Hall Construction  
Update – April 2024

Director of Planning and Development Svoboda provided an update on the City Hall construction project, noting that a safety walkthrough with the Police Department and Leadership Team was conducted, resulting in security enhancements. He reported on the timeline for completion, noting a potential delay related to the installation of exterior siding and windows. The installation of the elevator has been completed without significant impact to the schedule. Staff continues to actively work with the insurance carrier regarding the foundation slab failure, aiming to determine the deductible amount and resolve the issue within the next 30 days. City Council will tour the facility on May 6<sup>th</sup>.

Director Svoboda also addressed progress made regarding the demolition of the old recreation center; temporary grading is being conducted to ensure proper drainage. Additionally, preparations are being made for the Food Truck Carnival, including relocating part of the fence to maximize space. An Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Brownfields Cleanup Grant application for \$2.7 million is pending, with a decision expected in mid-May.

**PUBLIC INVITED  
TO BE HEARD**

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

Tim Long, 10661 Utrillo Lane, thanked Council and staff for the response to questions regarding City finances, offered condolences for the passing of Phil Carney, cited frustration for the lack of funding for additional police officers despite budget allocations for special events and celebrations, and expressed support for the recording of executive sessions.

Executive Session  
**MOTION TO PASS**

Council member Kondo **MOVED** and it was **SECONDED** by Council member Nowicki to adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to Section 4.5(d) of the City of Northglenn Home Rule Charter for legal consultation and advice regarding collective bargaining.

**MOTION PASSED**

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

IN FAVOR - Leighty, Lukeman-Hiromasa, Burns, Kondo, Roper,  
Goff, Nowicki, Walker.

OPPOSED - None.

ABSENT - Jaramillo.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The City Council meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 7:37  
p.m.

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JOHANNA SMALL, MMC  
City Clerk

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MEREDITH LEIGHTY  
Mayor