



CITY OF ROCKY FORD – CITY COUNCIL MEETING

November 8, 2022

WORK SESSION: 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Susan Jung, Councilmembers Duane Gurule, Larry Herrera, Sherry Cordova, Johnette Fuller, along with City Manager Shannon Wallace, Code Enforcement Officer Natasha Ortiz, Police Captain Carol Coates and Parks and Recreation Director Stacey Milenski discussed some possible changes to the RV park at the fairgrounds to increase revenue and to clean up the park.

Others present: J.R. Thompson, Gary Reed, Cuco Ruiz and Nicholas Martinez

REGULAR MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

Rocky Ford City Council met in Council Chambers on Tuesday, November 8, 2022. Mayor Jung called the meeting to order. Those present at roll call were:

Mayor: Susan Jung

Councilmembers: Larry Herrera, Duane Gurule, Johnette Fuller, Sherry Cordova and Norman Railton (via Zoom)

Staff: City Manager Shannon Wallace, City Clerk Rebecca Korinek, Code Enforcement Officer Natasha Ortiz, Police Captain Carol Coates and Human Resource Director Shelly Valdez

Others present: J. R. Thompson, Gary Reed, Nicholas Martinez, Tara Casteneda, Rachel Carter, Beatrice Jones, Mary Walter, Amber Covington, Dee Hostetler, Cuco Ruiz, Robert Barron and Jakob Sandoval.

Mayor Jung led the pledge of allegiance.

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA

City Manager Wallace requested that item number 10.3 be added under new business, worker compensation rebate

City Manager Shannon Wallace read aloud the City of Rocky Ford's Mission Statement.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

PROCLAMATION ANNOUNCEMENT

National Hospice & Palliative Care Month – Arkansas Valley Hospice

Tara Casteneda thanked Council. Tara informed Council that November is National Hospice and Palliative Care Month and called on Council to join them in celebrating the month and request that Mayor Jung sign the Hospice Proclamation.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

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

- Shannon included information in the Council packet regarding inflow and infiltration.
- Shannon Wallace and Human Resource Director Shelly Valdez informed Council that a safety committee had been formed and that the members have been working really hard on improving safety at work. Pinnacle Insurance, through Jody Lyons, reported that the city will get a refund check. Valdez is asking Council to allow some of the refund to go to employees as a retention bonus. Valdez gave two different options for Council to consider. The city has decreased the worker compensation insurance premium by approximately \$58,000.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Jung reported to following:

- Mayor Jung reported that she attended the balloon festival.

Councilmember Herrera reported the following:

- Nothing to report for tonight's meeting.

Councilmember Gurule reported the following:

- Gurule had no report for the Art's Commission or Swim Pool.
- Gurule attended the balloon festival.
- Gurule gave an update of the GOCO planning. The committee did choose a company that will work on the planning and design for the grant. There will be a meeting next week on Tuesday.

Councilmember Fuller reported the following:

- Fuller attended the balloon festival and the s'mores were a good treat.

Councilmember Cordova reported the following:

- Nothing to report for tonight's meeting.

Councilmember Railton reported the following:

- Nothing to report for tonight's meeting.

STAFF REPORTS

None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Jung explained the Agenda and Consent Agenda to Council and audience. City Manager Wallace requested that item number 10.3, under new business, Worker Compensation rebate. Councilmember Herrera moved to approve the agenda and consent agenda with the requested change. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Fuller. Voting results were:

YES Cordova, Railton, Fuller, Herrera, Gurule, Jung

NO None

ABSENT Geist

Motion carried 6-0

Consent Item(s) approved:

1. City Council meeting minutes from October 25, 2022

PUBLIC HEARING - Calendar Year 2023 Proposed Budget

Mayor Jung recessed the regular meeting at 7:31 p.m. and opened the public hearing regarding the proposed budget for calendar year 2023. Mayor Jung asked for any public comment either for or against the proposed budget. There were no public comments. Mayor Jung adjourned the public hearing at 7:33 p.m. and resumed the regular meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Dee Hostetler – Clean Valley Recycle Center

Dee gave information on single-use disposable bags. Small businesses will be exempt. The city will be responsible for enforcement and the money received can be used for many different things.

November 15th is National Recycle Day.

Proclamation - National Hospice and Palliative Care Month

Councilmember Gurule moved to authorize Mayor Jung to sign the Hospice Proclamation for the Arkansas Valley Hospice for Nation Hospice and Palliative Care Month. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cordova. Voting results were:

YES Railton, Fuller, Herrera, Gurule, Cordova, Jung

NO None

ABSENT Geist

Motion carried 6-0

Pinnacle Insurance Rebate – Option 1 or Option 2 Bonus

Robert Barron thanked city employees for working hard on safety. Barron also expressed concern about some employees not wearing safety goggles while operating chain saws, not wearing ear plugs with loud machinery and the trash department wearing shorts. Barron also gave kudos to the water department for proper safety barricades on a work site.

Councilmember Railton moved to approve Option 1 bonus for employees for the Pinnacle Insurance rebate. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Gurule. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 6-0

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

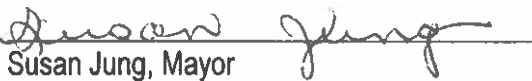
None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Mayor Jung adjourned the regular meeting at 7:50 p.m.


Susan Jung, Mayor

Attest:  City Clerk

