



CITY OF ROCKY FORD – CITY COUNCIL MEETING

September 8, 2020

WORK SESSION:

Mayor Susan Jung, Councilmembers Jolly Rose, Rich Geist, Cuco Ruiz, Peggy Sue Corbin-Romero and Daryl Grasmick met in Council Chambers to prepare for interviews for the vacant Council seat in Ward I. Discussion was held. Work session ended.

REGULAR MEETING:

Rocky Ford City Council met in session at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 8, 2020 in Council Chambers. Mayor Susan Jung called the meeting to order. Those present at roll call were:

Mayor: Susan Jung

Councilmembers: Rich Geist, Jolly Rose, Cuco Ruiz, Daryl Grasmick and Peggy Sue Corbin-Romero

Staff: Deputy City Clerk Rebecca Korinek

Others present: Margarito Garcia, Maria Garcia, Nicole Roberts, Johnette Fuller, Marty Lee, Sherry Cordova, Lisa Montanez and Ernie Montanez.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Rose moved to approve the minutes from the August 25, 2020 council meeting as presented. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Ruiz. Voting results were:

YES Rose, Ruiz, Corbin-Romero, Geist, Jung

NO None

ABSENT None

ABSTAIN Grasmick

Motion carried 5-0, with one abstention

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION - None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilmember Ruiz moved to approve the Agenda with the deletion of C. (code of conduct) under new business. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Rose. Voting results were:

YES Ruiz, Grasmick, Corbin-Romero, Geist, Rose, Jung

NO None

ABSENT None

Motion carried 6-0

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Shannon Wallace was not present at the meeting but she had prepared a written report. Mayor Susan Jung reported the following:

- The City has received two quotes for the air/heat replacement at the Senior Citizens Center (Sage).
- Police Department would like to purchase a new radio console for their radios. The cost of the console is \$5,708. This console is very important and much needed.
- The City submitted a letter to CDPHE regarding the City's noncompliance violation. The CDPHE has accepted the City's offer letter.
- City Auditors have been conducting a "mini audit" to see if the City is on track for 2020 or if changes are needed to prepare for the 2021 budget season.
- The City employee's retirement program has successfully been changed to One America.
- Shannon attended some classes from the Colorado Municipal League's (CML) virtual conference and also attended Women Leading Colorado conference.

OLD BUSINESS

510 South 4th Street

Lisa and Ernie Montanez addressed Council regarding City owned property at 510 S. 4th Street. The Montanez's informed Council that they are interested in purchasing this property for development and they wanted to know more information about the lot size, price and if there was water and sewer availability. Some discussion was held regarding what the Montanez's plans were for the development of the lot. Mayor Jung advised the Montanez's to consult with Public Works Director Rick Long about their concerns and discussion could be held again at the next regular meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Ward I Interviews and Appointment

Sherry Cordova, 302 Elm Avenue, Rocky Ford and Nicole Roberts, 800 S. 6th Street, Rocky Ford gave Council their reasons for wanting to fill the vacant Council seat for Ward I. Mayor Susan Jung informed Cordova and Roberts of how a City type of government works and the employees that report directly to the City Council. Council had a list of prepared interview questions that was asked of Cordova and Roberts.

Councilmember Grasmick moved to appoint Sherry Cordova as a Councilmember for Ward I. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rose. Voting results were:

YES	Grasmick, Corbin-Romero, Geist, Rose, Ruiz, Jung
NO	None
ABSENT	None

Motion carried 6-0

Nicole Roberts congratulated Sherry Cordova and thanked the Council for their consideration. Oath of office was administered to Cordova, who then took her place on Council.

Air/Heat – (Sage) Senior Citizens Center

Two bids have been received for a heating//air conditioning unit for the Senior Citizens Center (Sage). GSK Refrigeration's bid in the amount of \$14,917.64 and Norton HVAC's bid in the amount of \$16,850.06. City Mayor Susan Jung informed Council that she believed that City Manager Wallace was waiting for a few more bids and the Mayor requested that Council table this matter to the next meeting. It was the general consensus of Council to table the matter to the next meeting.

Police Department – Radio Console

The Rocky Ford Police Department is in need of a new radio console to properly maintain the communication equipment required for patrol and dispatch. The purchase is considered necessary and the funding will come from the salaries budgeted in 2020. The Rocky Ford Police Department has not been fully staffed for the year and the City Auditors have approved the use of these funds to buy the console. Councilmember Ruiz moved to approve and authorize the purchase of the Motorola radio console. Councilmember Geist seconded the motion. Voting results were:

YES Grasmick, Corbin-Romero, Geist, Rose, Ruiz, Cordova, Jung
NO None
ABSENT None

Motion carried 7-0

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION - None

STAFF REPORTS/UPDATES - None

MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL REPORTS OR UPDATES

Councilmember Rose reported that the Planning Commission meeting was cancelled for the month and Otero County Landfill, Inc. (OCLI) and Otero Partners Inc. (OPI) will have their meeting later this month.

Councilmember Geist reported that the Museum will have a Board meeting on Thursday.

Councilmember Ruiz reported that the Library Board had a short meeting and there was not much to report.

Councilmember Corbin-Romero reported that the Grand Theater re-opened and volunteers are needed. Anyone interested should call Francie Miller or Mike Shima. Corbin Romero also reported that she has not found anyone interested in serving on the Tree Board. Johnette Fuller, an audience member, expressed her desire to serve. Councilmember Rose moved to appoint Johnette Fuller to the Tree Board. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Corbin-Romero. Voting results were:

YES Corbin-Romero, Geist, Rose, Ruiz, Cordova, Grasmick, Jung
NO None
ABSENT None

Motion carried 7-0

Councilmember Corbin-Romero requested that a work session be held to discuss when performance reviews are due for the City Manager, City Attorney and Municipal Court Judge. Corbin-Romero also requested that the City Manager provide information on the expenditures of each department on vehicle gas and maintenance, as well as who is taking City vehicles to their homes at the end of their shift.

Mayor Jung reported that she attended the Colorado Municipal League's (CML) virtual Mayor's Mingle. The meeting topic centered on the new state regulations regarding police departments. The new regulations do not look well for small and rural departments from a financial position. CML will have a policy meeting on October 11, 2020. New laws would have a \$25,000 unprotected liability in civil suits and also that body cameras would need to be downloaded after each shift. This would increase costs involved with storage and reporting requirements to the State.

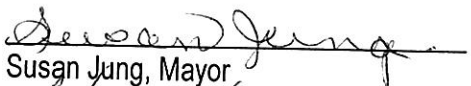
There was some general discussion about grant writers and the current situation with available grants.

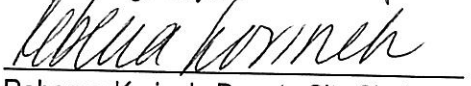
AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING OR WORK SESSION

- Review City ordinances
- Review personnel policies
- Permits for Construction
- Crystal Lake
- Conduit

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Jung adjourned the meeting at 8:25 p.m.


Susan Jung, Mayor


Rebecca Korinek, Deputy City Clerk

