



CITY OF ROCKY FORD – CITY COUNCIL MEETING

May 23, 2023

WORK SESSION: 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Susan Jung, Councilmembers Nicholas Martinez, Larry Herrera, Duane Gurule, Sherry Cordova, Nicole Roberts and Scott Kerr, along with City Manager Shannon Wallace met to have discussion with the Museum Board. Donna Bush called earlier in the day to postpone this discussion.

Others present: J.R. Thompson, Gary Reed and Robert Barron

REGULAR MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

Rocky Ford City Council met in Council Chambers on Tuesday, May 23, 2023. Mayor Jung called the meeting to order. Those present at roll call were:

Mayor: Susan Jung

Councilmembers: Larry Herrera, Duane Gurule, Nicholas Martinez, Sherry Cordova, Nicole Roberts and Scott Kerr

Staff: City Manager Shannon Wallace, City Clerk Rebecca Korinek, Fire Chief Ray Gonzales, Police Officer Skyler Garrelts, Sargeant Tim Moore, Police Officer Robert Powel

Others present: J. R. Thompson, Gary Reed, Robert Barron, Ed Bryant, Mark Scott, Kevin Meador, Jaime Guterrez Nancy and Ron Aschermann, Jerry Baca, Morton Gauna and Stephanie Jaramillo

Mayor Jung led the pledge of allegiance.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jaime Guterrez, 300 S. 6th Street, asked Council for an update of the possibility of watering the dust on Walnut and Maple Street. City Manager Wallace addressed this issue.

STAFF REPORTS

Fire Chief Ray Gonzales informed Council of the current reporting system. Increase in call volume is not meeting the needs of the department. Gonzales has been researching new systems and their functionality. After much research, Gonzales asked Council to approve the purchase of ESO for a one-year contract. Funds for this contract will come from the Wildland Program.

Gonzales also asked Council for authorization to donate the old rescue truck, 1999 Ford F-super-duty 4 x 4, to the Rural Fire Protection District. The RFRFPD will pay for all conversions to the vehicle.

Gonzales informed Council that it is National EMS Week, May 21 – May 26, 2023 and asked Council to give a shout out to all EMS personnel and thank them for what they do.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Shannon Wallace had previously emailed her report to Council but added the following:

- MOU with the Fair Board was distributed to Council and Council was asked for any feedback. Gurule asked that the dumpster size be notated and that the electricity issue also be noted.
- The Wrestling Foundation did not get their application for a special event permit submitted. Council will have a special meeting to determine that issue.
- The seasonal employee handbook change was distributed.
- Information for phase two of the Walnut Avenue project was given out. Wallace asked Council if they wished to request additional bids. Public Works Director Rick Long will put out notice.
- The city is on the list for CDPHE clean-up.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Jung reported the following:

- Nothing to report for tonight's meeting.

Councilmember Herrera reported the following:

- Nothing to report for tonight's meeting.

Councilmember Gurule reported the following:

- Gurule reported on OCLI/OPI meetings.
- Gurule attended to spring Colorado Municipal League (CML) meeting.
- Gurule will be attending the CML conference June 25, 26 and 27.
- School will be ending soon. More kids will be around.
- Thanked the American Legion Post for putting flags out.

Councilmember Martinez reported the following:

- Martinez reported on Tree Board seed swap and other upcoming projects. Flower boxes will be planted on June 3rd.

Councilmember Cordova reported the following:

- Cordova reported that Library Board will meet on June 6th.

Councilmember Roberts reported the following:

- Nothing to report for tonight's meeting.

Councilmember Kerr reported the following:

- Nothing to report for tonight's meeting.

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA

Mayor Jung asked to add, under new business, 8.3 Rocky Ford Ditch and 8.4 ESO contract.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Jung explained the Agenda and Consent Agenda to Council and audience. Councilmember Herrera moved to approve the agenda and consent agenda with the additions requested. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cordova. Voting results were:

YES	Gurule, Cordova, Roberts, Kerr, Martinez, Herrera, Jung
NO	None
ABSENT	None

Motion carried 7-0

Consent Item(s) approved:

1. City Council meeting minutes from May 9, 2023.
2. Application for Colorado Beer and Wine License Renewal – **Rocky Ford Food Market, 800 Chestnut Avenue, Rocky Ford**

PUBLIC HEARING – *UPOP Holdings, LLC dba J.R.'s Country Store, whose officers are Andrew Day, Mark Stowers, Mick Patel and Amit Patel, requested the licensing officials of the City of Rocky Ford, Colorado, to grant a transfer of ownership of the Colorado Fermented Malt Beverage License from J.R.'s Country Store to UPOP Holdings, LLC dba J.R.'s Country Store, 1207 Elm Avenue, Rocky Ford, CO*

Mayor Jung recessed the regular meeting at 7:40 p.m. and opened the public hearing.

Manager of J.R.'s Country Store Josh Torgler gave Council information about the proposed transfer of ownership. Torgler assured Council that the company is very diligent regarding the sale of alcohol to minors.

City Clerk Rebecca Korinek informed Council that all the necessary paperwork and fees have been received.

Hearing no other comments, Mayor Jung closed the public hearing at 7:45 p.m. and resumed the regular meeting.

Councilmember Gurule moved to approve the request for transfer ownership of the Colorado Fermented Malt Beverage License from J.R.'s Country Store to UPOP Holdings, LLC dba J.R.'s Country Store, 1207 Elm Avenue, Rocky Ford. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Kerr. Voting results were:

YES	Cordova, Roberts, Kerr, Martinez, Herrera, Gurule, Jung
NO	None
ABSENT	None

Motion carried 7-0

OLD BUSINESS

Arkansas Valley Conduit Update

Principal Engineer Kevin Meador and AVC Coordinator and Principal Engineer Mark Scott gave Council a project update. Much discussion was held.

Resolution #6 – Series 2023 – A Resolution Authorizing the City of Rocky Ford to Amend Verbiage in Ordinance #757.

Councilmember Roberts moved to approve and authorize Resolution #6 – Series 2023 – a resolution authorizing the City of Rocky Ford to amend verbiage in ordinance #757, with the requested changes. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cordova. Voting results were:

YES Roberts, Kerr, Martinez, Herrera, Gurule, Cordova, Jung
NO None
ABSENT None

Motion carried 7-0

NEW BUSINESS

Pinning Ceremony for New Police Officer Robert Powell

Robert Powell was pinned by his wife.

Approval of old rescue truck to the RFRFPD

This matter was discussed earlier in the meeting. Councilmember Martinez moved to approve and authorize the donation of the old rescue truck to the Rocky Ford Rural Fire Protection District. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Roberts.

Voting results were:

YES Kerr, Martinez, Herrera, Gurule, Cordova, Roberts, Jung
NO None
ABSENT None

Motion carried 7-0

Rocky Ford Ditch

Ron Aschermann gave Council much information regarding the Rocky Ford Ditch. Much discussion was held.

ESO Contract

This matter was discussed earlier in the meeting. Councilmember Roberts moved to approved and authorize Fire Chief Ray Gonzales to sign a contract with EOS. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cordova. Voting results were:

YES Herrera, Gurule, Cordova, Roberts, Kerr, Martinez, Jung
NO None
ABSENT None

Motion carried 7-0

PUBLIC COMMENT

Robert Barron, 1104 Virginia, asked if Council will continue the "coffee with council". Some discussion was held regarding this matter.

Councilmember Gurule asked that the general public be asked if they have comment on anything that may have been discussed at work session and not the regular meeting.

Councilmember Herrera gave an update on the grants, through the Elk's Club, that he has been working on.

ADJOURN

Councilmember Cordova moved to adjourn and there being no further business, Mayor Jung adjourned the regular meeting at 8:47 p.m.


Susan Jung, Mayor

Attest:  Rebecca Korinek, City Clerk

