



# CITY OF ROCKY FORD – CITY COUNCIL MEETING

**July 22, 2025**

## **REGULAR MEETING: 6:00 p.m.**

Rocky Ford City Council met in Council Chambers on Tuesday, July 22, 2025. Mayor Gurulé called the meeting to order. Those present at roll call were:

Mayor: Duane Gurulé

Councilmembers Present: Thomas Mullins, Nanette Mosby, Johnny McMurray, Nicholas Martinez,

Councilmembers Absent: None

City Staff Present: City Manager Stacey Milenski, Police Chief Matthew Wallace, Public Works Director Rick Long, Refuse Driver Jason Queen, and online by Zoom, City Attorney Dan Harvey

Public in attendance for tonight's meeting: J. R. Thompson, Gary Reed, Sally Cope, Ashley Venem, Bernie Flores, Rod Rodriguez, two others from the American Legion Post 8, Selina Rodriguez, Beverly Rodriguez, Rocky Ford Police Department staff, an unidentified member of the Otero County Sheriff's Department

Mayor Gurulé led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilmember Robert Barron read aloud the City of Rocky Ford's Mission Statement

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Sally Cope made a welcoming statement about the 148<sup>th</sup> Arkansas Valley Fair, August 13-16, 2025.

Richard Vasquez asked for consideration on small ATV and Side by Sides regarding amending Ordinance No. 990

## **ANY CHANGES TO, OR REMOVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEM**

None requested

## **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor Gurulé explained the agenda and consent agenda to all. Councilmember Mullins moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Martinez. Voting results were:

YES                      Martinez, Mosby, Mullins, McMurray, Roberts, Barron, Gurulé

NO                        None

ABSENT                None

Motion carried: 7-0

Consent Agenda Item(s) approved were:

- Previous meeting minutes for July 8, 2025 – Regular meeting at 6:00 p.m.
- Application for Special Events Permits (4) – **Arkansas Valley Fairgrounds: Grandstand Beer Garden – August 13 & 14, 2025, 11 am to Midnight and August 15 & 16, 2025, 11 am to 1 am.**
- Application for Special Events Permits (4) – **Arkansas Valley Fairgrounds: Pavillion Beer Garden – August 13 & 14, 2025, 11 am to Midnight and August 15 & 16, 2025, 11 am to 1 am.**
- Application for Special Events Permit – **Rocky Ford County Club and Golf Course – Car Show & Meet N' Greet, Railroad Park, August 10, 2025 August 10, 2025, noon to 6 pm.**
- Request to close public street for Special Event – **Arkansas Valley Fair – Car Show – Main Street and Front Street closures, August 10, 2025, 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.**

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mayor Gurulé requested the addition, ***New Business, 13.4 Resignation of Museum Board Member, Donna Bush and Darla Marshall and 13.5 Library Board Book Sale Policy***

Councilmember Roberts moved to approve the agenda with the requested additions. The motion was seconded by Councilmember McMurray. Voting results were:

YES	Martinez, Mosby, Mullins, McMurray, Roberts, Barron, Gurulé
NO	None
ABSENT	None

Motion carried 7-0

## **PRESENTATIONS, AWARDS, PROCLAMATIONS**

Mayor Gurulé proclaimed August 7, 2025 PURPLE HEART DAY and presented the proclamation to the American Legion Post 8.

Chief Matt Wallace presented Officer Mark Montano with the Purple Heart Award for Law Enforcement. Officer Montano was awarded this medal for his bravery during an attack on his life on December 23, 2024.

Museum Curator Rob Marshall was recognized for his 5-year work anniversary. Councilmember Mullins presented Rob with a plaque and a cake.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

City Manager Stacey Milenski gave report to Council and audience.

Finance Director Kyle Crosswhite gave the mid-year financial report to the Councilmembers and reported Hancock and Froese will be present for work session August 19, 2025 to present the 2024 audit.

## **MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS**

***Councilmember Martinez – Fireside Chat will be August 11, 2025***

***Councilmember Barron – Arts Commission had to get a new computer due to a recent storm***

***Councilmember McMurray – Nothing to report***

***Councilmember Mosby – Reported on upcoming golf tournaments, golf course is looking for volunteers for the fall, and reported damage to a cart shed by a snow storm last fall (first report).***

***Councilmember Roberts – Events coming up at the Chamber of Commerce-Taste of Summer on August 9, 2025, reported that donations to the Fireworks Fund can be made year-round, Kitchen of Kindness offering free meals around the valley***

***Councilmember Mullins – Kit Carson’s grandson will be making a presentation on the history and development of Rocky Ford, date for this event has yet to be determined.***

***Mayor Gurulé – Installed a new sound board for the Council Chambers with the help of Councilmember McMurray, reported on OCLI/OPI, announced the La Sandia Project events will kick off on Friday, July 25 with local artist designing and painting various buildings and continue with events on Saturday, July 26, 2025, Back to School event is scheduled for August 9 at Rocky Ford PK-12 from 2 pm – 6 pm, reported the change in the 148<sup>th</sup> Arkansas Valley Fair Parade Route will end at Front Street and turn east to 10<sup>th</sup> Street, then south on 10<sup>th</sup> Street to Pine Avenue. Change was made to comply with CDOT and BNSF routes, and the availability of Colorado State Patrol having the manpower to help with traffic control crossing HWY 50.***

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

None

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Action item: To approve or disapprove public mural on the city owned 9<sup>th</sup> Street facility and crosswalks.** Councilmember Roberts moved to approve the public mural and crosswalks. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Martinez. Voting results were:

YES	Martinez, Mosby, Mullins, McMurray, Roberts, Barron
NO	None
ABSTAIN	Gurulé

Motion carried: 6-0 with one abstaining

**Action item: To give direction for the city attorney to amend the contract with Jack Barker regarding the 8<sup>th</sup> Street property to include a timeline of 30 to close on the property or contract will be terminated.** Councilmember Roberts moved to approve the city attorney to amend the contract with Jack Barker. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Martinez.

Voting results were:

YES Martinez, Mosby, Mullins, McMurray, Roberts, Barron, Gurulé  
NO None

Motion carried: 7-0

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Rocky Ford Public Works Director Rick Long, Proposal to Purchase Trash Truck.** Council voted to purchase a 2026 Freightliner M2 Plus with New Way Cobra Rear Loader through Elliott Equipment, \$221,000.00, financed for 5 years. Councilmember McMurray moved to approve this purchase under the terms. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Roberts. Voting results were:

YES Martinez, Mosby, Mullins, McMurray, Roberts, Barron, Gurulé  
NO None

Motion carried: 7-0

**Request for a Special Event on a Public Street – La Sandia Project** for Saturday, July 26, 2026 from 8 am – 8 pm on Front Street. Councilmember Roberts moved to approve the special event. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Mosby. Voting results were:

YES Martinez, Mosby, Mullins, McMurray, Roberts, Barron  
NO None  
ABSTAIN Gurulé

Motion carried: 6-0 with one abstaining

**Ordinance No. 990-An ordinance amending Rocky Ford Municipal Code, Chapter 6 by adding New Article 6 concerning Utility Terrain Vehicles (UTV) on first reading.** Councilmember Mullins moved to approve the amending Ordinance No. 990. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Martinez. Voting results were:

Roberts. Voting results were:

YES Martinez, Mosby, Mullins, McMurray, Roberts, Barron, Gurulé  
NO None

Motion carried: 7-0

### **Resignation of Museum Board Member**

Mayor Gurulé requested the Council vote on the resignation of Museum Board Members Donna Bush and Darla Marshall. Councilmember Mullins asked the Council to table the vote to consult with the Museum Board before making the decision to accept resignations. It was moved by Councilmember Mullins and seconded by Councilmember Roberts to table the resignation of Museum Board Members,

YES Mullins, McMurray, Martinez, Mosby, Barron, Roberts,  
NO Gurulé

Motion carried: 6-1

### **Library Board Book Sale Policy**

Councilmember Martinez presented the Council with a Book Sale Policy. There was discussion regarding the Library Director wanting discretion to change the policy. The council approved the policy but striking that the Library Director had the discretion to change the policy as needed. Councilmember Mullins moved to approve the policy with the changes and Councilmember Martinez seconded the motion.

YES Martinez, Mosby, Mullins, McMurray, Roberts, Barron, Gurulé  
NO None

Motion carried: 7-0

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None

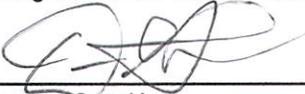
**UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS**

Tuesday, August 5, 2024 at 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. for City Council Work session

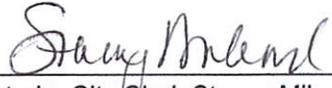
Tuesday, August 12, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. for City Council Regular Meeting

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, Mayor Gurulé adjourned at 8:29 p.m.



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Mayor Duane Gurulé



Attest

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Interim City Clerk Stacey Milenski

