



CITY OF ROCKY FORD – CITY COUNCIL MEETING

December 13, 2022

WORK SESSION: 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Susan Jung, Councilmembers Duane Gurule, Larry Herrera and Sherry Cordova, along with City Manager Shannon Wallace and Fire Chief Ray Gonzales met to discuss the Wildland Fire addition and reception.

Others present: J.R. Thompson, Nicholas Martinez, Nicholas Martinez II, Nina Fernandez, Eddy Fernandez, Gary Reed, Shelly Valdez and Manuel Treviso

REGULAR MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

Rocky Ford City Council met in Council Chambers on Tuesday, December 13, 2022. Mayor Jung called the meeting to order. Those present at roll call were:

Mayor: Susan Jung

Councilmembers: Larry Herrera, Duane Gurule and Sherry Cordova

Staff: City Manager Shannon Wallace, City Clerk Rebecca Korinek (via Zoom) and Public Works Director Rick Long

Others present: J. R. Thompson, Nicholas Martinez, Nicholas Martinez II, Nina Fernandez, Eddy Fernandez, Gary Reed, Shelly Valdez and Manuel Treviso

Mayor Jung led the pledge of allegiance.

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA

None stated

City Manager Shannon Wallace read aloud the City of Rocky Ford's Mission Statement.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Shannon Wallace had previously emailed her report to Council but added the following:

- Shannon received a quote for repairs at the E.D. Building and another quote will be forthcoming for a bathroom at the Public Works Building

- Shannon informed Council that some of the city fees need to be raised on the utility side. Some discussion was held regarding broken water meters.
- Public Works Director Rick Long will talk about storm water.
- Shannon asked Council for their opinion on Christmas lights. Some discussion was held.
- Shannon informed Council of the new "citizen complaint form".

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Jung reported to following:

- Mayor Jung attended a zoom meeting for the Colorado Municipal League (CML) effective governments.
- Mayor Jung attended the CML executive board meeting.

Councilmember Herrera reported the following:

- Herrera asked to abstain on the vote for the consent agenda for tonight's meeting.

Councilmember Gurule reported the following:

- Gurule had no report regarding the swim pool or Art's Commission.
- Gurule reported that volunteers gave out 150 turkeys and meal boxes around Thanksgiving.
- Gurule thanked the Public Works Department on the Christmas lights.
- Coffee with Council was held and was a good meeting.
- Fairgrounds and Crystal Lake planning committee held a walkthrough of the Fairgrounds.
- Gurule reminded all that the Economic Development website has a lot of information and a holiday lights map.
- Southeast Health Group Advisory Committee has done renovations on 400 N. Main Street and is offering many services and resources.

Councilmember Cordova reported the following:

- Library Board held a meeting earlier in the evening. The Library Director has been holding interviews and has hired a new part-time employee.

STAFF REPORTS

None

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 Cordova. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 3-0

Consent Item(s) approved:

1. City Council meeting minutes from November 22, 2022 and Special Meeting for December 5, 2022
2. Application for Renewal of Retail Liquor or Fermented Malt Beverage License – **Leonard Gonzales dba Len's Tavern, 97 Railroad Avenue, Rocky Ford, CO.**
3. Application for Renewal of Retail Liquor or Fermented Malt Beverage License – **Dawggg House, LLC, 606 Elm Avenue, Rocky Ford, CO**

OLD BUSINESS

8.1 Ordinance #969 – 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 2023 and ending on the last day of December 2023, on final reading.

It was moved by Councilmember Herrera and seconded by Councilmember Gurule to approve and adopt Ordinance #969 on final reading. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 4-0

8.2 – Ordinance #970 An ordinance appropriating sums of money to the various funds in amounts, and for the purpose, as set forth, for the City of Rocky Ford, Colorado, for the 2023 budget year, on final reading.

It was moved by Councilmember Herrera and seconded by Councilmember Cordova to approve and adopt Ordinance #970, on final reading. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 4-0

8.3 – Ordinance #971 – An ordinance levying general property taxes for the year 2022 to help defray the costs of government for the City of Rocky Ford, Colorado for the 2023 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 2022, as fixed by the board of equalization, on final reading.

It was moved by Councilmember Gurule and seconded by Councilmember Cordova to approve and adopt Ordinance #971, on final reading. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 4-0

8.4 – Approval of new legal description for property at site of new school.

This matter was tabled as the new legal description has not been received.

8.5 – Order new pump for vac truck

Councilmember Gurule moved to authorize the purchase of a new pump for the Vac Truck. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Herrera. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 4-0

COUNCIL ADJOURNMENT SINE DIE – Adjournment of Meeting of Outgoing Councilmembers & Swearing in of New Council Member.

New Councilmember for Ward II, Nicholas Martinez, was given the oath of office by City Clerk Rebecca Korinek and took his seat.

NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Resolution #18 – Series 2022 – A resolution authorizing the City of Rocky Ford to Reduce Water Rates.

It was moved by Councilmember Gurule and seconded by Councilmember Cordova to approve and adopt Resolution #18 – Series 2022. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 5-0

9.2 Ordinance #972 – An Ordinance for the reduction of clear water in the sanitary sewer system, on first reading.

This matter was tabled and will be discussed at a future work session.

9.3 Resolution #19 – Series 2022 – A resolution the approval of supplemental budget for 2022.

It was moved by Councilmember Gurule and seconded by Councilmember Herrera to approve and adopt Resolution #19 – Series 2022. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 5-0

9.4 Review Bids for Catlin Canal Water Share Lease

Two sealed bids were received. Glenn Hirakata bid \$86.50 per share for 25 shares. And Willard Behm bid \$79.00 per share for 26 shares. Councilmember Herrera moved to approve the two bids that were received by Glenn Hirakata and Willard Behm. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cordova. Voting results were:

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

Motion carried 5-0

9.5 Acceptance of Resignation of Councilmember Rich Geist and Declaration of Vacancy

It was moved by Councilmember Cordova and seconded by Councilmember Martinez to accept, with regret, the written resignation of Rich Geist in Ward I. Voting results were:

YES Herrera, Gurule, Cordova, Martinez, Jung
NO None
ABSENT Railton and Fuller

Motion carried 5-0

Councilmember Gurule moved to amend the previous motion to include the declaration of vacancy in Ward I. This motion was seconded by Councilmember Herrera. Voting results were:

YES Gurule, Cordova, Herrera, Martinez, Jung
NO None
ABSENT Railton and Fuller

Motion carried 5-0

9.6 Vacate the Regular Scheduled Council Meeting for December 27th, 2022.

Councilmember Herrera moved to vacate the regular meeting scheduled for Tuesday, December 27, 2022. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cordova. Voting results were:

YES Herrera, Gurule, Cordova, Martinez, Jung
NO None
ABSENT Railton and Fuller

Motion carried 5-0

Discussion Items:


Mayor Jung thanked J.R. Thompson on an article in the Rocky Ford Daily Gazette regarding the Vac Truck. Mayor Jung voiced her displeasure at Council for the failed motion at the special meeting on December 5, 2022. Many opinions were given and much discussion was held regarding this matter


PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Cordova and there being no further business, Mayor Jung adjourned the regular meeting at 8:20 p.m.


Susan Jung, Mayor

Attest: 
Rebecca Korinek, City Clerk

