

**CITY OF NORTHGLENN
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
May 6, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Leighty called a special meeting of the Northglenn City Council to order on Monday, May 6, 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, Jaramillo, Kondo, Roper, Goff, Nowicki, and Walker.

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:

112th Avenue Ditch & Roadway Project

City Manager Geyer provided an update on the progress of the 112th Ditch project. The contractor hired by the Mile High Flood District has been removing old materials and setting up new concrete forms to raise the retaining wall's height. The project is expected to take another 2 to 3 months to complete. Additionally, staff has initiated the installation of an automatic rain gauge with real-time video recording capabilities on the north side of 112th, enhancing safety monitoring during rainfall events. City Manager Geyer reported that staff applied for the U.S. House of Representatives Community Project Funding Grant; an update will be provided when awards are announced.

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.

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

PROCLAMATIONS:

Mental Health
Awareness Month

Mayor Leighty read the proclamation proclaiming May 2024 as Mental Health Awareness Month in the City of Northglenn and presented the proclamation to Diversity, Inclusivity, and Social Equity Board members Vanessa Alarcon and Ryan Easterling-Babin, and Crisis Response Unit Program Manager Jessica Hulse.

PRESENTATIONS:

Family Justice Center

17th Judicial District Attorney Brian Mason and Chief Deputy District Attorney Stephanie Fritts presented plans for establishing a Family Justice Center (FJC) in the region. The FJC aims to centralize services for victims of domestic violence, providing them with comprehensive support in one facility. District Attorney Mason highlighted the success of similar centers across the country in reducing domestic violence homicides and emphasized the potential of the FJC to enhance community safety. He outlined the collaborative efforts already underway and discussed the benefits of the FJC model, including increased efficiency and victim safety. Chief Deputy District Attorney Fritts explained the High-Risk Team and its role in supporting domestic violence survivors, emphasizing the need for a centralized facility to streamline services. The presentation addressed the challenges faced by victims in accessing necessary support services and emphasized the FJC's potential to address these barriers. The upcoming strategic planning process was outlined, and Council members were invited to participate. The City's early investment was acknowledged, underscoring the community's support for the FJC initiative. There was discussion regarding the potential location of the FJC and its accessibility to residents across the region. Emphasis was placed on the inclusive nature of the FJC's services and the importance of providing support to all victims of domestic violence, regardless of their location. The need for comprehensive services, including temporary housing, was also discussed.

Municipal Court
Triannual Update

Municipal Court Judge Amanda Bailhache presented a triannual update on Municipal Court operations. Interpreter services have recently expanded for Spanish speakers, which has improved accessibility and docket management significantly. Community service programs for youth continue to run smoothly, offering convenience for parents and valuable opportunities for young people to receive positive peer support as they work to clean up the city. The introduction of Probation Officer Amanda Rice to the Municipal Court has enhanced report management, including pre-trial assessments and post-plea reports, aiding in understanding defendants' needs and promoting successful outcomes. Text updates for court dates have been effective in reducing failures to

appear. Judge Bailhache also discussed plans for the Community Court program, which focuses on diversionary measures and collaboration with other jurisdictions. Efforts are also being made to publicize events, such as the Fresh Start warrant clinics, on social media and through homelessness navigators. Overall, the Court continues to focus on offering increased accessibility, support, and community collaboration.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Council

Council member Burns reported that she attended and enjoyed the Food for Hope Gala, noting that the music program was especially beautiful.

Council member Walker reported that he, Council member Nowicki, and Mayor Pro Tem Lukeman-Hiromasa attended Law Day to honor and celebrate the men and women whose careers in law enforcement and the judicial system make the criminal justice system in Adams County successful.

Council member Jaramillo reported on his attendance at the North Area Transportation Alliance (NATA) planning retreat which focused on expanding transportation initiatives across the Northern Front Range area. He also attended the Food for Hope Gala and enjoyed the performance by the Northglenn Middle School Mariachi Band at the event.

Council member Nowicki acknowledged Mental Health Awareness Month, emphasizing the importance of reaching out to others to help combat loneliness. He reported that he attended the North Metro Fire Academy on April 24th and expressed gratitude to firefighters for their dedication and for sharing their experiences. Additionally, Council member Nowicki thanked Chief May for the opportunity to participate in Law Day.

Council member Goff reported on her attendance at the Diversity, Inclusivity, and Social Equity (DISE) Board meeting where subcommittees were formed to work on an upcoming educational series, land acknowledgments, a policy review committee, Noel Northglenn, the Pride event, and fundraising for development of the Odell Barry Park. She reported that she also testified before the Colorado General Assembly on various bills supported by Colorado Communities for Climate Action (CC4CA).

Council member Kondo provided an update on the potential merger between North Metro Fire Rescue District and Adams County Fire Protection District, noting that he has received positive feedback from City staff. He reported that he also attended training at the Fire Academy and collaborated with the District 12

Future Forward Career and Technical Education (CTE) program. Lastly, Council member Kondo reported that the Outside Agency Funding committee will be meeting on May 7th to consider three funding applications.

Council member Roper reported that she attended the Food for Hope Gala and was inspired by the stories of hope and the impact on students in Adams County, where over 5,000 children and families have been helped by the organization. She also invited everyone to attend the Live Goat Encounter at Northwest Open Space on May 12th and tours at the Water Treatment Facility on May 21st, as part of the Public Works Week celebration.

Council member Jaramillo recalled that he also attended the Northglenn Arts and Humanities Foundation meeting and announced that the winning sculpture from Art on Parade, "Metamorphosis," will be installed in Fox Run along the trail. The Foundation is collaborating with the Butterfly Pavilion to plant pollinators for migrating butterflies. Efforts are planned to create a similar collaboration for another butterfly sculpture at Odell Barry Park, aiming to bring the project to both sides of the City.

Mayor Leighty reported that she recently met with the Thornton Monarch Ambassadors and invited them to join the July Neighborhood Nights event to increase partnerships and awareness about the monarch butterfly's status. Mayor Leighty plans to include a discussion regarding a formal partnership with the group during the strategic planning process. Mayor Leighty also thanked staff for their dedication during Derby Day; despite adverse weather conditions, it was still a great event. She reported that she also attended the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Awards dinner. Mayor Leighty wished everyone a happy Mother's Day and recognized Teacher Appreciation Week, encouraging support for all education professionals.

Mayor Pro Tem Lukeman-Hiromasa reported that the Ward 4 meeting at Prost Brewery was a great success. She also participated in the Fire Academy's live fire exercise and commended the dedication of the young participants in the CTE program. She attended the Colorado Municipal League (CML) Executive Board meeting and participated in the Sam Mamet Good Governance Award Nomination Committee. Mayor Pro Tem Lukeman-Hiromasa highlighted the upcoming CML District meeting and her attendance at various events, including the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) retreat, the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Awards, Law Day, and the tiny house ribbon-cutting ceremony at Future Forward's Washington Square campus.

Mayor Leighty added that she also judged a Problem Based Learning event organized by Northglenn High School's STEM program that focused on climate change strategies. As a follow up to the project, Mayor Leighty suggested offering the students a tour of the new City Hall facility as it will have a CORE Green Building certification.

Council member Burns thanked staff for the Arbor Day event where preschoolers and seniors planted trees together; she encouraged everyone to watch social media coverage of the event.

Staff

City Manager Geyer updated Council regarding a group home on Sully Way; staff recently met with concerned residents. Director of Planning and Development Svoboda is following up to determine compliance standards for the group home beyond what was previously communicated to Council, and updates will be provided. City Manager Geyer also recognized Director of Parks, Recreation, and Culture, Amanda Peterson, and Community Outreach Coordinator Jenna Gragg for their participation in the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Awards event.

CONSENT AGENDA
MOTION TO PASS

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

MOTION PASSED

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

The following item was approved on the consent agenda:
▪ April 22, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes

RESOLUTIONS:
CR-97 – Adams County
Opioid Council Opioid
Abatement Grant IGA

City Clerk Small read the title.

MOTION TO PASS

Council member Goff **MOVED** and it was **SECONDED** by Council member Kondo to approve CR-97.

Crisis Response Unit Program Manager Jessica Hulse provided a summary of CR-97.

MOTION PASSED

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

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

OPPOSED - None.

ABSENT - None.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Draft 2025 Budget
Calendar

Deputy City Manager Loveland presented the draft 2025 budget calendar to City Council and reviewed key dates in the timeline for presenting, discussing, and adopting the 2025 budget. Deputy City Manager Loveland addressed a question from Council about aligning the budget with the new five-year strategic plan.

Proposed Pedestrian
Crossings on Irma Drive

Deputy City Manager Loveland presented two proposed pedestrian crossings on Irma Drive to improve access to the Masjid Ikhlas Metropolitan Denver North Islamic Center and to connect the Greenway Trail across Irma Drive. Both crossings include safety measures such as median islands and rapid flashing beacons. Council expressed support for the crossings and raised questions about traffic calming measures and the need for additional crossings. Deputy City Manager Loveland and Senior Civil Engineer Daniel Martinez addressed the questions and confirmed plans to proceed with the proposed crossings.

**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 Kondo **MOVED** and it was **SECONDED** by Council member Goff to adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to Section 4.5(a) of the City of Northglenn Home Rule Charter for personnel matters regarding City Manager-Council expectations.

MOTION PASSED

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

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

OPPOSED - None.

ABSENT - None.

ADJOURNMENT

The City Council meeting adjourned to the Executive Session at 7:46 p.m.

JOHANNA SMALL, MMC
City Clerk

MEREDITH LEIGHTY
Mayor