

**EDGEWATER CITY COUNCIL
BUSINESS MEETING & WORK SESSION
MINUTES
September 17, 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, Hannah Gay Keao, and Council Member, Mercedes Valdez

Also Present: City Manager, Dan Maples, Deputy City Manager/Community Development Director, Jocelyn Mills, Finance Director, Ariany Young, Community Services Director, Kit Lammers, Communication and Events Director, Kalah Hardt, Police Chief, Eric Sonstegard, and City Attorney, Carmen Beery

ITEM 3. Pledge of Allegiance

ITEM 4. Consent Agenda

1. Agenda
2. Minutes – August 20, 2024

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

ITEM 5. Public Comment

None

ITEM 6. Communications from the City Manager, and Staff

Jocelyn Mills – Introduced and welcomed new Mental Health Coordinator, Meghan Murphy. Meghan is a licensed clinical social worker and has been working in the mental health field for the past 10 years. She was also part of the task force to create the Jeffco Community Response Team. Excited to have her on board to help implement the new Mental Health Plan. They are currently revising the small

business support program into a different way to support local small business restaurants and retail shops. Shop Edgewater Small Town Big Rewards program will launch on Friday. It is a rewards program to incentivize customers to shop at our small local restaurants and retail shops, in return they earn 5% back on their spending at these establishments. It is an app that is downloaded to your phone. Open Rewards does all the management of the program, so businesses do not have to do a thing. They will be promoting the program at the Hometown Festival and on Social Media.

Dan Maples – a Press Release went out today regarding Chief Sonstegard's resignation. His last day here in Edgewater will be December 6, 2024. He will be helping us get through the recruiting period and then will be taking over as the Deputy City Manager for the City of Oxnard in California. Eric and his leadership here in Edgewater will be missed.

Mayor Conklin mentioned his ride along with Chief Sonstegard and cannot speak highly enough of how the Chief knows the Edgewater community. He was impressed with the relation and interaction he has with the community. Thanked Chief for his service.

ITEM 7. Communication from Boards, Commissions and Membership Organizations

DRCOG representative – 3 weeks ago was the awards celebration, which was a great opportunity to recognize transit-oriented, mobility-oriented, aging-oriented projects and people. Was able to hand an award to Kathy Hodgson, the City Manager of Lakewood, who was honored with a Distinguished Service Award along with Andrew Eltis who was once the Chair of Edgewater's Planning and Zoning and now the Vice President of Planning and Community impact with the Downtown Denver Partnership. Participated in the Metro Mayors bus tour of upcoming projects. Two separate developments were visited and drove through several other parcels and heard about upcoming projects. Also attended the Jeffco County Commissioner's breakfast, along with City Manager Maples, Council Member Gay Keao attended virtually. That meeting talked a lot about housing and the unhoused.

ITEM 8. Presentations

1. JEFFCO Community Response Team Presentation

Chief Sonstegard introduced Todd Heintz with West Metro Fire who gave a brief presentation of the Jeffco Community Response Team program.

2. Communications and Events Updates

Kalah Hardt, Communications and Events Director gave a presentation of projects and events the Communications and Events Department have been working on in 2024.

3. Community Services Update Updates

Kit Lammers, Community Services Director gave a presentation of projects and Public Works and Community Services Department have been working on in 2024.

Mayor Conklin called for a 5 minute break to resume the meeting 7:55 pm

ITEM 9. Resolution 2024-16

Resolution 2024-16, A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2040 EDGEWATER COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Deputy City Manager – Community Development Director gave some background on the Comprehensive Plan. After several community meetings, the Planning Commission adopted the plan on July 31st, 2024, and per the City Charter, City Council is required to formally approve the plan. Introduced Finn Sutton with MIG who gave updates of the project and process.

As Board Liaison and past member of Planning and Zoning Commission, Council Member Iten commended everyone on their hard work and overcoming the difficulties of getting everyone on the same page.

Council Member Gay Keao made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-16, A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2040 EDGEWATER COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, as amended, with an editorial change of “policy” on page two and request the ability of staff to make not-substantial edits. Seconded by Council Member Iten and passed unanimously.

ITEM 10. Ordinance 2024-07 (PUBLIC HEARING)

Mayor Conklin opened the public hearing at 8:12 pm.

City Manager Maples gave a brief overview of budget adjustments for 2023 as outlined in the Staff Memo included in the packet.

There were no questions or comments from the public and no additional comments from staff or Council.

Mayor Conklin closed the public hearing at 8:15 pm.

Council Member Janda made a motion to approve the Second 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 Valdez and passed unanimously.

ITEM 11. Ordinance 2024-06 (PUBLIC HEARING)

Mayor Conklin opened the public hearing at 8:17 pm

Deputy City Manager – Community Development Director stated the State of Colorado requires all municipalities to adopt the latest version of the National Electrical Code on a three-year cycle. The City is currently working from the 2020 version and is required to operate under the 2023 version. The City's Electrical Codes are found in Article 18, Chapter 4.

There were no questions or comments from the public and no additional comments from staff or Council.

Council Member Thomsen made a motion to approve the Second 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 12. General Business

1. Sustainability Plan Update Contract

Shaima Shabazz, Sustainability Coordinator, introduced Adny Rutz of Crescendo Planning and Design and Melissa Baldrige of Big Glasses Consulting, who both worked closely with the Community and staff to update the Sustainability Plan.

Council Member Steirer made a motion to approve the Contract for the Sustainability Plan Update, as presented. Seconded by Council Member Gay Keao and passed unanimously.

2. Authorization of Guest Judge to Administer Presiding Judge Oath

City Attorney Beery mentioned to Council that she has been in communication with Judge Hickman regarding the meeting dates for officially swearing her in

as Edgewater's presiding Judge. During those conversations, Judge Hickman asked if her mentor, retired Judge Gary Jackson, could swear her in as the presiding Judge of Edgewater. Currently, only our Judges and City Clerk Pedroza have the authority to administer oaths. However, as the governing body, they have the ability to authorize others to administer oaths on a one-time basis. A motion has been prepared for Council to authorize Judge Hickman's request for Judge Gary M. Jackson to swear her in on October 1st. Judge Jackson's impressive biography is included in tonight's packet.

Council Member Thomsen made a motion to authorize the Honorable Gary M. Jackson to administer the Edgewater Municipal Court presiding judge oath of office to interim presiding Judge Hickman when such item next appears on a City Council Business Meeting agenda. Seconded by Council Member Janda and passed unanimously.

ITEM 13. Public Comment

None

ITEM 14. Mayor and Council Comments

Council Member Steirer – Very excited about the Jeffco Community Response team and thrilled about the hiring of Megan Murphy. Gives her a lot of hope that this will be a very successful pilot program. In the past work on the sustainability plan, there was continuous mention of the need for more of a communications team. Hearing Kalah's update tonight, she feels like Kalah's team has grown and commended the magnitude of what they have accomplished. Lovely to hear updates from Kit and also the implementation of so many of the plans that have come into fruition over the last few years. Excited about the sustainability plan update and the direction that is going to go.

Council Member Iten – Thanked Kalah and Kit for their presentations. Is excited for the Community Response pilot program. Congratulated Chief on his new position and is sad to see him go. He has been such an asset to this community. She appreciates the hard work he has done and the passion he put into a much-needed community.

Council Member Thomsen – Thanked everyone involved in all the new projects, programs, new people, ongoing programs and projects, old projects getting updates. The hard work is really apparent. Looking forward to the hometown fest coming up

Council Member Gay Keao – Echoes previous comments. Mentioned the Safe Surrender event sponsored by the City on June 15th was a success. There were

45 firearms that were unwanted and surrendered. Thanked Council Member Steirer, former Council Member Reid-Vanas, Chief Sonstegard and numerous staff members for all the work they put into the Mental Health plan. Expressed her sadness in seeing Chief Sonstegard leaving Edgewater. Thanked Robert, Court Administrator for working and connecting with the Homeless Navigator. Gave a shoutout to Kit for his work on the bike detection signal at 25th Ave going east towards Sheridan. Has heard many comments from cyclists and how it feels safer in that area. Drives down Pierce St. so her daughter can see the student drop off for school. Erica, Edgewater SRO, is there in the mornings directing traffic, or chatting with the students. Appreciates the work that Public Works has done there.

Council Member Valdez - Thanked Kalah and Kit for their presentations. Since she is new to the Council, she found them to be very informative. She didn't realize all the work that they do, and it is amazing to see them tackling so many different things at the same time. Appreciates all the work that they all do.

Council Member Janda – Also thanked everyone for their hard work tonight. Is grateful to Jocelyn and the team who work so hard on the Comprehensive plan. The plan does reflect the values she sees and hears about among the community. Thinks they did a beautiful job on that. Today is National Voter Registration Day. Make sure you are registered, if you've recently moved to Edgewater or out of Edgewater. Excited for the Hometown Festival this weekend. Will also be celebrating her brother's 50th birthday this weekend. Congratulations to Meghan, the new Mental Health coordinator. Excited about the new pilot program and appreciate the staff's hard work. Congratulated Officer Santti on her Community Service Award. Thanked Chief Sonstegard for his contributions to Edgewater.

Mayor Conklin – Wanted to mention that a member of the public wanted to make some virtual comments tonight during some of the agenda items. During the break, he will verify what the rules or procedure says in terms of virtual comments. After break, we will clarify that to ensure we are all on the same page. Thank everyone in advance who attends the Hometown Festival this upcoming weekend. Same day, Jamming on the Jetty is happening at Sloan's Lake. If anyone has questions about vote by mail, the authenticity, how ballots are treated, or what happens in the process, he encourages everyone to tour the Jefferson County Election facility. Tours run from October 7th to November 4th and you can register at the Jefferson County Clerk and Recorder's website. Will be attending the Jeffco Economic Development Board meeting tomorrow. Appreciates the opportunity he was given to represent Edgewater with this group. It is fun to hear others perspective on how cool Edgewater is. The know the area, restaurants and establishments here. Twenty nine members of that group traveled to Detroit last week. The key topics of that trip were workforce development and public/private partnerships. Also hosted

five of Jeffco's Mayors for lunch in Edgewater. It was great showing them 25th Ave and spent time at a local brewery talking about what the Sheridan corridor project is going to be. Thanked staff for all they do. Thanked Jocelyn for all she has done with the comprehensive plan. Looking forward to what that plan as a guiding document can do for Edgewater as we continue the conversation about a lot of the things that may be on the horizon.

ITEM 15. Discussion of Upcoming Agendas

ITEM 16. BUSINESS MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Conklin adjourned the Business Meeting at 8:53 pm

ITEM 17. WORK SESSION CALL TO ORDER - 9:02 pm

ITEM 18. General Business

1. City Council Vacancy Process - 9:03 pm
2. Natural Medicine Business Regulation – 9:38 pm
3. City Manager Review Process – 9:40 pm
4. ~~Code Review – Chapters 1, 2, 4, 6 & 10~~

Due to time constraints, this item was removed from the Agenda, will revisit 11/9/24 and 12/7/24

ITEM 19. Mayor and Council Comments

ITEM 20. WORK SESSION ADJOURNMENT