



ROCKY FORD CITY COUNCIL

March 26, 2019

Rocky Ford City Council met in Council Chambers for a work session at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 26, 2019, with Interim City Manager Shannon Wallace. Items on the work session agenda were Fair Board update and request from Gilbert Davis, and Public Works/Water update from Public Works Director Rick Long.

Following the work session, Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Thompson called meeting to order. Those present at roll call were:

Mayor: J. R. Thompson

Councilmembers: Susan Jung, Cuco Ruiz, Marty Lee, Rich Geist, Barbara Hunter

Staff: Interim City Manager Shannon Wallace, City Attorney Bart Mendenhall, City Clerk Cheryl Grasmick

Others present: Peggy Sue Romero, Jolly Rose, Daryl Grasmick and Laura Thompson.

Mayor Thompson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Jung moved to approve the minutes from the regular **March 12, 2019** council meeting as presented. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Lee. Voting results were:

YES	Jung, Ruiz, Lee, Geist, Hunter, Thompson
NO	None

Motion carried 6-0.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION - None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Councilmember Jung and seconded by Councilmember Ruiz to approve the agenda with consent item as presented. Voting results were:

YES	Jung, Ruiz, Lee, Geist, Hunter, Thompson
NO	None

Motion carried 6-0.

Consent item was approval from Council to close CD #10510892 with the State Bank. The Library Board voted at their last meeting to allow the City to close out the CD and to donate the funds to the Public Safety Building Fund.

NEW JOB DESCRIPTION – SENIOR DISPATCHER

Councilmember Lee moved to approve the new job description for senior dispatcher as presented. Councilmember Geist seconded motion. Voting results were:

YES Jung, Ruiz, Lee, Geist, Hunter, Thompson
NO None

Motion carried 6-0. Council noted that approving a job description was a council function while deciding who was appointed and how person compensated was an administrative decision.

WASHINGTON AVENUE ASPHALT PROJECT

Public Works Director Rick Long presented Council with a sole source bid for asphalt work from Justin's Paving. It was moved by Councilmember Lee and seconded by Councilmember Ruiz to approve the sole source bid to award the Washington Avenue Asphalt Project to Justin's Paving, as presented, and to authorize the Mayor to sign the document. Voting results were:

YES Jung, Ruiz, Lee, Geist, Hunter, Thompson
NO None

Motion carried 6-0.

STAFF REPORTS

Interim City Manager Wallace gave the following reports:

- RFPs were sent to local realtors with the list of City properties that Council approved exploring possibilities of selling.
- She is in the early stages of negotiations with RF Chamber of Commerce for the Gobin Building complex agreement.
- Finance Director Azucena Estrada and she will attend a CIRSA training in Denver April 10. Since the training begins at 8:00 a.m., it was the general consensus of Council to approve their going to Denver the night before.
- City Attorney Bart Mendenhall and she will attend a settlement hearing in Denver Tuesday, April 2.
- Rocky Ford Rural Fire Protection District Board signed the IGA with the City at their March 18th meeting. IGA is good until January of next year, at which time it will be re-evaluated.
- Shannon has been working on job descriptions and salary schedule steps. She asked Council if they wanted to address the changes in job descriptions for City personnel that she gave them earlier. It was the general consensus of Council to review the changes before making a decision to approve descriptions at the first Council meeting in April.
- Succession plans are being implemented with cross training current administrative employees and adding of a part-time position accounting clerk/cashier position to fill in when vacancies or absences occur.

MAYOR/CITY COUNCIL REPORTS/UPDATES

Councilmember Jung reported she attended the recent RF Rural Fire Protection District meeting. She was pleased to bring the IGA they signed at the meeting and present it to Interim City Manager Shannon Wallace at City Hall. The Rocky Ford Swimming Pool Commission will meet at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 31, at the First Baptist Church in Rocky Ford. Councilmember Jung suggested that City hold an Open House for the new public safety building when it is finished. Interim City Manager will get a timeline for a completion date of the building.

Councilmember Ruiz reported that he is looking at City codes, especially planning and zoning, and making notes for suggested revisions or updates. It is his belief that code enforcement is a major issue and the City really needs a code enforcement officer. Councilmembers expressed belief that funding code

enforcement efforts is a large obstacle to overcome. Non-compliance from residents not applying for building permits for new structures or substantial improvements to existing structures, and not paying use tax on materials purchased out of town for building and construction projects are other large issues.

Mayor Thompson thanked the Library Board for voting to allow the City to cash out their CD to donate to the Public Safety Building fund. It is greatly appreciated.

Councilmember Lee reported he will attend a SCEDD meeting tomorrow, March 27. He had nothing to report on for OCLI/OPI. Councilmember Lee discussed a joint meeting with the school board and purchase of a county road grader with Darren Garcia, R2 School Board member and Otero County employee. Mayor Thompson said that the R2 School District received a grant for a new score board at Babcock Park, which is City property. The School District did not discuss the grant with either Recreation Director Stacey Milenski or with Interim City Manager Shannon Wallace. Mayor Thompson suggested that this was a topic that should be discussed at the joint meeting with school board to raise their consciousness about sharing news.

Councilmember Geist had nothing to report for the Museum Board.

Councilmember Hunter had nothing to report for the Tree Board. She will contact Phyllis Adkins to ask the date for the Arbor Day celebration in Rocky Ford. The official Arbor Day is April 26.

Mayor Thompson reported the Arts Commission will meet in a couple of weeks. He reminded everyone of the Rocky Ford Swimming Pool Commission meeting Sunday, March 31. Mayor Thompson then reported that the 50-year reunion for Rocky Ford High School Class of '69 would be held Homecoming weekend, October 11, 2019, in Rocky Ford. Tentative plans are to tour the schools, meals, possible "Flash Cadillac" concert, a movie matinee of possibly "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid" at the Grand Theater and dedication of a memorial bench to honor their deceased classmate, former Police Chief Frank Gallegos. Their hope is to possibly place it at the new public safety building.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION - None

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AT FUTURE AGENDA


- Rocky Ford Country Club Lease Agreement
- Chamber of Commerce Lease Agreement for Gobin Building Complex
- Departmental Reports
- Work session with R2 School Board
- Review City Code
- Approval of purchase of County road grader

ADJOURNMENT


Councilmember Lee moved to adjourn. There being no further business, Mayor Thompson adjourned meeting at 7:59 p.m.

ATTEST:





J. R. Thompson, Mayor



Cheryl Grasmick, City Clerk