

**EDGEWATER CITY COUNCIL
BUSINESS MEETING & WORK SESSION
MINUTES
June 4, 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 Steirer, Council Member, Kali Janda, and Council Member, Mercedes Valdez.

Also Present: City Manager, Dan Maples, Deputy City Manager/Community Development Director, Jocelyn Mills, Police Commander, Melvin Berghahn, and City Attorney, Carmen Beery (attended virtually).

ITEM 3. Pledge of Allegiance

ITEM 4. Consent Agenda

1. Agenda
2. Minutes – May 21, 2024

Council Member Valdez made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Seconded by Council Member Iten and passed unanimously.

ITEM 5. Public Comment 6:32 pm

None

ITEM 6. Communications from the City Manager, and Staff 6:33 pm

Communications and Events Director, Kalah Hardt – The Communications and Events Department is working on the ADA digital accessibility plan by remediating all of the PDF's on the City's website making sure they are up to the WCAG 2.1 AA standards. From there, they will be training staff on how to submit ADA accessible digital materials to be uploaded to the website. They will continue to integrate as much of the ADA digital accessibility forms that they can. There will be some changes coming soon. Anyone having difficulty accessing the changes,

please let Communications and Events Department know. Mayor Conklin asked if this was a State or Federal law. Kalah responded it is a Colorado State law. Mentioned they had a great Pride Parade and thanked everyone who participated. Edgewater PD did a great job helping keep everyone safe. Wanted to hint that some fun, and exciting events are coming up this summer, as well as the Concert in the Park series, Edgewater Hometown Festival and a couple more.

City Clerk, Lenore Pedroza stated the majority of the City Clerk's web page is in PDF format, Ordinances, Resolutions, and meeting packets. While they are working on the website, we are going to try sending packets out through the Drop Box app. There was a drop box link included in the last email, so please let the Clerk's office know if you are unable to access the packet through Drop Box.

City Manager, Dan Maples asked Council to bear with them as they work through the ADA compliance regulations. Mentioned the opening of 25th Ave. ribbon cutting celebration on Saturday, June 29th at 11:00 am. The businesses along 25th Ave. will continue the celebration throughout the day with a street festival until 10:00 pm. There is a "Being Seen" community event at Recovery Works on September 19, 2024. This event will showcase all the things that Recovery Works has been doing with homelessness in the County. Council Member Iten asked if there was a scheduled opening date for 25th Ave. City Manager Maples gave a brief update on the project and mentioned CDOT requires a significant structural subgrade under the pavement, so they are currently dealing with some subgrade issues. Hoping to get the street paved next week and then final touches. Unable to give an exact opening date at this time.

ITEM 7. **Communication from Boards, Commissions and Membership Organizations**

Sustainability Board Member, Xerxes Steirer, gave brief updates on the Urban Master Forestry Plan and next steps in that program. Denver Urban Gardens is giving a seminar on June 20th for healthy gardens, pest and disease management. All members of the Board are looking forward to the Sustainability Plan update happening this year. Believes they've had incredible success with the first plan. The Home Energy Squad program, through Xcel Energy, has been extended. Basic energy audits are free.

Mayor Conklin mentioned the Metro Mayor's Caucus meeting will be held tomorrow at 7:30 am. It is a half-day meeting with various items on the agenda. Tomorrow's DRCOG meeting has been cancelled but the Executive Committee meeting will be moving forward. They will be taking important action in terms of appointing new leadership for DRCOG. Thursday morning, he and City Manager

Maples will be attending the County Commissioner's breakfast. CC4CA has a retreat coming up this summer.

ITEM 8. Presentations

ITEM 9. Resolution 2024-09

Council Member Steirer made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-09, A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2024 CITY OF EDGEWATER URBAN FOREST MASTER PLAN, as presented. Seconded by Council Member Janda and passed unanimously.

ITEM 10. Ordinance 2024-05

Council Member Janda made a motion to approve the First Reading of Ordinance 2024-05, AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS FROM THE GENERAL FUND, TRASH UTILITY FUND, CAPITAL EQUIPMENT FUND AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FUND FOR PURPOSES OF ADJUSTING THE 2022 BUDGET. Seconded by Council Member Steirer and passed unanimously.

ITEM 11. General Business

1. ERA re-appointment – Nicole Lang

Council Member Iten made a motion to approve the reappointment of Nicole Lang to Term #4 of the Edgewater Redevelopment Authority, expiring December 16, 2028. Seconded by Council Member Valdez and passed unanimously.

ITEM 12. Public Comment

None

ITEM 13. Mayor and Council Comments

Council Member Gay Keao welcomed Kalah back and hoped she had the most amazing time with her newborn. Thanked everyone who worked incredibly hard to make the Pride Parade happen. It was amazing. She walked in the parade with two of her friends who do not live in Edgewater. Wished everyone a happy Juneteenth and encouraged everyone to look up the history of that Federal holiday. Gave a brief overview of the enslaved people in Galveston, Texas who did not know they were free for 2 ½ years. Mentioned the Guns to Gardens safe Surrender event happening on June 15th at the Glenn Heights Mennonite Church in

Lakewood. Volunteered at one of these events this past winter, and they are very organized, safe and well run. Thanked Xerxes and the Sustainability Board and everyone who worked on Urban Master Forestry Plan.

Council Member Berg thanked Xerxes and Dana on the discussion of the Urban Canopy.

Council Member Iten said the Pride Parade was amazing. This City is making a difference despite all the negative political things going on around us. We need to keep strong and keep doing what were doing. Congratulated Nicole on her reappointment. Gave a shoutout to Lilly and Xerxes on their work building and guiding the Sustainability Board to what it is today, is incredible.

Council Member Thomsen apologized for missing the last meeting. Had a work conflict but was pleased to see Judge Hickman appointed as the City's Interim Presiding Judge. Congratulated Nicole on her reappointment to the ERA. Excited for summer and the City events coming up, the reopening of the park, and the reopening of 25th Ave.

Council Member Steirer had a lovely time at the Pride Parade. Welcomed Kalah back, and said it is exciting to see her back at it. Welcomed Nicole back to the ERA. She appreciates the work of the ERA. Very excited about the tree plan finally passing. That was something they've talked about since 2019. Spoke about the Japanese Beetles and the most effective and safest way to control them is milky spore powder. Japanese Beetle traps are not the effective because it is a way to attract more beetles to your property by emitting a rose scent. They can also be removed by adding soapy water to a jar and shaking them into the jar and removing them from your property. The scent of a Japanese beetle also attracts more beetles.

Council Member Valdez says a lot of great items were discussed tonight. Did not attend the Pride Parade but heard great things about it and saw lots of photos. Is happy to be part of such a wonderful community. She was able to take the City Survey and encourages everyone to go and be part of that survey. Looking forward to the many June events, and will be attending as many as she can. Congratulated Nicole on her reappointment to the ERA and thanked her for her service to the City. Thanked Xerxes for all the work he puts into the Sustainability Board.

Council Member Janda congratulated Nicole for her reappointment to the ERA. Is excited to have her continue her service to the City. Looking forward to the upcoming summer events. Had the opportunity of being on the Urban Land Use Institute TAP advisory panel. It was a cool experience and feels honored to have been asked and to talk to people who specialize in these things about Edgewater and how we move, work, play and experience Edgewater. Thanked everyone who worked for so many years on the tree plan. Pride event and after party were lovely,

from the music, Edgewater Public Market, PD support, to community support. It is so shocking to see people trying to work so intensely against queer people, and people are really struggling with coming out and getting any type of support. She is grateful to be part of a team that works to spread love and joy.

Mayor Conklin said they are grateful for Council Member Janda and everyone who participated in the Pride Parade. It was an amazing event. The after party was awesome and the band was incredible. Months ago, they were having conversations about what to do to really step it up and one thing was the proclamation, and the other was the Edgewater pride flags that demonstrate the City's support. Can't thank staff enough for making the effort to get that done. He attended Urban Land Institute with community members discussing things like the old City Hall property. ULI brings together experts in planning, architects and developers. Experts who spent time talking to people and listening and taking notes and next day bringing back their ideas and presenting to the group. They will get a full report that will be shared with Council soon. Is looking forward to cutting the ribbon at the park when it opens. As Mayor, he has done many things, signed checks, appointed board members but this Friday, he tapped a keg of beer as Mayor, for Providence's 5th Anniversary. Looking forward to the Edgewater Music Festival, 25th Ave. opening and other summer events. The City's arborist, Bill Cassel is retiring. He and Bill, at one point, decades apart, worked for the same radio station and love swapping stories. He is incredibly appreciative of Bill's work with trees and the arborist functions of Edgewater. Mentioned to Xerxes and the consultants that the tree plan is awesome. It will be going to provide great incentive, great direction and great vision.

ITEM 14. Discussion of Upcoming Agendas

ITEM 15. BUSINESS MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Conklin adjourned the Business Meeting at 8:09 pm

ITEM 16. WORK SESSION CALL TO ORDER 8:20 pm

ITEM 17. General Business

1. Foothills Animal Shelter IGA 8:33 pm

ITEM 18. Mayor and Council Comments

ITEM 19. WORK SESSION ADJOURNMENT 8:33 pm