



## CITY OF ROCKY FORD – CITY COUNCIL MEETING

**September 24, 2024**

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

Mayor Duane Gurulé, Councilmembers Nicholas Martinez and Nicole Roberts, along with Nancy Aschermann and Rocky Ford Chamber of Commerce board member Susan Bumstead met for a work session to have discussion regarding the possible removal of an art sculpture donated by Aschermann and placed in front of the Gobin Building in 2020. Tonight's work session also included discussion on a City street signage project with Public Works Director Rick Long, Public Works Foreman Cuco Ruiz and Water/Wastewater Foreman Cody Baylor.

Others present: J. R. Thompson, Gary Reed, Ron and Nancy Aschermann, Susan Bumstead, Desiree Montano, Michael Montano and Lisa Perez

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

Rocky Ford City Council met in Council Chambers on Tuesday, September 24, 2024. Mayor Gurulé called the meeting to order. Those present at roll call were:

Mayor: Duane Gurulé

Councilmembers Present: Nicholas Martinez and Nicole Roberts

Councilmembers Absent: Larry Herrera, Robert Barron, Sherry Cordova and Thomas Mullins

City Staff Present: Public Works Director, Water/Wastewater Foreman Cody Baylor, Public Works Foreman Cuco Ruiz and City Clerk Rebecca Korinek

Public in attendance for tonight's meeting: Gary Reed, J. R. Thompson, Rocky Ford High School Students Donavyn West, Nayoka Torrez, Sawyer Menz and Teacher Aide Juanita Valdez

Mayor Gurulé led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilmember Nicholas Martinez read aloud the City of Rocky Ford's Mission Statement

**Mayor Gurulé announced that there were not enough Councilmembers present at tonight's meeting to have a quorum and no official City business would be conducted. Gurulé informed all those in attendance that some of the Rocky Ford High School students will go ahead and give a presentation regarding "Homecoming Week" festivities and then Gurulé, Roberts and Martinez will give their Council comments.**

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No one from the audience came forward for public comment

### **ANY CHANGES TO, OR REMOVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEM**

No Quorum – Consent agenda items will be on the agenda for Tuesday, October 8, 2024.

### **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

No Quorum – Consent agenda items will be on the agenda for Tuesday, October 8, 2024.

Consent Agenda Item(s) for tonight were:

1. Approval of previous meeting minutes for September 10, 2024
2. Application for Renewal of Medical Marijuana License – **Rocky Farms, LLC, dba Rocky Farms, 1709 Swink Ave., Rocky Ford**

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

No Quorum

## **PRESENTATIONS, AWARDS, PROCLAMATIONS**

Presentation: Rocky Ford High School Students Donavyn West, Nayoka Torrez and Sawyer Menz, along with Teacher's Aide Juanita Valdez gave Council information on how they will celebrate the homecoming week. Sawyer Menz reported that he is the student council president, FFA president Donavyn West, gave information about the annual chili supper set for Friday, September 27<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. Adult cost is \$10.00, \$5.00 for children over 7 years and free for children 6 years and younger. Tickets may be purchased at the door. West mentioned that cinnamon rolls would also be served. Entry to the cafeteria will be on the side where the kids are dropped off. Then, after supper, the homecoming football game at 6:00 p.m. Nayoka Torrez, a cheerleader for Rocky Ford High School, reported that the pep rally will be held on Wednesday, September 25<sup>th</sup> at 3:20 p.m. and will be open to the public in the Gym, the volleyball and softball games will be on Thursday, the annual Parade Friday afternoon and the homecoming dance Friday night. Sawyer Menz gave information about the week's festivities and dress-up days. Monday is "decades day", Tuesday is "movie character day", Wednesday is picture day for everyone, so the dress-up theme will be "look nice day" and Thursday is "red and gold day".

## **STAFF REPORTS**

City Manager Stacey Milenski is on vacation this week and had earlier provided her report to Council by email.

Museum Curator Rob Marshall submitted his monthly report (written only).

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

None – No Public Hearing was set for tonight's meeting

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None – No Old Business was set for tonight's agenda

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None – No Executive Session was set for tonight's agenda

## **NEW BUSINESS**

None – No Quorum – New Business scheduled for tonight's meeting. Will be carried over to Tuesday, October 8, 2024.

- Request to Close Public Street – **Arkansas Valley Balloon Festival – Saturday, November 2, 2024 – Main Street from Washington Ave. to Front Street and Front Street North of City Hall and Parking lot (PARADE ONLY)**
- Lease Agreement between the City of Rocky Ford and the Rocky Ford Country Club (APPROVE/DISAPPROVE)
- Discussion - Proposed Sale City Real Property at 8<sup>th</sup> and Pine – Parcel #444318241012
- Acceptance of Resignation of Councilmember Sherry Cordova Ward I

## PUBLIC COMMENT

No one from the audience came forward for public comment

## MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Herrera reported the following:

- Herrera not present at tonight's meeting.

Councilmember Barron reported the following:

- Barron not present at tonight's meeting.

Councilmember Martinez reported the following:

- Martinez reported that the community clean-up days are September 27<sup>th</sup> and September 28<sup>th</sup>.
- No Tree Board meeting lately. The Tree Board and Chamber of Commerce will be helping and co-sponsoring the Trunk or Treat this year at Crystal Lake. Martinez will help the Chamber out at the Melon Chunkin Festival.
- Martinez thanked the Grand Theater for showing the, faith-based, movie "The Forge".

Councilmember Cordova reported the following:

- Cordova not present at tonight's meeting.

Councilmember Roberts reported the following:

- Roberts thanked all those that attended the Melon Chunkin Festival and for attending other events.
- Chamber of Commerce will have a flea market this coming weekend. The Annual Craft Fair is on November 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend in conjunction with the Annual Balloon Festival.

Councilmember Mullins reported the following:

- Mullins not present at tonight's meeting.

Mayor Gurulé reported the following:

- Gurulé reported that he attended the Mayor's Leadership Academy at the end of last week. Gurulé will attend another session in October.
- Gurulé attended the last OPI/OCLI meeting. Nothing new for the Otero County Landfill (OCLI) The Otero Partner's Inc. (OPI) reviewed a loan application from the new owners of the Copper Kitchen.
- Gurulé and Councilmember Barron attended "Profile of a Graduate".
- Gurulé attended the Melon Chunkin Festival and will, on Wednesday, attend the CML District 6 meeting to be held in La Junta.
- Gurulé reminded everyone that the community clean-up days will be this coming weekend Friday and Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. This is paid for out of the City's garbage fund and gives the community the opportunity to get rid of a truckload of larger items. The Clean Valley Recycle Center will also be on hand to accept TV's, computer monitors and small /large electronics (@ .50 cents per pound). Volunteers will be happily accepted.

## • UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

Tuesday, October 8, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. for Work session and 7:00 p.m. for Regular Council meeting

Tuesday, October 22, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. for Work session and 7:00 p.m. for Regular Council meeting

## ADJOURN

Being that no further business could be conducted, Mayor Gurulé adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

  
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Mayor Duane Gurulé



  
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City Clerk Rebecca Korinek

Attest