

**EDGEWATER CITY COUNCIL
BUSINESS MEETING & WORK SESSION
MINUTES
August 20, 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 Joie Iten, Council Member John Thomsen, Council Member, Lilly Steirer, Council Member, Kali Janda, and Council Member, and Mercedes Valdez

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

ITEM 3. Pledge of Allegiance

ITEM 4. Consent Agenda

1. Agenda
2. Minutes – July 16, 2024

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

ITEM 5. Public Comment

None

ITEM 6. Communications from the City Manager, and Staff

Chief Sonstegard shared a memo of understanding with Jefferson County Community Response Team or Crisis Community Response Team, coming to the community the first week of September and will be on a future agenda with a more comprehensive presentation. It is a partnership with law enforcement agencies, Jefferson County Public Health, Jeffco Sheriffs and West Metro Fire. There will be a West Metro paramedic along with a clinician available to respond to calls that PD

is unable to offer much help and need a more comprehensive one-on-one communication which this team will offer. Resident Kevin Meyer will be the crisis community response paramedic. Sounds like a great pilot program for the next year.

Council Member Gay Keao asked about the posting of past minutes and recordings. City Manager Maples stated the website is going through upgrades attempting to be ADA compliant. It could take some time before things are back to normal.

Council Member Janda asked for clarification on the Finance report included in the packet. There is reporting at the beginning of the year but do not continue through the following months. City Manager Maples clarified that some tax reports are quarterly and reported a month after each quarter and will not appear on the report every month. Also tax delinquency, penalties and interest are all one time reports.

ITEM 7. Communication from Boards, Commissions and Membership Organizations

Mayor Conklin DRCOG is not having a meeting this week, there was a work session earlier in the month. The DRCOG awards are next week. Went on an engineering and industrial areas tour with the Jefferson County Economic Development Corporation at Metropolitan State. It was an outstanding experience. Edgewater joining Jeffco EDC has been a very positive thing in terms of making connections. After receiving a scholarship that Jeffco EDC has provided, he will be joining a group of people on the board on a trip to Detroit to look into what Detroit has done with economic stability and workforce development.

ITEM 8. Presentations

None

ITEM 9. Resolution 2024-13

Mayor Conklin gave a brief explanation of the Housing Blueprint and introduced Wheat Ridge Mayor, Bud Starker who has been involved in the Housing Blueprint since 2022, also gave a brief explanation of the Housing Blueprint.

Council Member Valdez thanked Joel Newton for being a part of the committee.

Council Member Gay Keao asked about the three year time horizon and what will happen at the end of the 3 years.

Mayor Starker stated they will reconvene at year two/three and do a recap of the outcomes, successes, challenges and what needs to be tweaked in order to continue to support communities as they build affordable housing options.

Council Member Thomsen asked about the community development reforming construction defect laws.

Council Member Janda made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-13, A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE JEFFCO HOUSING BLUEPRINT, as presented. Seconded by Council Member Steirer and passed unanimously.

ITEM 10. Resolution 2024-14

Council Member Steirer made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-14, A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CITY'S PARTICIPATION IN THE NATIONAL OPIOIDS SETTLEMENT WITH THE KROGER COMPANY AND DELEGATING APPROVAL AUTHORITY FOR FUTURE OPIOIDS SETTLEMENT PARTICIPATION TO THE CITY MANAGER, as presented. Seconded by Council Member Valdez and passed unanimously.

ITEM 11. Ordinance 2024-07

Council Member made a motion to approve the First Reading of Ordinance 2024-07, AN ORDINANCE appropriating funds from the GENERAL FUND for PURPOSES OF adjusting the 2023 General Fund BUDGET, as presented. Seconded by Council Member and passed unanimously.

ITEM 12. Ordinance 2024-06

Council Member Gay Keao made a motion to approve the First Reading of Ordinance 2024-06, AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING BY REFERENCE THE NATIONAL ELECTRIC CODE, 2023 EDITION; PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION THEREOF; AND MAKING CONFORMING AMENDMENTS TO THE EDGEWATER MUNICIPAL CODE, as presented. Seconded by Council Member Steirer and passed unanimously.

ITEM 13. General Business

1. Declaration of City Council Vacancy – Bill Berg

Council Member Steirer made a motion to approve the declaration of a City Council Vacancy. Seconded by Council Member Janda and passed unanimously.

ITEM 14. Public Comment

None

ITEM 15. Mayor and Council Comments

Council Member Iten – Thanked Mayor Starker for his presentation. Thanked everyone for their hard work.

Council Member Valdez – With the big gap between meetings, it took a bit for her to get back into the rhythm of things. Covered a lot of important items this meeting, from housing blueprint to the opioid settlement participation. It was all very interesting. Thanked Council Member Gay Keao for taking the initiative to contact the City Manager and Xcel Energy to get things rolling with the power outages. It made a big difference on her block and general areas.

Council Member Gay Keao – Thanked Council Member Valdez for her kind words, stated she was on the phone with the City Manager, who was on the phone with Kit Lammers, who was on the phone with Xcel to get some truth and honesty, which was greatly appreciated. Appreciates City staff being liaisons with government affairs counterparts and some of the for-profit entities that serve the residents in very essential ways. She did contact the Public Utilities Commission, as a resident, because she was angry. A few days later was the Quarry fire. PUC said they are going to be discussing wildfire mitigation and Xcel's strategy over two years coming up soon. There will be a lot of opportunities for public engagement. Wanted to clarify her comments from the last meeting regarding the Organization Chart. She does not believe changes need to be made to the Org. Chart in Policing or anywhere else. She wants Council to do their job near the top of that chart. Being right under the voters, they need to take responsibility for the trust and support within the community across the board. Gave a couple of appreciations for the Police Department. She is super pumped about the Jeffco Crisis Response program. It is also cool that Kevin Meyer is involved in that. She is proud of the work that the Police have done around Narcan distribution within the community. Chief Sonstegard and the County Coroner went door-to-door in the neighborhood businesses talking to them about Narcan and how that could help save lives within the community. A statement from Senator Warnock hit her heart and soul of what she is doing up on the dais. Quote being, "I need my neighbor's children to be ok,

so that my children will be ok” Thinks it is a very metaphorical statement that their role is to run with and take accountability for the collective responsibility that they have for big issues they discuss on the dais. She is proud of the work they’ve done, like climate change, gun violence prevention, public health, keeping people housed and tenant rights. Is glad to be sitting next to everyone Council member on the dais.

Council Member Janda – Thanked Chief for the rollout of the Crisis response team. Enjoyed the concert series this summer and was able to pick up Narcan at one of the concerts. If you don’t have Narcan in your car, or home, please pick some up at the Police Department. Noticed that SCRAPS is partnering with Edgewater restaurants to increase composting in the community. Jeffco schools are officially in session, so please slow down, and keep your eyes out for the little ones on the road or sidewalks nearby.

Council Member Steirer – gave an update on the Sustainability Board. They had their annual retreat on August 10th where they reviewed the sustainability plan and what has been completed in the past four years and began discussing the updates. They made some decisions around a contractor who will be assisting them in that process. There is a rain barrel workshop on Thursday at 5:30 pm. You do need to sign up in advance and there is a fee that will include the equipment needed for the rain barrels. She is thrilled about the crisis response team and having Kevin Meyer participating, since he was in all of the mental health meetings. This is the direction they need to be going in and is an excellent pivot from the -co-responder position that they have been trying and not fully successful on. This is exactly what they wanted. The mental health meeting discussions mentioned how so often mental health crisis moments, addiction, falls into the hands of PD who are not fully equipped to deal with that as they need to be, because they are not mental health experts. She deeply appreciates the work that Chief continues to do for the PD to pull the City out of where they’ve been in the past, and to really care about all of the people on his team and the community.

Council Member Thomsen – Appreciates everyone’s comments tonight. The theme of his summer has been bragging about 25th Ave. improvements and was able to give a speech about it at a cyclist group meet up a few weeks ago. Gave a shoutout to Lot 46 Edgewater Inn for their cyclist discount program.

Mayor Conklin – Thanked Chief Sonstegard for his work on the Crisis Response Team program. It is a great opportunity and is excited of what that brings to Edgewater. Spoke to an Edgewater citizen who had a vehicle stolen and raved about how wonderfully the Police handled the situation, how they felt responded to, how they felt the situation was addressed and the vehicle was discovered quickly

thereafter. Spoke about the recent Xcel Energy issues in Edgewater and the impact their new protocols have on the community and is appreciative and understanding of their wildfire response. Urban Land Institute attended the Metro Mayor's Caucus where they had community leaders play the roll of the developer and the developers played the roll of City Council as decision makers. It was an enlightening task for all. He will be attending the Colorado Women's Chamber of Commerce Gala where they are honoring the 25 most powerful women in business. Dr. Flo Raitano, one of the executives with DRCOG, is being honored at that event. Expressed his respect, advocacy and honor serve with the powerful women in the room. Received an email from a former Edgewater resident who is writing a book about their life and wanted to be sure to capture the information about KIMN's location and the rold that played in their experience in living in Edgewater.

ITEM 16. Discussion of Upcoming Agendas

ITEM 17. BUSINESS MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Conklin adjourned the Business Meeting at 8:00 pm

ITEM 18. WORK SESSION CALL TO ORDER 8:11 pm

ITEM 19. General Business 8:12 pm

1. Judge Contract Process & Compensation Discussion
2. 24th Ave Visioning – Kit/Blue Zone 8:30 pm
3. Edgewater Housing RFFP Submission Review
4. Code Review – Chapters 1-6 & 10 – 9:22 pm

ITEM 20. Mayor and Council Comments

ITEM 21. WORK SESSION ADJOURNMENT 10:05 pm