



## CITY OF ROCKY FORD – CITY COUNCIL MEETING

***December 14, 2021***

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

Mayor Jung, Councilmembers Larry Herrera, Sherry Cordova and Duane Gurule, City Manager Shannon Wallace, Parks and Recreation Director Stacey Milenski and Economic Development Coordinator Marty Lee met with Dave Mendenhall and Sally Cope of the Arkansas Valley Fair Board for discussion on procedures for applying for grant money for repairs and new structures at the Arkansas Valley Fairgrounds.

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

Rocky Ford City Council met in Council Chambers on Tuesday, December 14, 2021. Mayor Susan Jung called the meeting to order. Those present at roll call were:

Mayor: Susan Jung

Councilmembers: Larry Herrera, Duane Gurule, Sherry Cordova

Staff: City Manager Shannon Wallace, City Clerk Rebecca Korinek and Economic Development Coordinator Marty Lee

Others present: Gary Reed

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

Mayor Jung led the pledge of allegiance and explained the Agenda and Consent Agenda to Council and audience.

Councilmember Herrera moved to approve the agenda and consent agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cordova. Voting results were:

YES                      Herrera, Gurule, Cordova, Jung

NO                        None

ABSENT                Geist

Motion carried 4-0

Consent Item(s) approved:

1. City Council Meeting Minutes from November 23, 2021

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

City Tree Board member Diana Marshall gave Council a report on the Tree Board meeting held the previous night. The Board has been checking on the library play park and cleaning trash. The Board plans on thinning the brush at the East Park and the Board is still looking for the park to be adopted. The Board is asking Council to appoint Peggy Sue Corbin-Romero and Patrice McGowen to the Tree Board. The Tree Board will be meeting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month. The Board plans to hold an Arbor Day celebration in April.

Gary Reed approached Council to ask about the mill levy resolution that is on the agenda tonight. He asked if Council is increasing the mill levy, and if not, why does Council have to go through the process. City Manager Wallace answered his questions. Reed also asked about infrastructure and he asked when Council will raise water rates. City Manager Wallace commented that the city will try to get money from DOLA or other government agencies before raising any rates.

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

City Manager Shannon Wallace reported the following:

- Budget has been completed and a copy was distributed to Council.
- A copy of the CIRSA social media policy was distributed to Council.
- There is an Arbor Day Proclamation on the agenda for tonight's meeting.
- Shannon updated the job descriptions for Human Resource Director and Finance Director. Shannon informed Council of the changes that she would like. The changed job descriptions are on the agenda for tonight's meeting.
- All staff were very appreciative of the Christmas bonus.
- The Parade of Lights was held on Saturday and was a success.
- The Parks and Recreation Department held a dodgeball tournament. All toys received for entry fees will go to Kid's Crossing.
- Council was given copies of reports from staff regarding the need/not need for a security system.
- Council was given copies of a dispatch call report.
- Council was given a copy of a proposed contract for tonight's executive session.

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

Mayor Jung reported she attended a Colorado Municipal League (CML) Policy Committee meeting. This year's session will be very busy.

Councilmember Herrera reported that the Country Club Golf Course is still open.

Councilmember Gurule reported that the community remains concerned with the property at 701 Sycamore that is still under litigation. Gurule asked that fencing be put up for the protection and safety of the citizens. Gurule reports that someone has been dumping trash at the property. Gurule asked if any violations have been issued to that property. City Manager Wallace commented that she will check into it.

Gurule reported that he still gets many reports regarding dogs at large. The dispatch reports will be some help in trying to pinpoint that issue. Code Enforcement Officer Natasha Ortiz was in the audience so she answered questions that Council asked and she gave them information on how Code Enforcement is responding to reports of dogs at large.

Gurule commented that he had heard of a few burglaries of businesses, and in the last few months, churches, Southeast Mental Health Group and some trespassing issues. Gurule requested that the City Manager ask the Police Chief to inform Council about crime prevention and the process.

Councilmember Cordova reported that the Library Board met last week.

**STAFF REPORTS** - None

**OLD BUSINESS**

Councilmember Herrera moved to approve and adopt **Ordinance #966 – An Ordinance Amending Municipal Code 18-10-90, Article 10, Mobile Homes, Parks and Campgrounds Definitions. Adding to the Definitions “Tent”**, on second reading. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cordova. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 4-0

Councilmember Gurule moved to approve and adopt **Ordinance #963 – An Ordinance Levying Property Taxes for the Year 2021 to Help Defray the Costs of Government for the City of Rocky Ford, Colorado for the 2022 Budget Year, and for the Mill Levy on Each Dollar’s Worth of Property as per the Assessed Value Thereon, as Shown by the Assessor of Otero County for the Year 2021, as Fixed by the Board of Equalization**, on second reading. Councilmember Herrera seconded the motion. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 4-0

Councilmember Cordova moved to approve and adopt **Ordinance #964 – An Ordinance Summarizing Expenditures and Revenues for Each Fund and Adopting a Budget for the City of Rocky Ford, Colorado, for the Calendar Year Beginning on the First Day of January, 2022 and Ending on the Last Day of December, 2022**, on second reading. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Gurule. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 4-0

Councilmember Herrera moved to approve and adopt **Ordinance #965 – An Ordinance Appropriating Sums of Money to the Various Funds in the Amount and for the Purpose as Set Forth Below, for the City of Rocky Ford, Colorado, for the Year 2022 Budget Year**, on second reading. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Gurule. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 4-0

**Changes to City Fee Schedule – Approved at 11/23/21 Council Meeting**

Councilmember Cordova moved to approve the changes to the city fee schedule that were previously approved at the November 23, 2021 Council Meeting. Councilmember Herrera seconded the motion. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 4-0



## ***Verkada – Michael Robertson and Frank Valencia – 20 to 30 minutes***

City Manager Wallace informed Council that this matter will be discussed at a later date.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### ***Letters of Interest – Vacant Council Seats***

There were two (2) letters of interest. Mayor Jung asked Norman Railton to approach Council and introduce himself to Council and give some personal information. David Ortiz approached Council, introduced himself and gave Council some personal information about himself. Council asked questions of both parties. Councilmember Cordova moved that Council appoint Norman Railton to the vacant council seat in ward III. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Herrera. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 4-0

City Clerk Rebecca Korinek gave Norman Railton the Oath of Office. Norman Railton took his seat.

#### ***Cancel the City Council Meeting on Tuesday, December 28, 2021***

Councilmember Herrera moved to cancel the regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, December 28, 2021. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cordova. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 5-0

#### ***Changes to Job Descriptions – Finance Director and Human Resource Director***

Councilmember Herrera moved to approve the changes to the job descriptions of Human Resource Director and Finance Director. The motion was seconded by Gurule. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 5-0

#### ***Arbor Day Proclamation***

Councilmember Cordova moved to authorize the City Mayor to sign the Arbor Day Proclamation to be observed December 15, 2021. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Herrera. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 5-0

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Gary Reed thanked employees for issues running smoothly and thanked employees for delivering leaves to his goats.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Councilmember Cordova moved that Council go into Executive Session - ***for discussion of a personnel matter under C.R.S. §24-6-402 (2)(f) and not involving: an specific employees who have requested discussion of the matter in open session; any member of this body or any elected official; the appointment of any person to fill an office of this body or of an elected official; or personnel policies that do not require the discussion of matters personal to particular employees***, those going into executive session will be Larry Herrera, Duane Gurule, Sherry Cordova, Norman Railton, Mayor Susan Jung and City Manager Shannon Wallace. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Gurule. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 5-0

All the named persons went into executive session.

Executive session ended at 8:45 p.m. Mayor Jung reconvened the regular meeting at 8:46 p.m. Councilmember Railton moved to give a 5% raise to the City Manager. The Motion was seconded by Councilmember Herrera. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 5-0

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, Mayor Jung adjourned the meeting at 8:47 p.m.

Susan Jung  
Susan Jung, Mayor

Attest: Lebina Womack

City Clerk

