



CITY OF ROCKY FORD – CITY COUNCIL MEETING

April 26, 2022

WORK SESSION: 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Susan Jung, Councilmembers Larry Herrera, Duane Gurule, Johnette Fuller, Sherry Cordova, Rich Geist and Norman Railton, City Manager Shannon Wallace, Public Works Director Rick Long, Water/Wastewater Director Luke James attended a presentation given by Mike Hager with Element Engineering giving Council an update on the master plan

Others present: Gary Reed, J.R.Thompson

REGULAR MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

Rocky Ford City Council met in Council Chambers on Tuesday, April 26, 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, Rich Geist and Norman Railton

Staff: City Manager Shannon Wallace, City Attorney Nathan Shultz, City Clerk Rebecca Korinek, Public Works Director Rick Long, Water/Wastewater Director Luke James, Code Enforcement Officer Natasha Ortiz, Police Captain Carol Coates, Finance Director Azucena Holland, Fire Chief Ray Gonzales, Dispatch Supervisor June Ferraro, HR Director Shelly Valdez, Utilities office staff Robyn Platt and Mia Herrera, Many Public Works crew

Others present: Gary Reed, J.R. Thompson, Diane Marshall, Peggy Sue Romero, Nicholas Martinez, (citizen sign-in sheet was lost) names listed are from memory but does not include all those that were present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Jung explained the Agenda and Consent Agenda to Council and audience. Councilmember Gurule asked that the agenda item "pinning ceremony" be moved to the top of the agenda. City Manager Wallace informed all that the "pinning ceremony" would need to be continued to a later date. Councilmember Herrera moved to approve the agenda and consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Gurule. Voting results were:

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

NO None

ABSENT None

Motion carried 7-0

Consent Item(s) approved:

1. City Council meeting minutes from April 12, 2022
2. Application for Renewal of Retail Liquor or Fermented Malt Beverage License – **Mission Deli, 401 North 14th Street, Rocky Ford**

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Shannon Wallace reported the following:

- City Manager will send a weekly report to Council giving an update of the week.
- City Manager would like to meet with each Councilmember once a month for a coffee, lunch or meet in office.
- The evidence room audit is scheduled for May 14th and 15th at \$1,500 per day. Ute Bustamante will be in charge of the evidence room moving forward. Ute is also the records clerk for the Police, Fire and Dispatch departments.
- City Manager informed Council that when citizens ask to reserve the parks, they sometimes need to use water or electric. Shannon is wondering if Council would like to charge a fee for the use of water or electric. It was the general consensus of Council to charge a \$10 fee for use of water and electric at the parks.
- Otero County Landfill will be increasing their fees next year.
- Boxing donation will be discussed when the event gets rescheduled. Councilmember Gurule commented that he and Sherry Cordova will get together to discuss to see if they can work it out with no donation.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Jung reminded Council that the City Council is a unit, there is no I or me. Mayor Jung requested that Councilmembers report only about committees or boards that they represent. Mayor Jung requests that any other matters be taken to the City Manager on the Thursday before Council meetings to be placed on the agenda. Councilmember Gurule asked where citizen or community concerns will be addressed. Councilmember Herrera commented that maybe an added work session could be scheduled for discussion. Councilmember Gurule commented that he feels that his free speech would be suppressed. Much discussion was held.

Councilmember Herrera reported the following:

- Herrera will attend the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, May 2nd and will attend the Rocky Ford Country Club meeting next week.

Councilmember Gurule reported the following:

- Gurule attended an ice cream social at Washington Primary School.
- Gurule attended the easter egg hunt on the 16th hosted by the Rocky Ford Police Department.
- Gurule attended the Southeast Health Group Advisory Committee meeting on the 19th.
- Gurule attended the Ark Valley Casa heart of the valley lunch
- Cinco de Mayo celebration will be held on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at library park.

Councilmember Fuller reported the following:

- Nothing to report for tonight's meeting

Councilmember Cordova reported the following:

- Nothing to report for tonight's meeting

Diane Marshall with the Tree Board gave Council a report on the Arbor Day celebrations. Work has begun on the Library Park Gardens. Downtown flower boxes will be planted and the Board is looking for people or groups to adopt a box. Volunteers will plant flower boxes at the Nursing Home on May 12th

Councilmember Geist reported the following:

- The Museum will have Kevin Lindahl present a documentary on the Santa Fe Trail at 6:00 p.m.

Councilmember Railton reported the following:

- Nothing to report for tonight's meeting.

STAFF REPORTS - NONE

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilmember Geist made a motion to go into executive session - ***For the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and/or instructing negotiators, under C.R.S. § 24-6-402 (4) (e).*** The motion was seconded by Councilmember Railton. Voting results were:

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

Mayor Jung reported that those going into executive session would be Larry Herrera, Duane Gurule, Johnette Fuller, Sherry Cordova, Rich Geist, Norman Railton, Susan Jung, Shannon Wallace and Nathan Shultz. Mayor Jung recessed the regular meeting to go into executive session at 7:15 p.m.

Executive session ended at 8:50 p.m. and Mayor Jung resumed the regular meeting. Mayor Jung asked, if anyone that participated in executive session believed that any substantial discussion on any matters not included in the motion for the executive session occurred or that any impromptu action occurred during the executive session in violation of the open meeting law, that concerns be stated for the record.

OLD BUSINESS

Contract for City Manager

Councilmember Gurule made a motion not to extend the contract for City Manager Shannon Wallace. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cordova. Voting results were:

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

Motion failed 5-2

Councilmember Geist made a motion to approve the amended contract between the City of Rocky Ford and City Manager Shannon Wallace. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Railton. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 4-3

NEW BUSINESS

Proposed Ordinance #967 – Inflow and Infiltration

Council is waiting for a fee schedule to be determined. It was the general consensus of Council to continue this matter to the next regular Council work session for further discussion.

Discussion Regarding Changes to Ordinance Number #962

Council received proposed changes to the ordinance in their council packet. Councilmember Gurule moved to approve the proposed changes to the current ordinance #962. Councilmember Cordova seconded the motion. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 7-0

Discussion Regarding Sewer Rates in the Utility Billing System

Utility Technician's Mia Herrera and Robyn Platt informed Council of issues that they face with the current sewer resolution and gave Council their recommendations for needed changes to the current resolution. Much discussion was held. This matter will be discussed at the next Council work session. Councilmember Herrera moved to accept the recommendations of the Utilities department to make corrections to the resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Geist. Voting results were:

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

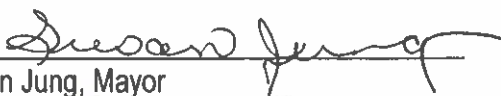
Motion carried 7-0

PUBLIC COMMENT

Nicholas Martinez commented that he was bothered that Mayor Jung keeps reminding Council that they should consider themselves (Council) as a unit. Martinez does not agree with that comment and feels that Councilmembers should be able to speak about whatever concerns their constituents bring to them.

ADJOURN

Councilmember Geist moved to adjourn, and there being no further business, Mayor Jung adjourned the regular meeting at meeting at 9:10 p.m.


Susan Jung, Mayor

Attest: 
City Clerk

