



## CITY OF ROCKY FORD – CITY COUNCIL MEETING

**August 9, 2022**

**WORK SESSION: 6:00 p.m.**

Mayor Susan Jung, Councilmembers Rich Geist, Johnette Fuller, Norman Railton, Duane Gurule and Sherry Cordova and City Manager Shannon Wallace had discussion on water and sewer increases. Some discussion was held about the upcoming Arkansas Valley Fair.

Others present: J.R. Thompson, Gary Reed and Alex Reed

**REGULAR MEETING: 7:00 p.m.**

Rocky Ford City Council met in Council Chambers on Tuesday, August 9, 2022. Mayor Jung called the meeting to order. Those present at roll call were:

Mayor: Susan Jung

Councilmembers: Duane Gurule, Johnette Fuller, Sherry Cordova, Rich Geist and Norman Railton

Staff: City Manager Shannon Wallace and City Clerk Rebecca Korinek

Others present: Gary Reed, J.R. Thompson, Alex Reed, Angelita Castor-Randall, Aliza Libby Pinky Montoya, Linda Pantoya, Cuco Ruiz, Leon Ortega, Eloy Maestas and Theresa Chaparro-Montano, Ariel Camacho via Zoom

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA**

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

YES Geist, Gurule, Cordova, Railton, Fuller, Jung

NO None

ABSENT Herrera

Motion carried 6-0

Consent Item(s) approved:

1. City Council meeting minutes from July 26, 2022
2. Application for (4) Special Event Permits – **BPOE Elks Club – 301 North 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Rocky Ford on August 17 and August 18 from 10:00 a.m. to Midnight and August 19 and August 20 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m.**
3. Application for Renewal of Retail Marijuana License – **Mesa Organics III, LTD, dba Star Buds, 1315 Elm Avenue, Rocky Ford, CO**

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Theresa Chapparo-Montano asked Mayor Jung for clarification of the consent agenda.

Leon Ortega, 608 North 13<sup>th</sup> Street, gave Council information regarding a property in Rocky Ford. Ortega reported that he is also representing other concerned citizens. 606 North 13<sup>th</sup> Street is owned by a private individual. No utilities have ever been connected to the property. There was a fire at this property and it has been deemed non-livable. Ortega reported that there are many issues with the property.

Theresa Chaparro-Montano, 916 Emerson, informed Council that she is very concerned with animal control in the city. Chaparro-Montano asked Council to consider implementing an ordinance for cat control. Chaparro-Montano also reported to Council that she has been the victim of racism.

## **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

City Manager Shannon Wallace reported the following:

- Manager's report was previously given to Council but the following items were added.
- Shannon and Parks and Recreation Director Stacey Milenski met with Magellan and they will be sending the finished forms so that a survey can be conducted.
- District Attorney Culver has approved some evidence being destroyed or released.
- The dog pound resurface will need to be rescheduled.
- The Hardline Company gave Shannon an estimate of between \$15,000 and \$20,000 to fix the old street sweeper.
- Bethel met with Code Enforcement Officer Natasha Ortiz. An asbestos test has been scheduled. Bethel does not know what he wants to do with the property. An asbestos test has previously been performed by the EPA.
- Shannon informed Council that she is working on next year's budget and she informed Council that she would like to increase wages for all employees not making \$15 per hour.
- Shannon would like to attend a SIPA training on September 27, 2022.

## **MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REPORTS**

Mayor Jung reported to following:

- Mayor Jung asked Council to mark their calendars for the Colorado Municipal League (CML) District 6 meeting that will be held in Rocky Ford at the Gobin Building on September 15 at 4:00 p.m.
- Mayor Jung asked Council to try to meet with City Manager Wallace to discuss any issues or budget items.

Councilmember Gurule reported the following:

- Gurule reported that he had already registered for the CML District 6 meeting.
- The Grand Theater will be showing DC League of Pets this weekend.
- CSU Extension 4-H Fashion Review will be at the Grand Theater tomorrow at 7:00 p.m.
- A citizen made a complain about weeds growing in the cracks of the street.
- Gurule commented that Rocky Ford graduate Maya Rivera competed in competition and she was awarded a Venture Capital award to help start her business.

Councilmember Fuller reported the following:

- Nothing to report at tonight's meeting

Councilmember Cordova reported the following:

- Cordova attended the last Tree Board meeting. Much discussion was held on the possibilities for Crystal Lake. The Board will have a table at the Arkansas Valley Fair with information and surveys for citizens.

Councilmember Geist reported the following:

- The Museum Board is gearing up for the Arkansas Valley Fair and they will be have a booth.

Councilmember Railton reported the following:

- Nothing to report for tonight's meeting

## **STAFF REPORTS**

Aliza Libby gave Council an update on her progress with reconciling the financials from year 2021. The City of Rocky Ford Auditors are working closely with her.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### ***Street Sweeper***

Discussion on a street sweeper has been held at numerous meetings and work sessions. After further discussion, Councilmember Railton made a motion to table this matter. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cordova. Voting results were:

YES	Gurule, Cordova, Railton, Geist, Jung
NO	Fuller
ABSENT	Herrera

Motion carried 5-1

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### ***Theresa Chaparro-Montano – Neighbor issue and an issue with Police Department***

Theresa Chaparro -Montano informed Council of some issues she is having with neighbors. Theresa has called the police department many times.

### ***Planning Commission Recommendation – To authorize a subdivision of property located at 607 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Rocky Ford, CO***

Mayor Jung informed Council that the Planning Commission conducted a public hearing to accept public comment regarding an application filed by Angelita Castor-Randall and Ariel Camacho to allow a subdivision of property at 607 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Rocky Ford, CO. The Commission voted to make a recommendation to the Rocky Ford City Council to authorize the subdivision at 607 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Rocky Ford. Councilmember Railton moved to approve and authorize the subdivision request recommendation by the Rocky Ford Planning Commission. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Gurule.

Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 6-0

### ***Discussion – Arkansas Valley Fair***

This matter was discussed during the work session

### ***Resolution #12 – Series 2022 – A Resolution of the City of Rocky Ford Adopting a New Mission Statement***

Councilmember Gurule reminded Council that Council and City Staff held a retreat on Saturday, February 25. At the retreat, long discussions were held regarding city dynamics and through all of that, a mission statement was created. Councilmember Gurule moved to adopt and approve ***Resolution #12 – A Resolution of the City of Rocky Ford Adopting a New Mission Statement***. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cordova. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 6-0

### ***Resolution #13 – Series 2022 – A Resolution to Transfer Property to Rocky Ford School District R2***

Councilmember Railton moved to approve and adopt ***Resolution #13 – A Resolution to Transfer Property to Rocky Ford School District R2***. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Fuller. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 6-0

### ***Purchase of Water Meter Parts from WinWater***

City Manager Shannon Wallace informed Council that the purchase is needed to repair meters. This is a budgeted item and is being brought before Council because the amount is over the threshold. Councilmember Railton moved to authorize the purchase of parts from WinWater Company in the amount of \$9,420.00. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Geist. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 6-0

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Leon Ortega re-addressed the property at 606 North 13<sup>th</sup> Street, Rocky Ford. Ortega reported that the owner has placed a condemned trailer home on the property without following City ordinances. Citizens that live in the area are very concerned about this issue. Ortega requested that Council set some type of time limit for the owner of this property and for Council to enforce the city ordinances.

**ADJOURN**

Councilmember Geist moved to adjourn and there being no further business, Mayor Jung adjourned the regular meeting at 8:29 p.m.

  
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Susan Jung, Mayor

Attest:  \_\_\_\_\_ City Clerk

