CITY OF ROCKY FORD – CITY COUNCIL MEETING

City Council Chambers | 203 S. Main Street, Rocky Ford, CO

September 8, 2026

REGULAR MEETING: 6:00pm
Rocky Ford City Council met in Council Chambers on Tuesday, September 8, 2026. Mayor Pro Tem Joe Pentlicki called the meeting to order.

Those present at roll call were:

Councilmembers: Nicholas Martinez, Robert Barron, Thomas Mullins, and Nicole Roberts.
Mayor Pro Tem Joe Pentlicki and Councilmember Nanette Mosby were in attendance by Zoom.

City Staff: City Manager Stacey Milenski, City Clerk Michelle Grasmick, Police Chief Matthew Wallace, Fire Chief Ray Gonzales, Fire Captain Brandon Dickinson. City Attorney Dan Harvey was in attendance by Zoom.

Public attendance: JR Thompson, Gary Reed, Brian Lovato.

Mayor Pro Tem Pentlicki led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilmember Martinez read aloud the City of Rocky Ford's Mission Statement and, at the request of Mayor Pro Tem Pentlicki, presided over the meeting.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT
5.1 None

6. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA
Councilmember Barron motioned to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Roberts.
Voting results were:
YES: Barron, Pentlicki, Mullins, Roberts, Martinez
NO: None
ABSENT: Mosby
Motion carried: 6-0

Consent Agenda Items approved were:
6.1 **Approval of Council meeting minutes from August 25, 2026** – Regular meeting at 6:00pm
6.2 **Approval of Council meeting minutes from September 1, 2026** – Special meeting at 5:00pm

7. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilmember Mullins requested the addition of Item 11.5 Discussion Regarding Publication of Municode, and Item 11.6 Discussion Regarding Publishing City Council Meetings on YouTube. Council discussed whether the items could be added without having been included on the agenda 24 hours in advance. It was clarified that the items would be for discussion only and no action would be taken. City Attorney Dan Harvey advised that best practice is to post agenda items at least 24 hours in advance and that no legislative action should be taken on items added for discussion.

Prior to consideration of the agenda amendment, Council discussed the meeting chairmanship due to Mayor Pro Tem Pentlicki participating remotely. City Attorney Harvey advised that the Mayor or Mayor Pro Tem typically presides over meetings but that a temporary chair could be appointed.

Councilmember Mullins nominated Councilmember Martinez to serve as temporary chair for the meeting. The nomination was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Pentlicki.
Voting results were:
YES: Mullins, Mosby, Pentlicki
NO: Roberts, Barron
ABSTAIN: Martinez
Motion carried: 3-2 with one abstention

Following a question regarding the effect of an abstention, Attorney Harvey clarified that an abstention does not count as a "no" vote but instead reduces the number of votes cast; therefore, the motion passed.

Councilmember Mullins motioned to approve the Agenda with the additions of 11.5 Discussion Regarding Publication of Municode, and Item 11.6 Discussion Regarding Publishing City Council Meetings on YouTube. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Martinez.
Voting results were:
YES: Pentlicki, Mullins, Mosby, Martinez
NO: Roberts, Barron
Motion carried: 4-2

8. PRESENTATIONS, AWARDS, PROCLAMATIONS
8.1 None

9. PUBLIC HEARING
9.1 None

10. OLD BUSINESS
10.1 None

11. NEW BUSINESS
11.1 Discussion/Action – Asphalt Fog Seal Project Request for Bid (RFB)

Council reviewed the Asphalt Fog Seal Project request for bid and discussed several revisions to the bid documents. Council corrected a typographical error in the project location description, changing the direction from “north” to “south” between Chestnut Avenue and Sycamore Avenue. Council also directed the addition of language requiring bidders to verify project locations and field conditions in person, including within the bid requirements and project location sections of the document. Additionally, Council corrected the bid schedule after noting that the bid opening and submission dates had been transposed and that one listed date had already passed. The bid opening date was revised to September 9, 2026, and the submission deadline was revised to October 1, 2026.

Councilmember Roberts motioned to approve the Request for Bid for the Asphalt Fog Seal Project, with the following revisions: correcting the project location description in Section 2 by changing "north" to "south"; revising the bid opening date to September 9, 2026, and the bid submission deadline to October 1, 2026; and adding language requiring bidders to review the project location and verify field conditions in person where applicable throughout the bid documents. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barron.
Voting results were:
YES: Mullins, Roberts, Martinez, Pentlicki, Barron
NO: None
ABSENT: Mosby (internet connection lost)
Motion carried: 5-0

11.2 Discussion/Action – Sidewalk Improvement Project Request for Bid (RFB)

Council reviewed the Request for Bid for the Sidewalk Improvement Project. Discussion centered on the definition of a "qualified contractor," with Council noting that contractors should be registered to do business with the City, maintain appropriate insurance coverage, and provide a certificate of insurance. Council also directed the addition of language requiring contractors to communicate with homeowners and property owners adjacent to project work areas regarding construction activities. The addition was intended to address concerns raised during prior discussions regarding traffic control, safety, and coordination with affected property owners.

Councilmember Roberts moved to approve the Sidewalk Improvement Project Request for Bid, with the addition to Item 7 stating: Contractors shall communicate properly with homeowners or property owners of properties adjacent to where work is being conducted. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Martinez.
Voting results were:
YES: Roberts, Martinez, Barron, Pentlicki, Mullins
NO: None
ABSENT: Mosby (internet connection lost)
Motion carried: 5-0

11.3 Discussion/Action – Rock Creek SAFER Grant Purchase Authorization for Fire Department

Fire Chief Ray Gonzales presented a request to authorize the purchase of personal protective equipment (PPE) for seven volunteer firefighters under the SAFER Grant. The Chief explained that the grant would cover a portion of the cost, with the remaining balance to be covered by the FY Hauck Hose Company and the Rural Fire Protection District, resulting in no additional cost to the City. Council discussed streamlining future grant-funded PPE purchases and agreed that future purchases may be reported to

Council through staff reports, provided grant requirements are met and there is no City financial obligation.

Councilmember Roberts motioned to approve the SAFER Grant purchase authorization, provided the purchase is communicated to Council through City reports and results in no additional financial obligation to the City. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barron.
Voting results were:
YES: Martinez, Barron, Pentlicki, Mullins, Mosby, Roberts
NO: None
Motion carried: 6-0

11.4 Discussion/Action – Consideration of Work Session Scheduling Prior to Council Meetings

Council discussed scheduling options for future work sessions, including maintaining the current schedule, returning to work sessions immediately prior to regular Council meetings, or adjusting the start time to better accommodate Councilmember availability and staff workloads. Discussion included the benefits of daytime work sessions for staff participation, challenges posed by Councilmembers' work schedules, and concerns regarding extended workdays for staff. Several Councilmembers expressed support for work sessions held immediately before Council meetings to encourage focused discussion, while others favored retaining additional discussion time. A potential compromise to hold work sessions from 4:30pm to 6:00pm prior to regular Council meetings received favorable consideration.

Councilmember Mullins moved to schedule work sessions at 4:30pm preceding regular City Council meetings, which would continue to begin at 6:00pm. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Roberts.
Voting results were:
YES: Barron, Pentlicki, Mullins, Mosby, Roberts, Martinez
NO: None
Motion carried: 6-0

11.5 Discussion Regarding Publication of Municode

City Manager Stacey Milenski reported that no significant updates had been received from Municode regarding pending code supplements submitted several months earlier. Milenski indicated she had recently been contacted by a Municode representative and expected additional information following further discussions. Council discussed concerns that the City’s online municipal code has not been updated since 2023 and emphasized the importance of providing residents with timely access to current ordinances. Information was shared regarding an optional Municode service that would provide expedited posting of ordinance updates. Attorney Harvey advised that the discussion remain informational only, as the item had not been properly noticed for action. Harvey further clarified that ordinances become enforceable once properly adopted and effective, regardless of whether they have been updated on Municode, and that municipalities may also post ordinances on their own websites. Council discussed potential options for improving public access to ordinances, including posting adopted ordinances on the City website, social media, and Municode, and expressed a desire for a solution to be implemented as soon as possible. No formal action was taken.

11.6 Discussion Regarding Publishing City Council Meetings on YouTube

Council discussed making recorded City Council meetings available on YouTube to improve public access and provide automatic transcript functionality. City Manager Stacey Milenski indicated the primary challenge would be the additional time required to upload and manage recordings. Discussion included the City's current recording process, the potential to livestream directly to YouTube through existing software and maintaining recordings for future public viewing. Attorney Harvey advised that any City YouTube channel should comply with the City's social media policies and be clearly identified as an official City account. Councilmembers expressed support for exploring YouTube as an additional platform for meeting access and transparency and discussed linking meeting videos to agendas on the City's website. No formal action was taken.

12. STAFF REPORTS

12.1 **City Manager** – *Stacey Milenski summarized written City Manager's report to Council. Milenski included updates that occurred after the report was written.*

12.2 **Museum Curator** – Rob Marshall, written only

13. COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmembers provided updates and reports on their respective boards and community events.

14. PUBLIC COMMENT

14.1 None

15. EXECUTIVE SESSION

15.1 None

16. UPCOMING MEETINGS

16.1 September 22, 2026 – 4:30pm Work Session, 6:00pm City Council Regular Meeting

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Mayor Pro Tem Pentlicki adjourned the meeting at 7:29pm.

Joe Pentlicki

Mayor Pro Tem, Joe Pentlicki

Michelle Grasmick

City Clerk, Michelle Grasmick