



## CITY OF ROCKY FORD – CITY COUNCIL MEETING

**SEPTEMBER 28, 2021**

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

Mayor Jung and Councilmembers: Rich Geist, Daryl Grasmick, Larry Herrera, Peggy Sue Corbin-Romero, Duane Gurule, Economic Development Coordinator Marty Lee (via Zoom), City Manager Shannon Wallace and Public Works Director Rick Long met to continue the previous discussion regarding the possibility of offering City sewer service to residents on County Road EE.5 and possibly Ewers.

Much discussion was held on possibilities and who will be responsible for paying for taps and a portion of the fees. Wayne Walters had given an oral estimate, to Jenner Fraser, for approximately \$60,000 and Wayne answered Council questions by telephone. Council asked Rick Long to contact Element Engineering to assess the situation and give their recommendation on how to move forward.

The work session adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

Others present: Jennifer Fraser, Carley Fraser, David and Monica Lopez and James Budnick

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

Rocky Ford City Council met in Council Chambers on Tuesday, September 28, 2021. Mayor Susan Jung called the meeting to order. Those present at roll call were:

Mayor: Susan Jung

Councilmembers: Peggy Sue Corbin-Romero, Rich Geist, Sherry Cordova, Daryl Grasmick, Larry Herrera and Duane Gurule

Staff: City Manager Shannon Wallace, City Clerk Rebecca Korinek, Public Works Director Rick Long. Cuco Ruiz and Economic Development Coordinator Marty Lee attended (via Zoom)

Others present: James Budnick, Jen Fraser, George Hanzas, R-2 School Superintendent Kermit Snyder

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

Mayor Jung led the pledge of allegiance and explained the Agenda and Consent Agenda to Council and audience. City Manager Shannon Wallace asked to add Supplemental Environmental Program for winterization of homes for the elderly, disabled and poor and to also add Chestnut Project Phase II to the Agenda. Councilmember Geist moved to add the items to the agenda the motion was seconded by Councilmember Herrera. Voting results were:

YES Corbin-Romero, Geist, Herrera, Gurule, Cordova, Grasmick, Jung

NO None

ABSENT None

Motion carried 7-0

Councilmember Herrera moved to approve the consent agenda items. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Grasmick. Voting results were:

YES	Herrera, Gurule, Cordova, Grasmick, Corbin-Romero, Geist, Jung
NO	None
ABSENT	None

Motion carried 7-0

Consent Items approved:

1. City Council Meeting Minutes from September 14, 2021
2. City Council SPECIAL Meeting Minutes from September 20, 2021
3. Retail Marijuana License Renewal Application, **Rocky's Best, LLC dba The Station, 1701 Elm Avenue, Rocky Ford**

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Manager of Catlin Canal George Hanzas asked Council to consider and ask themselves many questions about the City's possible purchase of Fountain Creek Water. Hanzas commented that there are too many unanswered questions at this time for the City to move any further with this matter. Council thanked Mr. Hanzas for his comments.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

City Manager Shannon Wallace reported a few things in addition to her written report:

- Jared Dains with the Applegate Group sent an email regarding Fountain Creek
- The U S Solar contract has been executed.
- The Gobin Building agreement has not been returned.
- Shannon gave Council some information on programs that she attended at the Colorado Municipal League (CML) conference.
- Shannon gave Council information regarding phase 2 asphalt project on Chestnut.
- The Latin Jam event was a huge success but the City was left to clean up and it seems that there was some miscommunication about who would be responsible for things. Shannon recommended that if this event happens next year, that a full contract should be executed.
- Shannon distributed information on the Arkansas Valley Conduit.

### **MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REPORTS**

Mayor Jung reported on the programs she attended at the CML conference in Westminster. The programs that the Mayor attended covered ARPA spending, local news and the use of social media and she reported that the key note speaker was very awesome.

Mayor Jung attended the Tri-County Family "Cruisin into Fall" event. The event was well attended and everyone seemed to be having a good time.

Councilmember Herrera played in the Hospice golf tournament at the Rocky Ford Country Club.

Councilmember Gurule reported that he also attended the Latin Jam event and the "Cruisin into Fall" event. Gurule thought both programs were well attended. Gurule reported that the design is final for the Library Park project and volunteers will be needed to help.

Councilmember Grasmick reported on the most recent Otero County Landfill, Inc. (OCLI) meeting. The landfill will be purchasing a new trash compactor and the old one will be moved to the Manzanola landfill. OCLI is trying to fill a few vacancies.

Grasmick reported that the Otero Partners Inc., (OPI) has had several business loans in process and three of them look promising.

Councilmember Cordova reported that the library board will be meeting the first Tuesday of each month. The library board is looking for two new members. Cordova will also attend the Chamber of Commerce meeting the first Thursday of the month.

Councilmember Geist reported that he will attend the museum board meeting on October 7.

**STAFF REPORTS** - None

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### ***Fountain Creek Water Shares - Update***

Councilmember Geist moved to table this matter to a future meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cordova. Voting results were:

YES	Gurule, Cordova, Grasmick, Corbin-Romero, Geist, Herrera, Jung
NO	None
ABSENT	None

Motion carried 7-0

### ***(SEP) – Supplemental Environmental Program***

City Manager Wallace asked Council to allow the Public Works Department and the Rocky Ford office of Economic Development to move forward with \$45,000 SEP for the winterization of homes for the elderly, disabled and indigent in Rocky Ford. Councilmember Corbin-Romero made a motion to allow the SEP program to begin. Councilmember Gurule seconded the motion. Voting results were:

YES	Geist, Herrera, Gurule, Cordova, Grasmick, Corbin-Romero, Jung
NO	None
ABSENT	None

Motion carried 7-0

### ***Chestnut Asphalt Project – Phase II***

This first part of the asphalt project was completed but then progress had to stop due to the pandemic. Phase II will repave with infrastructure upgrades west from Eighth Street to the Rocky Ford Ditch bridge. The funding will come from the 1% sales tax dedicated to streets. Some discussion was held regarding other streets that also need asphalt or patching. Councilmember Gurule moved to approve and authorize Phase II Chestnut asphalt project. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Geist. Voting results were:

YES	Herrera, Gurule, Cordova, Grasmick, Corbin-Romero, Geist, Jung
NO	None
ABSENT	None

Motion carried 7-0



**NEW BUSINESS**

***Kermit Snyder – R-2 School Bond Referendum***

R-2 School Superintendent Kermit Snyder addressed Council to ask for their support of the 4A bond issue to replace Jefferson Intermediate School and the Washington Primary School. This matter will be on the ballot for the November 2, 2021 election. Some additional discussion was held. Councilmember Gurule made a motion that the Rocky Ford City Council approve and adopt a resolution in support of the R-2 School District bond. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cordova. Voting results were:

YES	Cordova, Grasmick, Gurule, Jung
NO	Romero, Geist, Herrera
ABSENT	None

Motion carries 4-3

**PUBLIC HEARING**

***The Barista Company LLC, dba PITCH AND CHIPS***

Mayor Jung adjourned the regular Council meeting at 8:17 p.m. and opened the Public Hearing for consideration of a liquor license with one optional premise filed by Tracey Lewis-Kerr and Michael Scott Kerr.

City Clerk Rebecca Korinek informed Council that all necessary paperwork and reports had been filed. Inspection was completed by Police Chief Angelo Griego and Fire Chief Ray Gonzales. Tracey and Scott Kerr gave Council information on their businesses and answered Council's questions. There was no one in the audience with any comments either for or against the liquor license. Mayor Jung closed the public hearing at 8:25 p.m. and reconvened the regular meeting.

Councilmember Grasmick moved to approve the application for a liquor license filed by the Barista Company, Inc, dba Pitch and Chips. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Geist. Voting results were:

YES	Grasmick, Corbin-Romero, Geist, Herrera, Gurule, Cordova, Jung
NO	None
ABSENT	None

Motion carried 7-0


**PUBLIC COMMENT** - None

**ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA OR WORK SESSION**

None were mentioned.

**ADJOURN**

Motion to adjourn was made by Grasmick and there being no further business, Mayor Jung adjourned the meeting at 8:26 p.m.

  
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Susan Jung, Mayor

Attest:   
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City Clerk

