



## ROCKY FORD CITY COUNCIL

February 26, 2019

Rocky Ford City Council met in Council Chambers for a work session at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 26, 2019, with Interim City Manager Shannon Wallace. Others present were Rick Long, Erik Encinias, Jolly Rose, Christian Burney, Peggy Sue Corbin Romero, Cheryl Grasmick, Laura Thompson and the new dispatch employees. Public Works Director Rick Long introduced Erik Encinias, Public Works Foreman. June Ferraro, the new Dispatch Supervisor, introduced new Dispatch employees Camea Baggs, Heidi Eddy, Erica Stetler and Patrick Arrona. Interim City Manager Shannon Wallace introduced Azucena Estrada, new Finance Director. Public Works Director Long gave an update on water issues and sewer lagoons. Interim City Manager Wallace advised Council that the Arkansas Valley Fair & Exposition Board would like to add grandstands over by the announcer's booth on fairgrounds.

Following the work session, Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Thompson called meeting to order. Those present at roll call were:

Mayor: J. R. Thompson

Councilmembers: Susan Jung, Cuco Ruiz, Marty Lee, Rachel Patrick, Rich Geist, Barbara Hunter

Staff: Interim City Manager Shannon Wallace, City Attorney Bart Mendenhall, City Clerk Cheryl Grasmick

Others present: Larry and Phyllis Boley, Tom Martin, Jessie Smith, Peggy Sue Corbin Romero, Daryl Grasmick, Jolly Rose, Laura Thompson, Christian Burney, Kathy Benz.

Mayor Thompson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Councilmember Jung moved to approve the minutes from the regular **February 12, 2019** council meeting as presented. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Patrick. Voting results were:

YES Jung, Ruiz, Patrick, Geist, Hunter, Thompson

NO None

ABSTAIN Lee

Motion carried 6-0, with one abstaining.

### **CITIZEN PARTICIPATION - None**

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

Mayor Thompson added the following two (2) items to the agenda: (1) authorize Mayor to sign letter of confirmation of funds to H.E. Whitlock for bonding company and (2) approve contract with Wayne Walter Excavating for fire hydrant repair. It was moved by Councilmember Patrick and seconded by Councilmember Lee to approve the agenda with consent item as presented and with the noted additions. Voting results were:

YES Jung, Ruiz, Lee, Patrick, Geist, Hunter, Thompson  
NO None

Motion carried 7-0.

Consent items approved were:

- approval of special event permit license on Mar 25, 2019 for Rocky Ford Chamber of Commerce, Gobin Building, 107 N Main, Rocky Ford, and
- approval of fermented malt beverage license for J.R.s Country Store #503, 1207 Elm, Rocky Ford, CO.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### ***List of City Properties: Utilities-1101 Lincoln Lease***

Councilmember Patrick moved to request that Interim City Manager Wallace check into the cost of splitting the water meters by the water plant so that water provided to renter at 1101 Lincoln could be metered and of assigning cost of the utilities to the renter. Councilmember Jung seconded motion.

Voting results were:

YES Jung, Ruiz, Lee, Patrick, Geist, Hunter, Thompson  
NO None

Motion carried 7-0.

#### ***City Property***

Following lengthy discussion and debate, it was moved by Councilmember Lee and seconded by Councilmember Patrick to add the former Hollar Building property at 9<sup>th</sup> and Railroad to the list of City properties provided to Council and to request that Interim City Manager Wallace research the potential property prices and any complications involved with selling the properties, and bring this report back to Council so they might explore the possibilities of selling the properties on the list. Voting results were:

YES Jung, Ruiz, Lee, Patrick, Geist, Hunter, Thompson  
NO None

Motion carried 7-0.

### **RESOLUTION CONSIDERATION**

Resolution #2, 2019 Series, was presented to Council for their consideration. Councilmember Jung moved to approve and adopt **Resolution #1, 2019 Series: A Resolution Authorizing City Officials To Conduct Transactions With The State Bank of Colorado** as presented. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Patrick. Voting results were:

YES Jung, Ruiz, Lee, Patrick, Geist, Hunter, Thompson  
NO None

Motion carried 7-0.

Currently there are only 2 individuals, Mayor Thompson and City Clerk Grasmick, that may sign checks and handle transaction with the State Bank. This resolution addresses the addition of 2 more individuals to sign

checks and handle transactions, to avoid problems in case the other 2 individuals are not available. Two signatures are required on every check for payment from the City.

**STAFF REPORTS**

***Letter to H.E. Whitlock***

Interim City Manager Shannon Wallace presented a letter addressed to H.E. Whitlock that was requested by their bonding company. This letter confirms that funds were available to finish phase I of the new public safety building. Mayor Thompson read the letter out loud for the record. It was moved by Councilmember Jung and seconded by Councilmember Lee to authorize the Mayor to sign the letter to H.E. Whitlock confirming financing for the public safety building, as presented. Voting results were:

YES	Jung, Ruiz, Lee, Patrick, Geist, Hunter, Thompson
NO	None

Motion carried 7-0.

***Fire Hydrants Repair***

Interim City Manager Wallace presented a bid from Wayne Walter Excavating for repair of three fire hydrants. Councilmember Lee moved to approve the contract with Wayne Walter Excavating for repair of three fire hydrants for the total cost of \$3,300.00, as presented, and to authorize the Mayor to sign contract. Councilmember Patrick seconded motion. Voting results were:

YES	Jung, Ruiz, Lee, Patrick, Geist, Hunter, Thompson
NO	None

Motion carried 7-0.

**RF RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT – APPROVAL OF IGA**

Councilmember Ruiz moved to not move forward with the IGA between the City of Rocky Ford and the Rocky Ford Rural Fire Protection District at this time. The motion died for a lack of a second.

Interim City Manager Wallace and Councilmember Lee represented the City in negotiations with the RF Rural Fire Board to prepare the proposed agreement. Councilmember Lee listed the following amendments and correction to the agreement draft presented to Council earlier:

1. Change "Memorandum of Agreement" to "Intergovernmental Agreement".
2. Strike set number of volunteers listed on page 2, item 2 of terms. This was eliminated because it is not known how many volunteers will actually respond to each call.
3. Add the word "agents" to item 3 wording - "all maintenance of District equipment shall be performed by certified personnel and 'agents'".
4. Add the word "area" to wording in item 4 for where dispatch services will be provided.
5. Fix typo in the 'Whereas' section.

Following discussion, Councilmember Patrick moved to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Rocky Ford and the Rocky Ford Rural Fire Protections District as presented, with the noted amendments and typo correction, and to authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Jung. Voting results were:

YES	Jung, Lee, Patrick, Geist, Hunter, Thompson
NO	Ruiz

Motion carried 6-1.

**MAYOR/CITY COUNCIL REPORTS/UPDATES**

Councilmember Jung gave an update on the recent CML meeting she attended in Denver. She asked Council if she could be reimbursed \$110.00 for the registration fee she paid to attend the CML meeting. Then Councilmember Jung reminded Council that First Responders would be recognized at the March 12 Council meeting.

It was moved by Councilmember Patrick and seconded by Councilmember Lee to reimburse Councilmember Susan Jung \$110.00 for the CML meeting registration fee. Voting results were:

YES	Ruiz, Lee, Patrick, Geist, Hunter, Thompson
NO	None
ABSTAIN	Jung

Motion carried 6-0, with one abstaining.

Councilmember Ruiz reported the Library Board will hold special meeting to discuss transfer of some of their building funds to the public safety building fund.

Councilmember Lee attended several meetings for Rocky Ford Rural Fire Protection District and worked on agreement with their board. He will attend Council of Governments meeting February 27. Lee reported that OCLI and OPI both restructured to include the newly elected Otero County commissioner. Landfill closed down site 1 and will oversee when weather is favorable. County road and bridge crews finished bridgework on County Road 21 and will open road by end of week. Highway 71 will be closed between Rocky Ford and Ordway until October while Arkansas River Bridge is replaced. OPI modified loan agreement with Sign Shop.

Councilmember Geist and Museum Board President Daryl Grasmick reported on the recent Museum Board meeting. Museum Board received a grant of between \$5,000-\$6,000 from Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad to set up display section dedicated to railroad memorabilia. The display will be located in courtyard between Carnegie Building and Carriage House. Mr. Grasmick thanked City for installing requested lights at Museum. The guest lecture series at museum will resume in April.

Councilmember Hunter reported Tree Board cancelled their meeting but are planning an Arbor Day celebration with details to be announced.

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION**

Tom Martin, local resident, announced that he planned to apply for open seat in Ward II, created when Councilmember Rachel Patrick officially resigns March 12, 2019. He gave a brief biography of his real estate and business experience and also advised Council that purchasing the County road grader would be a wise purchase. He thanked Council for letting him speak.

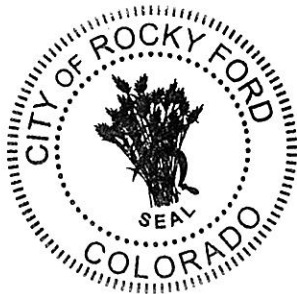
**ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AT FUTURE AGENDA**


- Rocky Ford Country Club Lease Agreement
- Chamber of Commerce Lease Agreement for Gobin Building
- Departmental Reports
- Work session with R2 School Board
- Review City Code

- Review City employee salary schedule
- Purchase of County grader
- Discuss city manager contract

**ADJOURNMENT**

Councilmember Lee moved to adjourn. There being no further business, Mayor Thompson adjourned meeting.



  
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J. R. Thompson, Mayor

  
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Cheryl Grasmick, City Clerk