



CITY OF ROCKY FORD – CITY COUNCIL MEETING

October 24, 2023

WORK SESSION: 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Susan Jung, Councilmembers Larry Herrera, Duane Gurule, Nicholas Martinez, Sherry Cordova, Nicole Roberts and Scott Kerr and City Manager Shannon Wallace met with City Attorney Nathan Shultz. Shultz gave Council training on local municipal law and code of conduct for Council.

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, October 24, 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, Administrative Assistant Sarah Barks, Public Works Director Rick Long, Public Works employee Cuco Ruiz, Chief of Police Sean McDonagh and Parks and Recreation Director Stacey Milenski

Others present: J. R. Thompson, Gary Reed, Criston Menz, Stephanie Jaramillo, Robert Barron, Sarah Yutterman and Kelly Yutterman.

Mayor Jung led the pledge of allegiance.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Parks and Recreation Director Stacey Milenski, Public Works Director Rick Long, Chief of Police Sean McDonagh and Code Enforcement/Reserve Police Officer Natasha Ortiz spoke to Council regarding their experience with and support for City Manager Shannon Wallace.

Kelly Yutterman spoke to Council giving his support to City Manager Shannon Wallace.

Robert Barron spoke to Council to give his criticism of City Manager Shannon Wallace.

STAFF REPORTS

Public Works Director Rick Long gave out printed information to Council regarding a condition assessment evaluation on the City's distribution system. This assessment will be used for the master plan and to achieve compliance with new lead and copper revisions. Long asked Council to authorize the cost for the condition assessment evaluation in the amount of \$50,000. Funds will

be used from the water line repair funds. Some discussion was held. This matter will be added to the agenda for tonight's meeting.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

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

- Letter to Council was given from Wallace.
- Letter from Josh with Triad regarding the system upgrade.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Jung reported the following:

- Mayor Jung attended the CIRSA luncheon on Wednesday and discussion was centered mostly on money spent out for Police.
- Mayor Jung attended the Colorado Municipal League (CML) Policy committee meeting.
- Mayor Jung attended a meeting regarding the Arkansas Valley Conduit.

Councilmember Herrera reported the following:

- Herrera reported on grants that were received from the Rocky Ford Elks Club. The grants will be spent on the community. \$2,000 will go to the library towards fixing the roof, \$8,000 will go towards children's parties.

Councilmember Gurule reported the following:

- Nothing to report from the Pool or Arts Commissions.
- Gurule attended the meeting with the Arkansas Valley Conduit.
- Jefferson Middle School will be having their chili chip supper on Friday from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
- Clean Valley Recycling sent an invitation for a presentation on Friday, November 3rd at Noon on recent legislation.

Councilmember Martinez reported the following:

- Tree Board will meet on Thursday.
- The Tree Board will be hosing "Trunk or Treat" at Crystal Lake from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.
- Martinez also attended the meeting with the Arkansas Valley Conduit.

Councilmember Cordova reported the following:

- The Library Board is looking for a second bid to repair the roof. The library received a \$1,000 grant for some children's books.
- Cordova gave Council an update on a Christmas letter that is being sent or given out to businesses and customers. \$1,000 has been received already from donations

Councilmember Roberts reported the following:

- Roberts will attend the Chamber of Commerce Board meeting on Thursday. The Chamber will also host a "Trunk or Treat" in their parking lot from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Councilmember Kerr reported the following:

- Nothing to report from the Museum Board as Kerr was unable to attend the last meeting. Museum Curator Rob Marshall informed Kerr that the Museum will host "a night at the museum" on December 13, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. The topic will center on a new species of dinosaur found at Picketwire Canyon. It is free but donations are welcome.

ANY CHANGES TO THE AGENDA OR CONSENT AGENDA

City Manager Wallace asked to add, under new business, 8.3 Condition Assessment Evaluation.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Jung explained the agenda and consent agenda to all. Councilmember Herrera moved to approve the agenda and consent agenda with the requested addition. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Roberts. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 7-0

Consent Item(s) approved:

1. Approval of previous meeting minutes for October 10, 2023.

OLD BUSINESS

City Manager Contract

City Manager Wallace's contract and performance evaluation has been discussed at previous executive sessions and work sessions. It was moved by Councilmember Kerr and seconded by Councilmember Martinez to renew City Manager Shannon Wallace's contract. Councilmember Roberts and Councilmember Gurule spoke regarding their concerns. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 4-3

New Water Meters

City Manager Wallace informed Council that information is still being gathered and would like to discuss this matter in a future meeting.

Follow up on Business Licenses

Information was given to Council to follow-up the discussion that was held at the regular meeting on October 10, 2023. Some discussion was held regarding fees for a business license. Council requested that this matter be discussed at a later time.

Flashing Speed Limit Signal

City Manager Wallace has previously given Council information. Wallace will be trying to reach out to other municipalities to see what companies that they may have used. Councilmember Roberts suggested that the city look into the solar flashing signals or stop signs. Some discussion was held.

Server Upgrade

Councilmember Gurule gave Council information on a new server and the requirements needed. Gurule made a motion to upgrade the city server to Windows Server 2022 with the cost to be no more than \$8,000. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cordova. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 7-0

NEW BUSINESS

First Draft of the 2024 Budget

No discussion or further action was taken. This is the first preliminary draft of the 2024 budget.

CIVIC Plus (Archive Social)

City Manager Wallace just wanted to bring this information back to Council for them to think about regarding social media.

Condition Assessment Evaluation

Public Works Director Rick Long discussed this matter during his staff report to Council. Councilmember Kerr moved to accept and authorize the request of Public Works Director Rick Long for a condition assessment evaluation to be performed. Councilmember Herrera seconded the motion. Councilmember Martinez requested that Rick Long look into some available grants to help with payment. City Manager Wallace commented that the engineering company that the city is working with has agreed to help to look for funding. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 7-0

PUBLIC COMMENT

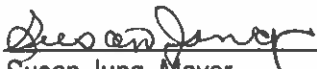
Gary Reed, commented that he has always been against any form of business license, but he is now open to discussion. Reed also commented that the city may be overthinking the traffic calming. Reed informed Council that in Kalispell Montana, the law enforcement use "dummies" parked in their patrol cars. Sometimes the cars have real people and sometimes there are "dummies" in the cars and it doesn't cost the city anything to park the car at strategic locations.

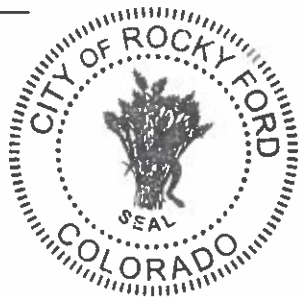
Robert Barron asked Council to bring back the "Morning Cafecito" or "Coffee with Council".

Councilmember Cordova reported that a resident has inquired about getting a street light. Some discussion was held. It was the general consensus that the resident must go through Black Hills Energy.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Mayor Jung recessed the regular meeting at 8:11 p.m.


Susan Jung, Mayor




Rebecca Korinek, City Clerk

Attest