



CITY OF ROCKY FORD – CITY COUNCIL MEETING

JULY 27, 2021

WORK SESSION: 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Jung and Councilmembers: Peggy Sue Corbin Romero, Rich Geist, Daryl Grasmick, Larry Herrera and Sherry Cordova, City Manager Shannon Wallace met for a work session with Museum Curator Rob Marshall and President of Museum Board Steve Carlile for a discussion regarding current issues and vacancies within the Board. Much discussion was held. A letter of resignation was received from Monica Martinez.

Others present: Gary Reed, Darla Marshall and Donna Bush

REGULAR MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

Rocky Ford City Council met in Council Chambers on Tuesday, July 27, 2021. Mayor Susan Jung called the meeting to order. Those present at roll call were:

Mayor: Susan Jung

Councilmembers: Peggy Sue Corbin-Romero, Rich Geist, Daryl Grasmick, Larry Herrera and Sherry Cordova

Staff: City Manager Shannon Wallace and City Clerk Rebecca Korinek

Others present: Gary Reed, Museum Curator Rob Marshall, Donna Abert, Bette McFarren, Sally Cope, Patrick Hancock, Rob George and Sammie George

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Jung led the pledge of allegiance and explained the Agenda and Consent Agenda to Council and audience. Councilmember Grasmick moved to approve the agenda and consent agenda as presented. Councilmember Herrera seconded the motion. Voting results were:

YES Cordova, Grasmick, Corbin-Romero, Geist, Herrera, Jung

NO None

ABSENT None

Motion carried 6-0

Consent Items approved:

1. City Council Meeting Minutes from July 13, 2021
2. Special Event Applications (4) – Arkansas Valley Exposition & Fair Association – PAVILION BEER GARDEN for August 18, 2021 and August 19, 2021 from 11:00 a.m. to Midnight and August 20, 2021 and August 21, 2021 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m.
3. Special Event Applications (4) – Arkansas Valley Exposition & Fair Association – GRANDSTAND BEER GARDEN for August 18, 2021 and August 19, 2021 from 11:00 a.m. to Midnight and August 20, 2021 and August 21, 2021 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Museum Friends Board Member Donna Abert addressed Council to inform them of her opinion of current problems with the Rocky Ford Historical Museum. She requested that Council advise City Manager Wallace to accept a request from the Museum Board to place Rob Marshall on a six-month probation. Donna Abert reported that the Museum Board had held an executive session and the Board did not have confidence that the current Curator had the technical experience that was necessary. Donna Abert would like Council to return Jeanette Myers to the Museum Board.

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

City Manager Shannon Wallace reported to Council on the following:

- Shannon reported that there is still a lot of discussion on how the City can spend the ARPA funds. There is a lot of discussion going on among many people on this matter. If the City is unable to use ARPA funds, the City is not in a position to finish the Public Safety Building
- The City’s fee schedule and vacant building registry are items that need to be discussed by Council.
- Shannon will be sending a list out to Council that details what needs to be repaired or worked on at the City’s rental house.
- The agreement contract between the City of Rocky Ford and the Rocky Ford Chamber of Commerce, regarding the Gobin Building, still need to be agreed to and signed.
- Rural Fire Board Pension Board is finishing up their by-laws and will be asking Council to authorize the Mayor and the City Manager to sign.

STAFF REPORTS - None

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Jung reported that she attended the Colorado Municipal League (CML) executive retreat in Steamboat Springs.

Councilmember Herrera reported that the new restaurant at the Rocky Ford Country Club will be opening soon. Larry plans on attending the Planning Commission meeting on August 2nd.

Councilmember Corbin-Romero reported that the Tree Board cleaned the east side of town. The Board would like to contact Donna Davis to check on the available of other grants that can be applied for. Corbin-Romero mentioned that the Grand Theater has not held a meeting recently.

Councilmember Grasmick reported that the Rural Fire Pension Board has been working on their by-laws and they hope to finish in about a month or so. Grasmick reports that the Otero County Landfill is looking good. Grasmick also gave a report on the potential new business for Otero County Partners, Inc. (OPI)

Councilmember Geist had no report at this time but made a motion to appoint Darla Marshall and Donna Bush to the Rocky Ford Historical Museum Board. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Grasmick. Voting results were:

YES	Cordova, Grasmick, Corbin-Romero, Geist, Herrera, Jung
NO	None
ABSENT	None

Motion carried 6-0

Councilmember Cordova requested that Council appoint her to the Library Board since Cuco Ruiz resigned from Council. Councilmember Corbin-Romero moved to appoint Councilmember Sherry Cordova to the Library Board as the City Council representative. Councilmember Grasmick seconded the motion. Voting results were:

YES	Grasmick, Corbin-Romero, Geist, Herrera, Cordova, Jung
NO	None
ABSENT	None

Motion carried 6-0

OLD BUSINESS

Vacant Building Registry – possible Ordinance

More discussion was held regarding this proposed ordinance regarding the definition of a "vacant building". Councilmember Grasmick moved to authorize City Manager Shannon Wallace to proceed with the preliminary preparation for this ordinance. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Cordova. Voting results were:

YES	Geist, Herrera, Cordova, Grasmick, Jung
NO	Corbin-Romero
ABSENT	None

Motion carried 5-0

Discussion – Rocky Ford City Fee Schedule

Discussion was held regarding some ordinances that allow the City to charge a fee but Rocky Ford has never established a fee. It was the general consensus of Council to discuss this matter at the work session on August 10, 2021

ORDINANCE #961 – An Ordinance Amending Section 3.14 of the Rocky Ford Municipal Code and ordinance #891, Providing for the Method of Application of a 4.0 Percent Use Tax to the use or Consumption of Construction and Building Materials Purchases at Retail, on second reading

Councilmember Geist moved to approve ***Ordinance #961 – An Ordinance Amending Section 3.14 of the Rocky Ford Municipal Code and ordinance #891, Providing for the Method of Application of a 4.0 Percent Use Tax to the use or Consumption of construction and Building Materials Purchased at Retail, on second reading.*** The motion was seconded by Councilmember Grasmick. Voting results were:

YES	Geist, Herrera, Cordova, Grasmick, Corbin-Romero, Jung
NO	None
ABSENT	None

Motion carried 6-0

NEW BUSINESS

Community Solar Next Steps – US Solar Presentation

Council was given a presentation via Zoom from Jillian Hansen and Erica Foresman regarding a solar energy program. The contract would be with US Solar and there would be a 15% savings to the City by connecting the City offices to this program. The location of the solar farm is in Pueblo, Colorado. Council thanked them for their presentation.

Discussion – Disc Golf Proposal

Rob and Sammie George, owners of Good Day Disc Golf, asked Council to consider allowing him to use a portion of Play Park Hill and the Play Park Playground to set up some poles. Rob would like to have a tournament on October 9th and 10th and he has already discussed this matter with the Rocky Ford Country Club. The playground would need to be closed for the weekend, the 8th and 9th. The poles would not be on the golf course but on the playground side. Rob would provide all the signage needed to close the playground.

Councilmember Grasmick moved to allow Rob and Sammie George, dba Good Day Disc Golf to close Play Park Hill from October 8, 2021 through October 9, 2021. Councilmember Geist seconded the motion. Voting results were:

YES	Herrera, Cordova, Grasmick, Corbin-Romero, Geist, Jung
NO	None
ABSENT	None

Motion carried 6-0

City Auditor’s Report – Hancock, Froese & Company, LLC

Patrick Hancock gave Council a report of the annual audit for the City of Rocky Ford.

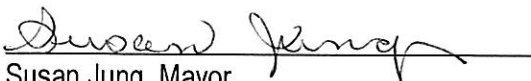
PUBLIC COMMENT - None

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA OR WORK SESSION

Fee Schedule
Vacant Building Register

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn was made by Grasmick and there being no further business, Mayor Jung adjourned the meeting at 9:04 p.m.


Susan Jung, Mayor

Attest: 
City Clerk

