



## CITY OF ROCKY FORD – CITY COUNCIL MEETING

**August 23, 2022**

**WORK SESSION: 6:00 p.m.**

Mayor Susan Jung, Councilmembers Rich Geist, Duane Gurule, Larry Herrera and Sherry Cordova and City Manager Shannon Wallace continued discussion on water and sewer increases. Discussion was held regarding the recent Arkansas Valley Fair and ideas to make the following years better. Discussion was also held regarding the City's mission statement and the possibility of including it on the Council agenda.

Others present: J.R. Thompson

**REGULAR MEETING: 7:00 p.m.**

Rocky Ford City Council met in Council Chambers on Tuesday, August 23, 2022. Mayor Jung called the meeting to order.

Those present at roll call were:

Mayor: Susan Jung

Councilmembers: Larry Herrera, Duane Gurule, Johnette Fuller, Sherry Cordova and Rich Geist

Staff: City Manager Shannon Wallace and City Clerk Rebecca Korinek

Others present: Gary Reed, J.R. Thompson, Nicholas Martinez, Nicholas Martinez II, Tina Mazotti, Ronald Abeyta and Erik Jackus

Mayor Jung led the pledge of allegiance.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor Jung explained the Agenda and Consent Agenda to Council and audience. City Manager Wallace requested the addition of Resolution # 14 – Series 2022, regarding excessive force for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, to be added under new business item E. Councilmember Cordova moved to approve the agenda and consent agenda with the requested addition. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Geist. Voting results were:

YES Herrera, Gurule, Cordova, Fuller, Geist, Jung

NO None

ABSENT Railton

Motion carried 6-0

Consent Item(s) approved:

1. City Council meeting minutes from August 9, 2022

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Eric Jakus, 411 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, asked Council to clarify some concerns he has with the new proposed Arkansas Valley Conduit.

Tina Mazotti, 801 Maple Avenue, informed Council that she had been informed that the city had received money that was spent at the Rocky Ford Country Club golf course. Mazotti wanted to know if that was true or not. Mazotti asked if the city would consider utilizing the fairground for more than the Arkansas Valley Fair.

Ronald Abeyta, 408 S. 9<sup>th</sup> Street, asked what the city can do about overgrown branches on trees.

## **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

City Manager Shannon Wallace reported the following:

- Manager's report was previously given to Council but the following items were added.
- Shannon gave Council an update of the Bethel property. Bethel is willing to deed the property to the city. Some discussion was held about asbestos and if Bethel has already received money from his settlement to clean the property and if cleanup should be done prior to deeding the property. Council asked City Manager Wallace to check with the EPA on options.
- The GOCO survey booth at the Arkansas Valley Fair did not get a very good turnout. The survey went out to customers on August 15<sup>th</sup>.
- The Police Department is considering setting traps for cats and then will deliver them to the Humane Society. Volunteers may be needed to transport.
- Shannon, Shelly Valdez and Mia Herrera attended a software training in Denver.

## **MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REPORTS**

Mayor Jung reported to following:

- Mayor Jung attended the Police Department picnic at the swim pool. There was free swimming, hamburgers and hotdogs.
- Mayor Jung attended a CIRSA subcommittee housing meeting.
- Mayor Jung attended a CIRSA lunch today in Pueblo.

Councilmember Herrera reported the following:

- The Country Club is struggling right now with the loss of the groundskeeper, the superintendent and the golfing greens. The Arkansas Valley Hospice usually holds a golf tournament here in Rocky Ford, but they have moved the tournament to La Junta.

Councilmember Gurule reported the following:

- Gurule attended the Police Department picnic.
- Gurule worked the GOCO survey booth at the Arkansas Valley Fair and the fair events
- Gurule thanked the Rocky Ford Police Department and all surrounding area departments that helped out with the fair.
- Grand Theater will be showing Paws of Fury this weekend.
- Gurule would like to restart the coffee with Council, the first Friday of each month for the rest of the year.

Councilmember Fuller reported the following:

- Fuller expressed her disappointment that the City Council did not vote to purchase a street sweeper.
- Fuller thanked all volunteers for all the help given to the city.
- Fuller attended and worked at the Bingo Hall at the Arkansas Valley Fair.

- Fuller has been tending the mulberry tree on Main Street with help from volunteers.

Councilmember Cordova reported the following:

- Cordova attended the Arkansas Valley Fair and worked hard at the GOCO survey booth.
- Cordova will be out of town for the next Council meeting on September 13, 2022.

Councilmember Geist reported the following:

- Nothing to report for tonight's meeting.

**STAFF REPORTS** - None

**OLD BUSINESS** - None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### ***Swim Pool Committee – Appoint a Councilmember***

City Manager Wallace asked that a Councilmember be appointed to sit on the swimming pool committee. Councilmember Gurule volunteered to be appointed. Councilmember Geist moved to appoint Councilmember Duane Gurule to the swimming pool committee. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cordova. Voting results were:

YES	Gurule, Cordova, Fuller, Geist, Herrera, Jung
NO	None
ABSENT	Railton

Motion carried 6-0

### ***Update of Arkansas Valley Fair***

This matter was discussed during the work session.

### ***Clean up Day***

This matter was discussed during the work session.

### ***Update of GOCO Grant***

This matter was discussed during the City Manager report.

### ***Resolution #14 – Series 2022 – A Resolution Regarding Excessive Force for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds***

Councilmember Fuller moved to approve and adopt **Resolution #14 – A Resolution Regarding Excessive Force for the Community Block Grant (CDBG) Funds**. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cordova. Voting results were:

YES Cordova, Fuller, Geist, Herrera, Gurule, Jung  
NO None  
ABSENT Railton

Motion carried 6-0

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Tina Mazotti asked Council what is happening with the city roads. City Manager Wallace gave information on the city's current plans.

Councilmember Herrera asked if Shannon had received word or comment about the "burn out" at Absolute Automotive. Herrera commented that the State of Colorado has put out a report of taxes that were paid by the marijuana dispensaries.

**ADJOURN**

Councilmember Geist moved to adjourn and there being no further business, Mayor Jung adjourned the regular meeting at 7:59 p.m.

  
Susan Jung, Mayor

Attest:  City Clerk

