



ROCKY FORD CITY COUNCIL

December 10, 2019

Work Session:

Mayor Susan Jung and Councilmembers Peggy Sue Corbin Romero, Rich Geist, Matt Holland and Cuco Ruiz met for a Council Work Session at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 10, 2019. Others present were: City Manager Shannon Wallace, City Attorney Bart Mendenhall, City Clerk Cheryl Grasmick, Public Works Director Rick Long, Finance Director Azucena Estrada, Rebecca Goodwin, unidentified lady, Emmett Davis, William Hodges, Jolean Rose, Daryl Grasmick, Tom and Tracey Martin, Gerri Clark and Marty Lee. Items on the agenda were a (1) presentation by Rebecca Goodwin regarding possible application for historic preservation funds for work at museum, (2) update on sanitary sewer project by Public Works Director Rick Long and (3) orientation for new council members presented by Mayor Susan Jung and City Attorney Barton H. Mendenhall.

Regular Meeting:

Following the work session, Rocky Ford City Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Jung called meeting to order. Those present at roll call were:

Mayor: Susan Jung

Councilmembers: Cuco Ruiz, Matthew Holland, Richard Geist, Peggy Sue Corbin-Romero

Staff: City Manager Shannon Wallace, City Attorney Bart Mendenhall, City Clerk Cheryl Grasmick

Others present: City Finance Director Azucena Estrada, Gerri Clark, Thomas and Tracey Martin, Daryl Grasmick, Terry McClellan, Jolean Rose, Marty Lee.

Mayor Jung led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Geist moved to approve the minutes from the November 26, 2019 council meeting as presented. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Ruiz. Voting results were:

YES Ruiz, Holland, Geist, Corbin-Romero, Jung

NO None

Motion carried 5-0.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION - None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Councilmember Ruiz and seconded by Councilmember Holland to approve the agenda with consent items as presented. Voting results were:

YES Ruiz, Holland, Geist, Corbin-Romero, Jung

NO None

Motion carried 5-0.

Consent items approved were:

- A. Approval of Edward Jones taking on new Retirement plan for City.
- B. Renewal of Club Liquor License for Rocky Ford BPOE #1147, 301 N 9th, Rocky Ford, CO.
- C. Renewal of Tavern Liquor License for Len's Tavern, 901 Railroad Ave, Rocky Ford, CO.

COUNCIL INTERVIEW OF WARD II CANDIDATES

Mayor Jung asked Council if they wanted to extend the period for accepting letters of interest for the two vacant Ward II seats. Councilmembers Ruiz and Holland both expressed their thoughts that people had sufficient time to submit their letters of interest for the positions. No motion was made to extend the deadline so Rocky Ford City Council proceeded to interview the three candidates who submitted letters of interest for the two vacant Council seats in Ward II. Following interviews of Thomas Martin, Jolean Rose and Daryl Grasmick, a paper ballot was conducted with each councilmember voting for two of the three candidates. City Attorney Mendenhall advised each councilmember to signed his/her name to their paper ballot; he added that this was a public vote and the public had the right to request who voted for which candidate. City Manager Shannon Wallace read the votes and City Clerk Cheryl Grasmick recorded the following results:

- 4 votes for Jolean Rose - (Jung, Geist, Holland, Ruiz)
- 3 votes for Thomas Martin - (Jung, Corbin-Romero, Ruiz)
- 3 votes for Daryl Grasmick - (Geist, Corbin-Romero, Holland)

City Manager Wallace declared Jolean Rose winner of the first Ward II Council seat, with a tie vote declared between Martin and Grasmick for second seat.

Another paper ballot was conducted, with each Council member voting for one candidate and signing his/her name to the ballot. Results were:

- 3 votes for Grasmick - (Geist, Corbin-Romero, Holland)
- 2 votes for Martin - (Jung, Ruiz)

City Manager Shannon Wallace declared Daryl Grasmick winner of the second Ward II Council seat.

City Clerk Cheryl Grasmick administered the oath of office to Jolean Rose and Daryl Grasmick, who then took their respective seats with the rest of Rocky Ford City Council.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinances Consideration:

Councilmember Rose moved to approve and adopt **Ordinance #947: An Ordinance Summarizing Expenditures And Revenues For Each Fund And Adopting a Budget For The City Of Rocky Ford, Colorado, For The Calendar Year Beginning On The First Day Of January, 2020, And Ending On The Last Day Of December 2020** on second reading by title only. Councilmember Ruiz seconded motion.

Voting results were:

- | | |
|---------|----------------------------------|
| YES | Rose, Ruiz, Geist, Jung |
| NO | None |
| ABSTAIN | Holland, Grasmick, Corbin-Romero |

Motion carried 4-0, with three abstaining.

It was moved by Councilmember Ruiz and seconded by Councilmember Rose to approve and adopt **Ordinance #948: An Ordinance Levying General Property Taxes For The Year 2020 To Help Defray The Costs Of Government For The City Of Rocky Ford, Colorado For The 2020 Budget Year, And For The Mill Levy On Each Dollar's Worth Of Property As Per The Assessed Value Thereon, As**

Shown By The Assessor Of Otero County For The Year 2020, As Fixed By The Board of Equalization

on second reading by title only. Voting results were:

YES Rose, Ruiz, Holland, Geist, Grasmick, Corbin-Romero, Jung
NO None

Motion carried 7-0.

Councilmember Ruiz moved to approve and adopt **Ordinance # 949: An Ordinance Appropriating Sums Of Money To The Various Funds In The Amount And For The Purpose As Set Forth Below, For The City Of Rocky Ford, Colorado, For The 2020 Budget Year** on second reading by title only. Motion was

seconded by Councilmember Geist. Voting results were:

YES Rose, Ruiz, Geist, Jung
NO None
ABSTAIN Holland, Grasmick, Corbin-Romero

Motion carried 4-0 with three abstaining.

PRESENTATION OF BENEFITS CIGNA BENEFITS BY MARK HILLIAR

Mark Hilliar of Benefit Advisors gave presentation on health benefits plan with CIGNA Insurance. Plan compared favorably with United Healthcare, current City insurance provider. With CIGNA Insurance, the deductible paid by employee would be reduced by \$1000 and out of pocket maximum would also be reduced. Following Mr. Hilliar's presentation, Councilmember Grasmick moved to switch City insurance from United HealthCare to CIGNA for 2020. Councilmember Geist seconded motion. Voting results were:

YES Rose, Ruiz, Holland, Geist, Grasmick, Corbin-Romero, Jung
NO None

Motion carried 7-0.

City Manager Wallace advised Council that the City will pay each qualifying City employee's monthly health insurance benefits up to \$550.00 monthly. There will be an open enrollment for employees with Mark Hilliar for CIGNA insurance in Council Chambers on Thursday, December 12, from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., and on Friday, December 13, from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT & RECOMMENDATIONS

Rocky Ford Planning Commission met in Council Chambers on December 2, 2019. Mayor Jung reported on meeting and gave Council the two recommendations made by the commission.

Councilmember Rose moved to approve the sub-division request from Henry Ongondi and Ruben Bett dba Bahari Investment, 14th Street and Chestnut Avenue, Rocky Ford, CO., as recommended by the Rocky Ford Planning Commission. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Geist. Voting results were:

YES Rose, Ruiz, Holland, Geist, Grasmick, Corbin-Romero, Jung
NO None

Motion carried 7-0.

It was moved by Councilmember Grasmick and seconded by Councilmember Geist to approve the addition of wording on the Planning Commission request application to require applicant's presence at the hearing.

Voting results were:

YES Rose, Ruiz, Holland, Geist, Grasmick, Corbin-Romero, Jung
NO None

Motion carried 7-0.

APPOINT NEW COUNCIL MEMBER TO PLANNING COMMISSION

The Mayor and one City Council representative are appointed to serve on the Rocky Ford Planning Commission. Former Mayor J.R. Thompson served as one of the City representatives to the Rocky Ford Planning Commission, with Councilmember Jung serving as the other City representative. With Mayor Thompson's departure after the election and Susan Jung assuming the role of Mayor, there is still a vacancy on the commission. Councilmember Ruiz moved to appoint Jolly (Jolean) Rose as City Council representative to the Rocky Ford Planning Commission. Councilmember Holland seconded motion.

Voting results were:

YES	Ruiz, Holland, Geist, Grasmick, Corbin-Romero, Jung
NO	None
ABSTAIN	Rose

Motion carried 6-0, with one abstaining.

Following a question from Councilmember Grasmick, Mayor Jung advised Council that representatives to the other various boards and commissions would be made at the January meetings.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION - None

MAYOR/CITY COUNCIL – REPORTS & UPDATES

Mayor Jung reported she will attend an Action 22 meeting in Pueblo on Thursday, December 12, 2019. She also told Council that she is donating her shovel from the ground-breaking for the public safety building back to the City at the dedication.

Councilmember Geist reported the 1918 City fire truck was moved from the Rocky Ford Museum last Saturday, December 7, to the lobby in the new Public Safety Building. The public can view it there at the ribbon cutting on December 18, 2019 at 1:00 p.m.

STAFF REPORTS/UPDATES

City Manager Shannon Wallace reported on the following items:

- Amy White Tanabe sent email that the Fort Carson Garrison Commander will host the Southern Colorado Working Group at the Otero County Courthouse, room 107, in La Junta, on Wednesday, December 11 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Anyone who wants attend is welcome.
- Grand opening and dedication of the new Public Safety Building at 300 N Main, Rocky Ford, CO., will be Wednesday, December 18, 2019 at 1:00 p.m.
- She gave Council copies of the current Catlin Ditch agreements and asked that Council consider renewal agreements at the next meeting.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AT FUTURE MEETINGS

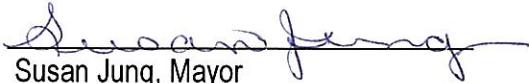
- Departmental Reports
- Joint work session with R2 School Board (January?)
- Review City Ordinances
- Look into Pool Ordinance
- Review personal policies
- Appoint Council representatives to boards/committees

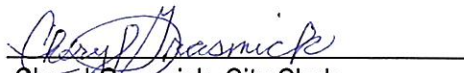
- Set Meetings and Posting Notices Locations
- Updated Catlin Canal Agreements
- CIRSA representative at one of meetings in January

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmembers Geist and Grasmick moved to adjourn. There being no further business, Mayor Jung adjourned meeting.




Susan Jung, Mayor


Cheryl Grasmick, City Clerk