

**CITY OF NORTHGLENN  
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
September 23, 2024**

**CALL TO ORDER** Mayor Leighty called a regular meeting of the Northglenn City Council to order on Monday, September 23, 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:** 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.

Tom Lampo, 3951 Jackson Way, Thornton, spoke about the new City Hall, noting that it is an exciting time for Northglenn and the surrounding communities. He then offered a prayer for the City of Northglenn.

Trisha Quint, Ward 1, expressed concerns about the recently installed advertising banners in Northglenn. She highlighted her frustration with a specific business, whose banner is displayed in her neighborhood, citing a negative personal experience with the company. She noted banners for specific businesses appear concentrated in certain areas, detracting from community aesthetics. She inquired about who pays for the banners, the cost, display duration, and criteria for business selection. Additionally, she questioned the association of Police Department values, such as "character" with a for-profit business, which could create an impression of endorsement.

**PROCLAMATIONS:**

Attendance Awareness  
Month

Mayor Leighty read the proclamation proclaiming September 2024 as Attendance Awareness Month in the City of Northglenn. Council member Kondo spoke about the importance of school attendance and thanked the Mayor for acknowledging the special month.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

Council

Council member Burns thanked Trisha Quint for expressing concerns about advertising banners, noting the matter has previously been brought forward and will be addressed by Council at a future study session. She reported that the Community Co-Production Policing (CCPP) Advisory Board is hosting a Cute & Creepy Porch & Patio Halloween Decorating Contest; information regarding the contest can be found on the City's website. Council member Burns also reported on her attendance at the Legislative Policy Committee meeting, the details of which will be reported by Mayor Pro Tem Lukeman-Hiromasa.

Council member Walker expressed gratitude to Tom Lampo for his kind words and to Trisha Quint for sharing her concerns about the advertising banners. He also thanked the volunteers who helped make Pirate Fest a success.

Council member Jaramillo reported on his attendance at the second annual Festival Latino at the Adams County Fairgrounds, which was a success. He also expressed excitement about being in the new City Hall; he's looking forward to the grand opening event on October 12<sup>th</sup>, when community members will be able to fully explore the facility.

Council member Nowicki shared an update from the Northglenn Senior Organization (NSO) meeting, encouraging seniors to participate in upcoming events. He also reported on the Adams County Health Department's Elected Officials Luncheon where there were discussions regarding behavioral health services, food access, and reducing youth nicotine use. Lastly, Council member Nowicki stated he's looking forward to CCPP's Cute & Creepy Porch & Patio Halloween Decorating Contest.

Council member Goff reported attending two meetings of the Colorado Communities for Climate Action (CC4CA). The first was the bi-monthly policy meeting which focused on planning for the upcoming legislative year. The second CC4CA meeting was the Executive Committee meeting where there was discussion regarding applying for federal grant funding. The grant would help CC4CA hire a part-time employee to assist municipalities with electrification plans and grant writing. Council member Goff reported that she also

volunteered at Pirate Fest, noting high attendance despite inclement weather.

Council member Kondo reported on his recent discussion with a Ward 4 resident who voiced concerns about multiple issues. He explained that resident concerns often shape future Council decisions, such as legislative or policy changes and budgeting. He also noted that Council members, though eager to listen, are often required to direct the City Manager to respond to certain issues, which may take some additional time. Additionally, Council member Kondo reported on his ride-along with North Metro Fire Station 62. He encouraged those interesting in serving on the North Metro Fire Rescue District Executive Board to consider running in the Spring 2025 Election.

Mayor Pro Tem Lukeman-Hiromasa reported on the Legislative Policy Committee Meeting, where there was discussion regarding the Colorado Municipal League (CML) initiated amendment to House Bill 22-1303 - the establishment of mental health transitional homes. The proposed amendment aims to ensure local governments can, without violating a Supreme Court ruling, impose restrictions regarding the placement of registered sex offenders in transitional homes established within their community. Mayor Pro Tem Lukeman-Hiromasa also reported that the Committee is taking a support position regarding Adams 12 Five Star Schools' proposed bond measure (Ballot Issue 5D) and mill levy override (Ballot Issue 5E) on the November ballot; a resolution of support will be considered at the October 14<sup>th</sup> Council meeting. The Committee is taking a position against House Bill 24B-1007 - a temporary tax measure for housing affordability; there are concerns about insufficient information being provided on the measure and questions about the bill's duration and impact on sales tax. Additionally, she mentioned concerns about a bill affecting the licensing of plumbers for installing and removing backflow devices; the State Plumbing Board issued an emergency rule to address the issue, however, proposed legislative fixes are expected.

Mayor Pro Tem Lukeman-Hiromasa reported on her attendance at a Latinas First Foundation Luncheon where she arranged a table for Northglenn High School students. The Foundation offers significant financial support through scholarship funding. She also attended the Adams County Board of County Commissioners meeting where there was a proclamation presented for Hispanic Heritage Month. Inaugural members of the first Festival Latino Committee were recognized, to include herself and Council Member Jaramillo. Mayor Pro Tem Lukeman-Hiromasa further mentioned attending an Adams County Health Department Forum and reported on a significant grant award for Kids Empire at The Marketplace. Lastly,

she reported on her participation in selecting young entrepreneurs for an award at Northglenn High School's business prototype event; award recipients were interviewed for the upcoming City of Northglenn Business Appreciation event.

Mayor Leighty reported that she attended a volleyball tournament at the Recreation Center during Pirate Fest and praised staff for managing both events successfully. She expressed excitement to participate in the Legacy High School Band Festival's trophy ceremony. She also mentioned the upcoming Metro Mayor's Caucus and encouraged residents to attend Safe Street Halloween on October 19<sup>th</sup>, emphasizing the need for candy donations to support the large community event. Mayor Leighty stated that Prost Brewery will be hosting their first Oktoberfest event from October 4<sup>th</sup> through the 6<sup>th</sup>, with a performance by That 80s Band on October 6<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Leighty also expressed gratitude to the resident raising concerns about advertising banners and confirmed that it will be discussed during Council's study session on October 7<sup>th</sup>.

Staff

City Manager Geyer provided an update regarding traffic calming measures on Livingston Drive. Speed study findings show the road does not meet criteria to reinstall speed humps. Another study will be conducted in October and staff will then meet with residents to discuss possible improvements.

City Manager Geyer addressed the demonstration garden installed in Fox Run's Central Park, stating there was an error in garden placement. The garden will be relocated and options for the new location will be discussed with Council during the October 7<sup>th</sup> study session.

Lastly, City Manager Geyer addressed complaints regarding litter and loitering in the Wagon Road Park and Ride green belt area. Staff has been in contact with the Regional Transportation District (RTD) and their security team; they have increased their patrols and efforts keep the area clean. The situation will be closely monitored.

City Attorney Hoffmann reported he attended the Colorado Municipal League's annual seminar on municipal law.

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

Council member Kondo **MOVED** and it was **SECONDED** by Mayor Pro Tem Lukeman-Hiromasa 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 items were approved on the consent agenda:

- September 9, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes
- CR-145 – Support for Submission of Great Outdoors Colorado Grant Request for Odell Barry Park
- CR-146 – Authorization for Submission of Land Water Conservation Fund Grant Request for Odell Barry Park

**RESOLUTIONS:**

CR-144 – Thornton-Northglenn Signal Maintenance 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-144.

Director of Public Works Sarah Borgers provided a summary of CR-144.

**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.

CR-147 – 2025 Parks, Recreation & Culture Fee Schedule

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-147.

Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture Amanda Peterson provided a summary of CR-147.

**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.

CR-148 – Parks, Recreation & Culture Fee Waiver Policy

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-148.

Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture Amanda Peterson provided a summary of CR-148.

**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.

CR-149 – Webster Lake  
Flume Project

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-149.

Director of Public Works Sarah Borgers provided a summary of CR-149.

**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.

CR-150 – Financial  
Audit Services

City Clerk Small read the title.

**MOTION TO PASS**

Mayor Pro Tem Lukeman-Hiromasa **MOVED** and it was **SECONDED** by Council member Burns to approve CR-150.

Deputy City Manager Jason Loveland provided a summary of CR-150.

**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:**

Easements and Rights of  
Way

Director of Planning and Development Brook Svoboda led a discussion regarding easements and public rights of way, as well as best practices for handling easements. Easements allow utility companies to use land owned by others for infrastructure, such as water, electricity, and telecommunications. Different types of easements were explained, including utility, drainage, temporary, and private easements. Public rights of way, such as sidewalks and

roads, were also discussed, and how adjacent property owners are responsible for maintaining certain aspects, such as snow removal or low-hanging branches.

Director Svoboda provided best practices for managing easements, like keeping them clear of structures and landscaping. Utility companies have the right to remove obstructions like trees or sheds, without compensation to the property owner, to maintain access to utility infrastructure. In response to questions regarding Xcel Energy's right to maintain infrastructure, like replacing utility poles or cutting down trees near power lines, it was noted that, while Xcel has the right to maintain its easements, it may not always move other utility lines attached to old poles, leading to potential issues with abandoned infrastructure. City Manager Geyer and City attorney Hoffmann clarified the City's limited authority over private easements compared to public rights of way. The City works with Xcel through a franchise agreement, but individual property rights govern many aspects of easement management.

Director Svoboda addressed questions about abandoned poles, lighting issues in certain areas, and the complexity of easement management, especially when different utility companies are involved. Council members were encouraged to continue reporting issues to staff, who will then work with the utility companies to address any concerns.

#### Municipal EV Charger Pricing Proposal

Sustainability Coordinator Mara Owen led a discussion regarding an electric vehicle (EV) charger pricing proposal. The proposed fee for charging will be 15 cents per kilowatt hour, with an idling fee of 25 cents per minute after a 60-minute grace period, capped at \$20 per 24 hours. This structure aligns with nearby municipalities. The City aims to maintain affordable charging rates, particularly for multifamily residents who may not have access to home charging stations, ensuring fair access for all. There was also discussion about possibly tracking EV charging usage data for long-term benefits like carbon credits and further adjustments to the fee structure if necessary. Council members expressed general support for the proposal and discussed related topics, such as EV adoption incentives and infrastructure for City employees and public use. Council consensus was to move forward with the proposal.

#### City Council Quarterly Agenda Planning

City Manager Geyer presented the City Council Quarterly Agenda Planning and asked for Council input on the schedule of items for upcoming agendas through the end of December.

**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 Goff **MOVED** and it was **SECONDED** by Council member Kondo to meet in Executive Session pursuant to Section 4.5(d) of the City of Northglenn Home Rule Charter for legal consultation and advice regarding: 1) the Justice Center foundation; and 2) the City's obligations regarding gender identity and gender expression.

**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 8:20 p.m.

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JOHANNA SMALL, MMC  
City Clerk

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MEREDITH LEIGHTY  
Mayor