



CITY OF ROCKY FORD – CITY COUNCIL MEETING

NOVEMBER 23, 2021

WORK SESSION: 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Jung and Councilmembers: Rich Geist, Daryl Grasmick, Duane Gurule, Sherry Cordova and Peggy Sue Corbin-Romero. Economic Development Coordinator Marty Lee, City Manager Shannon Wallace, City Clerk Rebecca Korinek, Fire Chief Ray Gonzales, Jesse Smith, Police Captain Carol Coates and Code Enforcement Officer Natasha Ortiz gathered in Council Chambers to honor outgoing Councilmembers Daryl Grasmick and Peggy Sue Corbin-Romero. Cake was enjoyed by all.

REGULAR MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

Rocky Ford City Council met in Council Chambers on Tuesday, November 23, 2021. Mayor Susan Jung called the meeting to order. Those present at roll call were:

Mayor: Susan Jung

Councilmembers: Larry Herrera, Duane Gurule, Daryl Grasmick, Sherry Cordova, Rich Geist and Peggy Sue Corbin Romero

Staff: City Manager Shannon Wallace, City Clerk Rebecca Korinek, Fire Chief Ray Gonzales, Jesse Smith and Economic Development Coordinator Marty Lee.

Others present: James Massengill

Mayor Jung led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Grasmick moved to approve the minutes of the **November 9, 2021** Council meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Corbin-Romero. Voting results were:

YES	Herrera, Gurule, Cordova, Grasmick, Corbin-Romero, Geist, Jung
NO	None
ABSENT	None

Motion carried 7-0

OLD BUSINESS

Ordinance #966 – ***An Ordinance Amending Municipal Code 18-10-90 Article 10, Mobile Homes, Parks and Campgrounds Definitions. Adding to the Definitions “Tent”, on first reading.***

Councilmember Geist moved to approve and adopt Ordinance #966 – ***An Ordinance Amending Municipal Code 18-10-90 Article 10, Mobile Homes, Parks and Campgrounds Definitions. Adding to the Definitions “Tent”, on first reading.*** The motion was seconded by Councilmember Geist. Voting results were:

YES	Gurule, Cordova, Grasmick, Corbin Romero, Geist, Herrera, Jung
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NO None
ABSENT None

Motion carried 7-0

COUNCIL ADJOURNMENT SINE DIE

There being no further business, Mayor Jung adjourned meeting of the outgoing Council at 7:05 p.m.

ADMINISTRATION OF OATHS OF OFFICE TO NEWLY APPOINTED OFFICIALS

City Clerk Rebecca Korinek administered the oath of office to newly appointed Mayor Susan Jung, and to appointed Councilmembers Larry Herrera, Duane Gurule and Sherry Cordova. Susan Jung took her seat as Mayor and Larry Herrera, Duane Gurule and Sherry Cordova took their respective seats as Councilmembers.

Mayor Jung called the meeting to order. Those present at roll call were:

Mayor: Susan Jung

Councilmembers: Larry Herrera, Duane Gurule, Rich Geist and Sherry Cordova

Staff: City Manager Shannon Wallace, City Clerk Rebecca Korinek, Fire Chief Ray Gonzales, Jesse Smith and Economic Development Coordinator Marty Lee

Others present: James Massingill

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Jung explained the Agenda and Consent Agenda to Council and audience. Councilmember Herrera asked that a few errors be corrected on the application for special event permit filed by the Chamber of Commerce (some of the dates were not correct) Councilmember Herrera moved to approve the agenda and consent agenda with the corrections. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Geist. Voting results were:

YES Cordova, Geist, Herrera, Gurule, Jung

NO None

ABSENT None

Motion carried 5-0

Consent Items approved:

1. Application for Liquor License Renewal – **Rocky Ford BPOE #1147, Elks Lodge, 301 N. 9th, Rocky Ford, CO**
2. Application for Liquor License Renewal – **Len’s Tavern, 901 Railroad Avenue, Rocky Ford, CO**
3. Application for Special Event Permit – **Chamber of Commerce – Gobin Building for Saturday, November 27, 2021 from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.**

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

City Manager Shannon Wallace reported on the following:

- City Manager Wallace gave Council spreadsheets containing information for all the city funds for the proposed 2022 budget. The spreadsheets were also sent to the City Auditors. Some discussion was held.

- Shannon requested that Council approve her to pay Christmas bonus' to employees this year. Councilmember Gurule moved to allow City Manager Shannon Wallace to pay out Christmas bonus' (Option 1) to City employees. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cordova. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 5-0

- Employees received a coupon for a turkey or a ham for Thanksgiving this year
- Shannon asked that Council approve her to have a Human Resource audit conducted for approximately \$5,000, to audit personnel files and policies and procedures manual. This money would come from a dividend from Pinnacle Worker Compensation. Councilmember Gurule asked that City Manager use some of the dividend money to allow employees to attend trainings or certifications. Councilmember Gurule motioned to allow an HR audit for approximately \$5,000 and allocate \$27,000 for professional development for the employees of the City of Rocky Ford. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Geist. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 5-0

- Shannon emailed Rebecca Goodwin regarding restoration procedures if the Cemetery is put on the National Registry and Rebecca Goodwin sent Shannon some feedback on that matter.
- Shannon gave Council some information regarding her upcoming performance evaluation and contract.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Jung thanked the seated Councilmembers and she commented that she is looking forward to the coming year. Mayor Jung read aloud a thank you note received by the Rocky Ford School Board for Council's support of the school bond initiative. Mayor Jung reported that she will attend the Colorado Municipal League (CML) executive board meeting on December 10th in Denver. Mayor Jung reported that an email was received from J. R. Thompson giving praise to Officer Enrique Guzman.

City Manager Wallace commented that she will be awarding Officer Guzman with an "Employee of the Month" award.

Councilmember Geist had nothing to report.

Councilmember Cordova reported that she attended the Library Board meeting. The Library Friends purchased five (5) computers for the library. Stacey Milenski was informally appointed to the Library Board. Cordova mentioned that there was some discussion regarding an emotional support animal that may or may not be allowed to be in the library.

City Manager Wallace commented that she, City Attorney Nathan Shultz and Library Director Leanna Chavez are looking into the matter. Councilmember Herrera suggested that someone should seek guidance from the Government regarding the American Disabilities Act.

Councilmember Cordova asked Council to remove her from attending the Chamber of Commerce Board meetings. Cordova has been unable to attend the meetings due to personal obligations.

Councilmember Gurule reported that the Small Town Project hosted a Thanksgiving meal share, 150 turkeys and full dinners were distributed to people from Rocky Ford, La Junta, Swink, Manzanola, Crowley County, Las Animas and Boone. Gurule attended the Veteran's Day program held by the 2nd grade class at Washington School. Gurule noticed some orange tags on abandoned vehicles and thanked Code Enforcement Officer Natasha Ortiz for her work. Gurule received some calls or reports regarding feral cats and dogs running loose and he asked what could be done.

City Manager Wallace commented that all calls should go through the Dispatch Center so that calls can be directly routed to Code Enforcement. Gurule took the opportunity to thank the Public Works Department and Black Hills Energy for getting the Christmas decorations up.

Councilmember Herrera had nothing to report.

STAFF REPORTS - None

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion – Addition of Fees to City Fee Schedule

City Manager Wallace informed Council that Code Enforcement Officer Natasha Ortiz has been researching what other cities and towns are charging for various code violations and Natasha has made a list of violations and fees that she is requesting to be put on the city fee schedule. Some discussion was held. This matter will be put on the next meeting's agenda. No further action was taken.

City Committees – Board Appointments

Councilmember Geist moved to appoint Stacey Milenski to the Library Board and Tree Board, Ryan Gates to the Museum Board, Marty Lee to replace Daryl Grasmick on Otero Partners, Inc. (OPI) and Otero County Landfill, Inc. (OCLI) and Duane Gurule to be the Council representative on the Chamber of Commerce Board. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cordova. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 5-0

Verkada – Security System Presentation (via Zoom)

Michael Robertson gave Council a presentation. Much discussion was held. Councilmember Gurule requested that staff do a basic cost benefit analysis. No further action was taken.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Jung recessed the regular meeting and convened the Public Hearing for Consideration of the proposed 2022 Budget at 8:55 p.m. There was no public comment for or against the proposed budget. The budget hearing was then recessed and set to reconvene at the next regular Council meeting. Mayor Jung reconvened the regular County meeting at 8:56 p.m.

ORDINANCE CONSIDERATION

Councilmember Herrera moved to approve **Ordinance #963 – An Ordinance Levying General Property Taxes for the Year 2021 to Help Defray the Costs of Government for the City of Rocky Ford, Colorado for the 2022 Budget Year, and for the Mill Levy on Each Dollar’s Worth of Property as per the Assessed Value Thereon, as Shown by the Assessor of Otero County for the Year 2021, as Fixed by the Board of Equalization**, on first reading. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Gurule. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 5-0

It was moved by Councilmember Cordova and seconded by Councilmember Geist to approve **Ordinance #964 – An Ordinance Summarizing Expenditures and Revenues for Each Fund and Adopting a Budget for the City of Rocky Ford, Colorado, for the Calendar Year Beginning on the First Day of January, 2022 and Ending on the Last Day of December, 2022**, on first reading. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 5-0

Councilmember Herrera moved to approve **Ordinance #965 – An Ordinance Appropriating Sums of Money to the Various Funds in the Amount and for the Purpose as Set Forth Below, for the City of Rocky Ford, Colorado, for the Year 2022 Budget Year**, on first reading. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Gurule. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 5-0

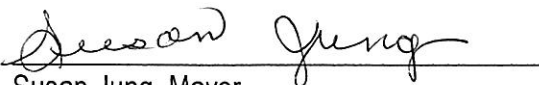
PUBLIC COMMENT - None

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA OR WORK SESSION

Future discussion on feral cats at a work session
Change to City fee schedule

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Mayor Jung adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.



Susan Jung, Mayor

Attest:  _____ City Clerk

