



CITY OF ROCKY FORD – CITY COUNCIL MEETING

August 25, 2020

WORK SESSION:

Mayor Susan Jung, Councilmembers Jolly Rose, Rich Geist, Cuco Ruiz, Peggy Sue Corbin-Romero and City Manager Shannon Wallace met in Council Chambers to discuss personnel policies and procedures. Discussion was held on current personnel policies Code of Conduct and Drugs and Alcohol in the Workplace. Discussion was also held regarding the need to add a COVID-19 policy.

Others present: David Kline

REGULAR MEETING:

Rocky Ford City Council met in session at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 25, 2020 in Council Chambers. Mayor Susan Jung called the meeting to order. Those present at roll call were:

Mayor: Susan Jung

Councilmembers: Rich Geist, Jolly Rose, Cuco Ruiz and Peggy Sue Corbin-Romero

Staff: Deputy City Clerk Rebecca Korinek and City Manager Shannon Wallace

Others present: Margarito Garcia, Maria Garcia, David Kline and Nicole Roberts

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Rose moved to approve the minutes from the August 11, 2020 council meeting as presented. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Geist. Voting results were:

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

NO None

ABSENT Grasmick

Motion carried 5-0

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION - None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilmember Rose moved to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Ruiz. Voting results were:

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

NO None

ABSENT Grasmick

Motion carried 5-0

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Wallace reported on:

- The City has received a request to purchase a vacant lot. The lot is at 510 S. 4th Street and is appraised at \$2,025. Some discussion was held. Council requests that City Manager Wallace find out more information regarding the property.
- The Rural Fire Board did not receive any Cares Act money.
- An ad was placed in the Rocky Ford Gazette asking persons to contact Shannon of their interest in being appointed to the Tree Board.

OLD BUSINESS

Councilmember for Ward I Vacancy

City Manager Shannon Wallace reported that 2 letters of interest have been received to date. A decision will be made prior to the deadline of 60 days on Tuesday, September 8, 2020. All interested persons will be invited to attend the Council meeting and a decision will be made.

Barhari Investment Follow-up

City Manager Shannon Wallace reported that Bahari Investment has made a payment of \$1000 toward their delinquent account. City Manager Wallace and City Attorney Nathan Shultz have agreed that no letter will be sent at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

Sole Source Proposal for 15th Street

City Manager Wallace informed Council that the situation at South 15th Street has gotten worse and recent storms have caused a large sink hole. Public Works Director Rick Long has received a bid from Sole Source for repairs. Money for this project will come from Highway Users Tax Fund (HUTF) and from the 1 percent sales tax. Councilmember Ruiz moved to approve the Sole Source proposal. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Geist. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 5-0

Proposal for Lift Station Repairs

City Manager Shannon Wallace reported that Public Works Director Rick Long has been having issues with the west lift station. Quite a bit of time and money has been spent trying to fix the issues. On July 27, 2020, the system completely shut down and the lift station reached critical levels. SBT Electrical and Mechanical, LLC and Browns Hill have submitted bids for the repairs. The Browns Hill bid is considerably less. Both the Public Works Director Rick Long and Luke James have recommended the Browns Hill bid. Councilmember Corbin-Romero moved to approve the Brown's Hill bid if they would offer a warranty and provide a date when they could start. There was no second to the motion. The motion died. There was some additional discussion. It was moved by Councilmember Ruiz and seconded by Councilmember Geist to approve and authorize the Browns Hill bid. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 5-0

Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Manzanola

City Manager Shannon Wallace informed Council that Manzanola is requesting that the City of Rocky Ford do their dispatching for them. Councilmember Ruiz moved to approve and authorize City Manager Wallace to enter into an agreement with the Town of Manzanola for dispatch services. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rose. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 5-0

CDPHE Update

City Manager Wallace gave Council a report on the phone meeting held between CDPHE, City Attorney Nathan Shultz, City Manager Shannon Wallace, City Auditors Patrick Hancock and Andrew Froese, City Engineers, Public Works Director Rick Long and Luke James. The fine is very high for violations at the sewage lagoons. CDPHE feels that the fine is appropriate and they would like the City officials to get together and decide what the City could pay. CDPHE would give the City 3 years to pay. City Manager Wallace asked Council to allow her and City Attorney Nathan Shultz to send a letter to CDPHE. Councilmember Rose moved to allow City Manager Shannon Wallace and City Attorney Nathan Shultz to send a letter to CDPHE. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Ruiz. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 5-0

EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was moved by Councilmember Ruiz and seconded by Councilmember Geist to go into executive session for discussion of a personnel matter under C.R.S. §24-6-402(2)(f) and not involving: any specific employees who have requested discussion of the matter in open session; any member of this body or any elected official; the appointment of any person to fill an office of this body or of an elected official; or personnel policies that do not require the discussion of matters personal to particular employees; those going into executive session will be Councilmembers Jolly Rose, Cuco Ruiz, Rich Geist, Peggy Sue Corbin-Romero, Mayor Susan Jung and City Manager Shannon Wallace. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 5-0

Those named for executive session moved to another office. Council went into executive session at 7:21 p.m. and ended their executive session at 7:35 p.m.

Following adjournment of executive session, Council went into regular session. No further action was taken.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Margarito Garcia mentioned to Council that he heard some discussion about a piece of property for sale. He would request that Council be transparent and advertise any property that the City may have for sale so that all may have the opportunity to purchase. Mr. Garcia is concerned that someone may purchase the property and then let it become full of weeds, trash and junk cars. Mr. Garcia proposed that if there was a valid offer for a property, he would pay \$500 more for that property and he gave Council his promise to keep the property clean. Mr. Garcia also asked Council to consider getting some sort of code enforcement activated.

STAFF REPORTS/UPDATES - None

MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL REPORTS OR UPDATES

Councilmember Rose gave Council some printed information regarding the Otero County Landfill rates for 2021. Otero County Landfill, Inc. will be taking small steps with the rate increases. Some discussion was held on whether or not electronic equipment is accepted.

Councilmember Ruiz gave information from the Swimming Pool Commission meeting. The Swim Pool Commission has received some much-needed donations. The roof at the swim pool need repair and the boiler system need replaced. Councilmember Ruiz asked City Manager Wallace if she had any new information regarding the roof at the Library. City Manager Wallace responded that she has not received any additional information.

Councilmember Corbin-Romero thanked all the workers for the swim season and wondered if there might be some funds to give them something for their hard work. Corbin-Romero is willing to donate. City Manager Wallace will look into it. Councilmember Corbin-Romero reported that the Grand Theater will reopen this coming weekend. There will be some special guidelines for entering and paying for concessions. Corbin-Romero suggested that people get there early as the movie will start promptly on time. Corbin-Romero thanked City Manager Wallace for placing an ad in the newspaper for the Tree Board.

Mayor Jung reported that she attended an Action 22 meeting. Mayor Jung attended the Arkansas Valley Fair breakfast and attended a luncheon and fundraiser for Cory Gardner.

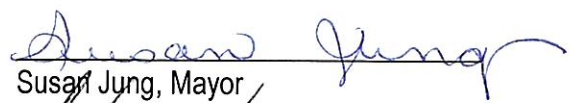
AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING OR WORK SESSION


- Review City ordinances
- Review personnel policies
- Permits for Construction
- Crystal Lake
- Conduit

ADJOURNMENT

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




Susan Jung, Mayor


Rebecca Korinek, Deputy City Clerk