

**EDGEWATER CITY COUNCIL
BUSINESS MEETING & WORK SESSION
MINUTES
April 16, 2024**

ITEM 1. BUSINESS MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Conklin called the Business Meeting to order at 6:30pm

ITEM 2. Roll Call

Present: Mayor, Steve Conklin, Council Member Bill Berg, Council Member Joie Iten, Council Member, John Thomsen, Council Member, Lilly Stierer, Council Member, Kali Janda, Council Member, Hannah Gay Keao, and Council Member, Mercedes Valdez.

Also Present: City Manager, Dan Maples, Deputy City Manager/Community Development Director, Jocelyn Mills, Police Chief, Eric Sonstegard, and City Attorney, Carmen Beery.

ITEM 3. Pledge of Allegiance

ITEM 4. Consent Agenda

1. Agenda
2. Minutes – March 19, 2024

Council Member Janda made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Seconded by Council Member Berg and passed unanimously.

ITEM 5. Public Comment

Steve Gray, resident spoke about Edgewater's Municipal Code being appropriately strict on "amplified sound." Mentioned live DJs have been visiting 25th Ave. on a weekly basis and their loudspeakers are guaranteed to be a violation of the Code restrictions. Larger cities are aware of this and require a cabaret license and are routinely denied to businesses located near residential housing. Is concerned with Edgewater Inn's most recent Instagram post about live bands beginning on April 26th and playing until 11pm followed by a dance-oriented DJ playing until 1:45am. His suggestion is for Council to revisit the amplified sound section of the Municipal Code, limiting loudspeakers be limited to a maximum size of 9" diameter woofers, with no floor contact, to help ensure bass frequencies don't transmit through solids. Also proposes that guest musicians and guest DJ's stop using their equipment after 10pm

Karen Lipfert, resident, spoke again on the need to remove sales tax on groceries within the City. Presented this issue on Next Door and received concerned comments back that maybe City services might be affected, or employees might have to be laid off if this should happen. She proposes using Target tax rebate money once that agreement ends in early 2025. Stated citizens are looking for ways to do more with less and things the City should do the same.

ITEM 6. Communications from the City Manager, and Staff

Deputy City Manager/Community Development Director Mills gave an update on the 24th Ave. Walkability project. Community engagement is about to begin at the end of April. Information is posted on Envision Edgewater site. Engagement will include a walking audit, a resident focus group, and some open-ended events on April 30th and May 1st. Mentioned that she and the City Manager talked about the Noise Ordinance issues along 25th Ave., and said staff are open to conversations about changing the current code or leaving the same. Will wait for Council's guidance on that issue. Also mentioned staff has been working on pulling together information about sales tax to present that to Council and the community. As the City moved from self-collecting sales tax to the State doing that, it has been taking a bit longer to acquire some of that data.

ITEM 7. Communication from Boards, Commissions and Membership Organizations

Mayor Conklin attended the DRCOG Employee Appreciation luncheon where over 125 DRCOG employees attended and honored nominees from many different departments. DRCOG meets tomorrow night discussing Federal Transit Administration Fiscal Year 2024 Funding Awards, taking action on the Regional Vision Zero Plan, discussion on the legislation currently in process, and 2024 Bike to Work Day. CC4CA has been working on legislative items as well. Metro Mayor's Caucus had a full meeting including Mayor Johnson from Denver and others. They took a tour of Oakwood Hoomes manufactured/modular housing factory on 58th and I-25

ITEM 8. Presentations

1. Arbor Day Proclamation

Mayor Conklin presented the Arbor Day Proclamation and proclaimed April 29, 2024, as Arbor Day in the City of Edgewater. Encouraged all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands.

Deputy City Manager/Community Development Director Mills wanted to mention that this proclamation celebrates Edgewater's 31st year as Edgewater being a Tree City USA

2. Gold Crown Presentation

Students from Gold Crown Career Pathways Program gave a brief presentation on their program Equitable, a program that helps struggling communities have access to clean, healthy, and locally sourced foods. They invited everyone to spread the word and join

them at their Gold Crown Edgewater event on Friday, April 26, 2024 at 5pm. Presented Council with a flyer with more information.

Council Member Gay Keao stated she loves Gold Crown and had the opportunity to visit their program in Lakewood and Edgewater and is incredibly proud and grateful for them showing up tonight. She and her family will be at their event.

Council Member Steirer is excited about Gold Crown being a part of Edgewater and particularly the Equitable mission. She will be tabling with them at their event with her organization Slow Food Denver.

ITEM 9. Resolution 2024-06

Council Member Berg made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-06, A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING CITY MANAGER, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER, AND CITY CLERK, AS AUTHORIZED SIGNATORIES ON THE CITY'S COMMERCIAL CREDIT CARD ACCOUNT WITH HUNTINGTON NATIONAL BANK, as presented. Seconded by Council Member Valdez and passed unanimously.

ITEM 10. Resolution 2024-07

Council Member Berg made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-07, A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDED CITY EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION PLAN TO INCLUDE ADDITIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD POLICE OFFICER POSITIONS AND NEW ADMINISTRATIVE FLEX POSITIONS, as presented. Seconded by Council Member Steirer and passed unanimously.

ITEM 11. Ordinance 2024-04

Council Member Berg made a motion to approve the First Reading of Ordinance 2024-04, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2-3-230 OF THE EDGEWATER MUNICIPAL CODE TO ELIMINATE THE REQUIREMENT THAT THE CITY EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION PLAN SPECIFY THE NUMBER OF PART-TIME EMPLOYEE POSITIONS, as presented. Seconded by Council member Valdez and passed unanimously.

ITEM 12. Ordinance 2024-03

Council Member Steirer made a motion to approve the Second Reading of Ordinance 2024-03, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2447 BENTON STREET, EDGEWATER, COLORADO, as presented. Seconded by Council Member Gay Keao and passed unanimously.

ITEM 13. General Business

1. Action Center Grant Request

Pam Brier, CEO of the Action Center gave a brief presentation of the Action Center and the services they provide to Jefferson County and the Edgewater community. Has helped hundreds of households in Edgewater with rent assistance, utilities, personal items, mentioned they take many forms of donations, food, clothing, personal hygiene products, etc. They also have a back to school, school supply event that serves about 5,000 families across Jefferson County each year. Also have a Thanksgiving distribution drive thru event, offering fresh food and produce in addition to dry goods and gift cards to purchase their own protein rather than trying to store hundreds and hundreds of turkeys. Lastly, they have an Adopt a family program so members of the community adopt and make sure those families' needs are taken care of.

Council Member Gay Keao made a motion to approve the grant request submitted by the Action Center in the amount of \$3,500 to come out of the \$50,000 fund approved for housing. Seconded by Council Member Janda and passed unanimously.

ITEM 14. Public Comment

None

ITEM 15. Mayor and Council Comments 1:03.26

Council Member Steirer – appreciates the work that the Action Center is doing and how well they are able to take care of the Edgewater Residents. Looks forward to continuing to support the Action Center going forward. Is excited about the Gold Crown event. Had an opportunity to speak with some of those students and their enthusiasm and concern around food security is incredible and well needed. Looks forward to working with them next Friday. In terms of groceries, she is looking forward to having conversations after they've had the opportunity to see what settles with the sales tax. In honor of Arbor Day, the Sustainability Board will be discussing the Urban Forestry Master Plan at their next two meetings. Please look through the current plan and bring suggestions to the Sustainability Board before it is finalized and taken to Council for approval.

Council Member Thomsen – Stated the compost pick-up was a huge success. He participated in a group bike ride in the new protected bikeway on Broadway in Denver. It was a lot of fun despite being a cold windy day. About a hundred people

attended and a handful of businesses. Spoke on public comments. It has been great seeing more public comments. They will be continuing discussion of noise as more things move in and happen on 25th Ave. Spoke on the grocery tax topic and mentioned that there is a lot to consider and balance with a lot of initiatives and future expenditures upcoming in the community but will continue discussions on that topic.

Council Member Iten would like to discuss the food tax a little further to try and find some creative solutions. Is super impressed by Gold Crown presentation. Thanked Pam for the Action Center presentation and thanked them for their hard work. Hopes everyone is having a wonderful Spring.

Council Member Berg – Joy and spiritual renewal. Stated it is amazing how much a living organism gives to us. The tree canopy is something we don't show enough gratitude towards. Last week some saw close to 100 mile per hour winds, and he had a 60 ft Colorado Blue Spruce come down at his house. That tree was planted right next to his house in 1974 and had such an impact on his life. As Arbor Day gets closer, he will definitely be planting another tree. As a citizen he thanked the City and the little things they do like offering the dumpster for organic materials at the Public Works building. Also appreciates the Gold Crown program and the Action Center's community involvement.

Council Member Janda thanked Monique and Kalah on the City Brochure. Thanked the public commenters. Looking forward to finding some creative solutions around noise concerns and to learn more about the sales tax ideas. Thanked the Gold Crown Group. The teenagers from Gold Crown did a fantastic job and she is looking forward to that event. The Earth Day cleanup is still in the works, not on Earth Day but shortly after. Stay tuned for more information. Thanked Pam for her Action Center presentation. She experienced working with youth doing clothing sorting which was giving them the opportunity to learn job skills. Stated there is so much crossover and so much community involved in the Action Center and is happy to support it on Council and personally. Hopes everyone is okay after the windstorm. Sorry to hear about Bill's tree.

Council Member Gay Keao thanked Pam for the Action Center presentation and thanked Karen for pushing Council to discuss the food tax issue. We do have a new tax system that we're not getting the data quite as quickly, but we are going to be getting that information soon which will be a good starting point. She did have further conversations with Stephen about some of the noise issues along 25th Ave. The majority of small businesses are near homes and further discussion on how the City can fix this in a way that make everyone happy would be worthwhile. Stated the work staff has done lately makes her proud. The Community Brochure is amazing, the traffic calming around the Schools, and the tree pickup. Mentioned the importance of cleaning up the pine needles that have fallen from the trees because it rots the roots over time. Highly recommends the book City Limits and talked about the poor air quality in Edgewater with

Sheridan Blvd. (a State Hwy) run right through the City. There are conversations at the State and in Denver about I-790, and widening the highway, and the communities are affected by that. Encourages everyone to pay attention to those conversations and be advocates for those who are vulnerable here.

Council Member Valdez said this was another great constructive meeting. Thanked Deputy City Manager, Jocelyn Mills for leading the meeting while Dan is out. Thanked Pam for the Action Center presentation. It is wonderful to know that they have helped 800 Edgewater residents directly. Enjoyed the Gold Crown presentation and will be at their event on April 26th. Is looking forward to discussions on the noise issues and hopes they can help the residents around that.

Mayor Conklin thanked Pam for being here tonight and for the Action Center presentation. They look forward to ways to continue partnership with them and help serve the Edgewater residents with the great services they offer. The students from Gold Crown were so excited to be here and he was excited to have them here. Gold Crown is an amazing resource that we are so lucky to have in the community. Representative Petersen's office was here last week to talk with the community. Wanted to commend City staff and volunteer for the cleanup, dumpster day. There was a structure fire on Fenton St. and someone across the street, noticed something unusual and call 911 and saved that house. Had that happened during the high wind storm, it could have been catastrophic for the entire block. Commends Edgewater PD, West Metro Fire for their great reaction to the incident. The DRCOG retreat is next week. Looking forward to that a number of other activities. Had a conversation with a resident about the City's noise ordinance who believed the opposite of what we heard tonight. Working through the Community survey trying to find out what people's expectations of their community are. Really appreciates Dan and city staff for promptly getting answers to issues sent directly to Council.

ITEM 16. Discussion of Upcoming Agendas

ITEM 17. BUSINESS MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Conklin adjourned the meeting at 8:07 pm