



## CITY OF ROCKY FORD – CITY COUNCIL MEETING

**January 11, 2021**

**WORK SESSION: 6:00 p.m. - Work Session Cancelled**

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

Rocky Ford City Council met via Zoom on Tuesday, January 11, 2022. Mayor Pro Tem Rich Geist called the meeting to order. Those present at roll call were:

Mayor: Susan Jung

Councilmembers: Rich Geist, Duane Gurule, Sherry Cordova and Norman Railton

Staff: City Manager Shannon Wallace, City Clerk Rebecca Korinek, Public Works Director Rick Long and Economic Development Coordinator Marty Lee

Others present: Diana Marshall, Margarito Garcia and Johnette Fuller (all via Zoom)

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

Mayor Pro Tem Geist explained the Agenda and Consent Agenda to Council and audience. City Manager Wallace asked to add two items to the agenda under new business, K. fee schedule additions and L. Snow equipment and to delete J. executive session, also, Councilmember Gurule asked for the addition of the following wording "**Council asked Rick Long if he was ensuring that we were receiving the best price/value from Justin's Paving. Long advised that he does stay informed on costs and Justin's Paving consistently comes in with the lowest cost, as well as provides in-kind work to the city,**" to the City Council meeting minutes from the Special meeting on January 4, 2022. Councilmember Cordova moved to approve the agenda and the consent agenda with the requested additions and changes. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Railton. Voting results were:

YES Gurule, Cordova, Railton, Geist, Jung

NO None

ABSENT Herrera

Motion carried 5-0

Consent Item(s) approved:

1. City Council meeting minutes from December 14, 2021 and City Council SPECIAL Meeting Minutes from January 4, 2022
2. Fermented Malt Beverage Liquor License Renewal Application – **Loaf n Jug (Mini Mart, Inc.) 305 N. 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Rocky Ford, CO**

**PUBLIC COMMENT** - NONE

## **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

City Manager Shannon Wallace reported the following:

- City budget is completed
- Jeremy Muth with First National Bank shared drawing of their building remodel. They will remove the building that was next to them (the old Martin's General Store) and when completed, the building will look a lot like the First National Bank in Fowler.
- Shannon asked Council's opinion on the State of Colorado adding as a holiday Frances Xavier Cabrini Day. Councilmember Gurule commented that he would like to see the city celebrate that day to honor a strong woman leader. It was the general consensus of Council to add that day to the city holiday observance schedule.
- The financial audit that was listed on Shannon's written report has not been done yet. Shannon will report on that at a later date.
- Shannon is registered to attend the Colorado City and County Management Association (CCMA) meeting on February 9<sup>th</sup> through the 11<sup>th</sup> in Glenwood Springs.
- Shannon reported that the cemetery staff have seen an influx of burials, putting pressure on the staff, and are asking Council to raise some of the costs for burial spaces and an open/close to the city fee schedule.

## **MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REPORTS**

Mayor Jung had nothing to report for tonight's meeting.

Councilmember Cordova reported that she attended the Library Board meeting. Library Director Leanna Chavez will be doing an inventory of all books. Parks and Recreation Director Stacey Milenski is trying to get some benches and tables to put at the Library Park. The board would like to have Jane's World kids come to the library around Valentine's Day to make cards for Nursing Home residents.

Councilmember Gurule asked for an update on his request for any code violations that may have been issued for 701 Sycamore. City Manager Wallace commented that she is still working on that.

Gurule would like to see channels of communication established and the process for a citizen to report a crime, code violation, utility issue, a complaint against a city employee or to report appreciation for an employee(s).

Gurule asked for an update on the human resource audit. City Manager Wallace responded that work it is a work in progress. Employee files were in good shape but work needs to be done on the employee policy manual and employee handbook. All supervisors should be trained by the end of January.

Gurule will be hosting community meetings at the Public Safety Building on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. The first meeting was held and discussion was held regarding the need for transparency, posting of city monthly expenses and job opportunities. There was also discussion on code for abandoned vehicles and vacant buildings. City Manager Wallace proposed that Council consider putting code enforcement on a work session.

Councilmember Railton had nothing to report for tonight's meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Geist had nothing to report for tonight's meeting.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

Economic Development Coordinator Marty Lee gave Council an end of year report. Six new businesses opened in Rocky Ford. The city received three grants in the past year allowing the city to conduct job training and downtown development. The city partnered with RF Renaissance to assist in finding grant funding. Marty worked with the Santa Fe Trail BOCES on Wheels to Work. The Southeast E-Commerce Symposium introduced small business to e-commerce and cyber-security.

**OLD BUSINESS** - NONE

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### ***Letters of Interest – Vacant Council Seat***

The one letter of interest received was from Johnette Fuller, 409 S. 9<sup>th</sup> Street. Fuller commented, to Council, that she enjoys living here and she wants to help the city move forward. Council asked a few questions regarding her priorities for the city. Councilmember Gurule moved to appoint Johnette Fuller to the vacant Council Ward II seat. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cordova. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 5-0

City Clerk Rebecca Korinek administered the oath of office to Johnette Fuller.

### ***Discussion – Building for Sale***

City Manager Wallace reminded Council that she had, earlier in the day, emailed information to them regarding the Odd Fellows Hall. The building is not on the market but the city received a potential offer. Much discussion was held. Councilmember Gurule moved to give City Manager Shannon Wallace the authorization to accept an offer from RF Renaissance in the amount of \$50,000, with \$30,000 in earnest month and to authorize City Attorney Nathan Schultz to review any offer or contract. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cordova. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 6-0

### ***Appointment of Board Members to the Tree Board, Pension Board and Arts Commission***

Diana Marshall had previously requested that Council appoint Peggy Sue Corbin-Romero and Patrice McGowen to the Tree Board. Councilmember Cordova volunteered to sit on the Tree Board, Councilmember Railton volunteered to sit on the Pension Board and Councilmember Gurule volunteered to sit on the Art Commission Board. Councilmember Cordova moved to appoint Peggy Sue Corbin-Romero, Patrice McGowen and Sherry Cordova to the Tree Board, Councilmember Railton to the

Pension Board and Councilmember Gurule to the Arts Commission. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Fuller.

Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 6-0

### ***Resolution Consideration***

Councilmember Gurule moved to approve and adopt ***Resolution #1 – Series 2022 – A Resolution Setting Regular Meeting Dates for the City of Rocky Ford City Council and Setting the Official Location of Posting Meeting Notices for the Year 2022***, The motion was seconded by Councilmember Railton. Voting results were:

YES	Railton, Fuller, Geist, Gurule, Cordova, Junta
NO	None
ABSENT	Herrera

Motion carried 6-0

Councilmember Gurule moved to approve and adopt ***Resolution #2 – Series 2022 – A Resolution Authorizing City Officials to Conduct Transactions with the State Bank of Rocky Ford***, the motion was seconded by Councilmember Railton. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 6-0

Councilmember Railton moved to approve and adopt ***Resolution #3 – Series 2022 – A Resolution Authorizing City Officials to Conduct Transactions with the First National Bank of Rocky Ford***, the motion was seconded by Councilmember Cordova. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 6-0

Councilmember Gurule moved to approve and adopt ***Resolution #4 – Series 2022 – A Resolution Authorizing City Officials to Conduct Transactions with the Community Bank of Rocky Ford***, the motion was seconded by Councilmember Fuller. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 6-0

Councilmember Railton moved to approve and adopt **Resolution #5 – Series 2022 – A Resolution Authorizing City Officials to Conduct Transactions with COLO Trust**, the motion was seconded by Councilmember Fuller.

Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 6-0

Councilmember Railton moved to approve and adopt **Resolution #6 – Series 2022 – A Resolution Modifying Municipal Late Fees for Service and Modifying Utility Payment Due Date**. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Gurule.

Voting results were:

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

Motion carried – 6-0

### ***Snow Equipment – Spreader***

Public Works Director Rick Long reported to Council that the city's sand/salt spreader is shot and rotted out. Long asked Council to authorize the purchase of a new spreader. Long reported that his staff now has to spread with a front-end loader which can damage the pavement. Councilmember Gurule and Cordova asked to have Long get additional quotes. Long reported that the spreader that he wants to purchase is the only one available in Colorado. Councilmember Geist commented that availability of equipment is driving purchases. After much discussion, Councilmember Railton moved to authorize the purchase of a HELIXX 3.5 cubic yard Poly Hopper in the amount of \$10,020.60 from Craig's Power Equipment LLC. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Fuller.

Voting results were:

YES	Fuller, Geist, Railton, Jung
NO	Gurule, Cordova
ABSENT	Herrera

Motion carried 4-2

### ***Changes to City Fee Schedule***

City Manager Wallace requested that Council approve the changes to the city fee schedule. Wallace had previously given Council a list of the fees. Councilmember Gurule moved to allow the requested changes to the city fee schedule. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cordova.

Voting results were:

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

Motion carried – 6-0

PUBLIC COMMENT - NONE

ADJOURN

Councilmember Gurule moved to adjourn and there being no further business, Mayor Pro Tem adjourned the meeting at 8:31 p.m.

  
Susan Jung, Mayor

Attest:   
Rebecca Horn

City Clerk

