



CITY OF ROCKY FORD – CITY COUNCIL MEETING

June 14, 2022

WORK SESSION: 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Susan Jung, Councilmembers Duane Gurule, Johnette Fuller, Larry Herrera, Rich Geist, Norman Railton and Sherry Cordova and City Manager Shannon Wallace and Public Works Director Rick Long met for discussion regarding the possible purchase of a street sweeper. Much discussion was held regarding what type of sweeper would be the best fit for the city. Rick Long will bring additional information at the next work session.

Executive Director of Sage Service Vicki Sigler met with Council to discuss a grant that was received by the Sage Services. Sage Service rents the Senior Citizen/Sage Building from the City of Rocky Ford. Vicki gave Council information on upgrades and repairs that they would like to do on the city owned building. Sage Service would also request that a contract be drawn up between the City of Rocky Ford and the Sage Services allowing them to continue using the building. This matter is on the agenda for tonight's meeting. A proposed agreement will be drawn up and will be brought before Council at a later date.

City clean-up day was discussed. City Manager Shannon Wallace will get prices for roll-off dumpsters and bring additional information to the next meeting.

Others present: Gary Reed, J.R.Thompson and Allen Hutchison, Vicki Sigler, Executive Director of Sage Service

REGULAR MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

Rocky Ford City Council met in Council Chambers on Tuesday, June 14, 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, Rich Geist and Norman Railton

Staff: City Manager Shannon Wallace, City Clerk Rebecca Korinek

Others present: Gary Reed, J.R. Thompson, Allen Hutchison, Diana Marshall and Lance Butler

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Jung explained the Agenda and Consent Agenda to Council and audience. Councilmember Geist moved to approve the agenda and consent agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Fuller. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 7-0

Consent Item(s) approved:

1. City Council meeting minutes from May 24, 2022

PUBLIC COMMENT

Diana Marshall asked Council to give Parks and Recreation Director Stacey Milenski kudos for her very hard work in procuring \$150,000 to perform a study of what can be done to make improvements at Crystal Lake and at the Arkansas Valley Fairgrounds. Marshall informed Council that with the help from Sammi George, Stacey Milenski was able to learn how to apply for a grant and Milenski spent many, many hours in drafting and revising the application for submission.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Shannon Wallace reported the following:

- Shannon informed Council that, after talking with the auditors and the La Junta Finance Director, the city needs to add an additional "check signer" to the City's banking accounts. City Manager Wallace asked Council to allow the addition of City Clerk Rebecca Korinek as a signer for the banking accounts.
- Shannon sent Council a copy of an email that she had received from Leon Ortega. The email is in regards to a property located on North 13th Street owned by Earl Burray "White Man Dan" There is no home there but the owner has been lighting open fires in a barrel. Fire Chief Ray Gonzales did go out and address that matter. Some citizens are complaining. The owner is not really breaking any city codes or laws. Shannon did send a message to the Otero County Health Department for a welfare check. Much discussion was held on this matter. There are concerns that human waste is being put out. Shannon asked Council to think about this matter and if contact her with any ideas.
- It was discovered that people are placing trash and furniture items behind the former Black Hills Energy building. The property is owned by the Railroad but the city has been hauling the trash away. Shannon asked the Public Works Director Rick Long to pick up all trash at that location and Shannon will try to send an invoice to the Railroad.
- Shannon and city supervisors attended training this morning on working with millennials.
- Shannon and HR Director Shelly Valdez will be attending a manager's "boot camp" training in July.
- Shannon has requested information from Point and Pay to be able to accept credit cards at the swim pool. Shannon has not received any information from them.
- The roof at the swim pool is finished. The motor went bad and will take six weeks to fix. The motor is still under warranty. The city went ahead and purchased a new motor for \$6,000 and will keep the other one as a spare. The pump seal was bad and Cuco Ruiz went to Pueblo to get that fixed. As soon as all repairs are done the pool can open Monday, at the latest.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Jung reported to following:

- Latin Jam will be on Saturday, June 18th from Noon to 11:00 p.m. There will be a lot of activities throughout the day and evening.
- The Pension Board did not meet. Since the resignation of Azucena Holland there were not enough members for a quorum and no previous meeting minutes were prepared. Mayor Jung made a deposit in the city account.
- Mayor Jung attended an event through the Otero Chamber of Commerce. They rode the train from La Junta to Las Animas. Mayor Jung reported an enjoyable time and very good food.
- Mayor Jung will attend the Colorado Municipal League (CML) annual conference next week.

Councilmember Herrera reported the following:

- Herrera attended the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, June 6th and the Commission's recommendation is on tonight's agenda.
- Herrera was unable to attend the Rocky Ford Country Club meeting. The club held a fundraiser last Sunday for Rod Hoffmeyer and made over \$4,000. Mowing operations are at 5 a.m. The club is in need of helpers.

Councilmember Gurule reported the following:

- Gurule attended an effective governance training, last Wednesday, through CML and will attend another this week.

- Gurule will attend the CML annual conference next week.
- The Otero County Republican Women will be hosting a free movie at the Grand Theater and the concession stand will be open.

Councilmember Fuller reported the following:

- The Tri-County Family "Cruisin" festival was held on Saturday, June 4th. It was a very successful event.

Councilmember Cordova reported the following:

- Cordova attended a library board meeting. The summer reading program has started and there is an adult program as well. A poem party will be held on June 28th. A pool party has been scheduled for July 1st. The "Ocean of Possibilities" program has been a hit. The Division of Wildlife is scheduled to be at the library and talk about fish.
- The tree board met on Monday. The garden fountain at the library needs to be dug out as there is wild lettuce growing there which can be harmful. The class of 1962 will be having their class reunion, which was Bill Butler's class, and they would like to plant a tree.
- Cordova and the boxing club helped the American Legion put up flags for flag day.
- Diana Marshall added that many people showed up to plant flower boxes and she thanked newcomers Rocky Green to the community.

Councilmember Geist reported the following:

- The museum will be hosting Sandra Dell and Rebecca Goodwin on June 23rd to talk about the Japanese influence in Rocky Ford.

Councilmember Railton reported the following:

- Nothing to report for tonight's meeting.

STAFF REPORTS - None

OLD BUSINESS

Chamber of Commerce – Gobin Building Agreement

This matter has been discussed at the last two meetings. City Manager Wallace asked if Council was ready to sign the agreement. Discussion was held regarding charging rent for the building. It was the general consensus of Council for City Attorney Nathan Shultz to look into the original agreement between the Chamber of Commerce and the City of Rocky Ford to see if the city can charge rent.

NEW BUSINESS

Senior Citizen / Sage Service Building

Having discussed this matter during the work session. Councilmember Fuller moved to allow the Sage Services to do some remodel work on the Sage Services building owned by the City of Rocky Ford. Councilmember Cordova seconded the motion.

Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 7-0

City of Rocky Ford Planning Commission Recommendation to Allow a Special Use by Review Permit to allow a Duplex, with C1 Zoning, to Lance Butler and Jennifer Butler at 410 North Main Street, Rocky Ford

Councilmember Herrera informed Council that at the last planning commission meeting, a major impact review was performed on 410 North Main Street on an application filed by Lance Butler and Jennifer Butler. A motion was made by Councilmember Gurule to accept the recommendation of the planning commission to grant a special use permit to Lance Butler and Jennifer Butler to allow a duplex in a C1 zone. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Geist. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 7-0

Change of Signer on City Checking Accounts to add City Clerk as a signer to City accounts

Councilmember Geist moved to add City Clerk Rebecca Korinek, as a signer, to the City of Rocky Ford accounts. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Herrera. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 7-0

PUBLIC COMMENT

Diana Marshall thanked City Manager Wallace for the help getting the sage pulled out at the State Bank. Marshall also asked Council to request some signage for citizens not to enter the area around CRYTAL Lake so that development can be determined.

Councilmember Herrera reported that he had been contacted by Naz Florez. Florez lives between the Jefferson Middle School and the Valley Wide Clinic. Florez is concerned about the condition of Burrell Street. The street is missing a lot of asphalt and Florez is asking when the city might fix that area.

ADJOURN

Councilmember Geist moved to adjourn, and there being no further business, Mayor Jung adjourned the regular meeting at 7:47 p.m.


Susan Jung, Mayor

Attest: 

City Clerk

