



**A PROCLAMATION
AUTHORIZING RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY
TELECOMMUNICATORS WEEK
April 13th – April 19th**

Whereas, emergencies can occur at any time that require police, fire or emergency medical services; and,

Whereas, when an emergency occurs the prompt response of police officers, firefighters and paramedics is critical to the protection of life and preservation of property; and,

Whereas, the safety of our police officers and firefighters is dependent upon the quality and accuracy of information obtained from citizens who telephone the Rocky Ford emergency communications center; and,

Whereas, Public Safety Telecommunicators are the first and most critical contact our citizens have with emergency services; and,

Whereas, the Rocky Ford Emergency Communications Center provides dispatch services for several local municipalities; and,

Whereas, Public Safety Telecommunicators are the single vital link for our police officers and firefighters by monitoring their activities by radio, providing them information and ensuring their safety; and,

Whereas, the Rocky Ford Emergency Communications Center has contributed substantially to the apprehension of criminals, suppression of fires and treatment of patients; and,

Whereas, each dispatcher has exhibited compassion, understanding and professionalism during the performance of their job in the past year;

Therefore, Be It Resolved that the City Council of Rocky Ford declares the week of April 13 through 19, 2025, to be National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week in the City of Rocky Ford, in honor of the men and women whose diligence and professionalism keep our city and citizens safe.

Signed this 8th day of April, 2025.

Duane Gurule
Mayor
City of Rocky Ford

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

City Manager's Report



To: Mayor Gurulé and City Council Member
From: Stacey Milenski
Date: March 25, 2025

PROPERTIES:

- **701 Sycamore: Demo almost complete**
 - Issues encountered
 - Change order on dump fees
 - Change order on testing since the report was from 2023
 - The foundation was larger than expected
 - The City fill and level the hole instead of paying Property Craft an additional charge for that service
- **501 N Main (El Capitan) Update: Status Hearing-April 23**
- **Liberty School: No update**
- **Brewer Construction Site: No update**
- **1149 Railroad Update: No update**
- **400 S Main Update: No update**
- **8th Street Property: No update**, Otero County Title is working on it as of 4/3

NEW/OLD BUSINESS:

- **Sidewalks Replacement:**
- **Sidewalk Shaving:** Work started on 3/31, and finished on
- **Street Signs:** Signs for street names have been placed, working on the stop signs, yield signs, etc.
- **New Server:** Triad is recommending that the city look into a new server sooner rather than later
 - Michelle has requested a quote from Triad
- **Tree Board:**
 - Arbor Day Proclamation upcoming for the next meeting
 - Recognized for 33 years as Tree City USA
- **Otero County:** Ribbon Cutting for the new Detention Center and Admin Building
 - April 15 @ 2:00 pm
 - 222 E. 2nd Street, La Junta

DEPARTMENT UPDATES:

- **Rocky Ford Fire Department:**
- **Rocky Ford Police Department:**
- **Rocky Ford Communications:**
 - National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week
- **Rocky Ford Public Works:**
- **Rocky Ford Parks and Recreation/Cemetery:**
 - Soccer games are starting 4/7 and 4/10 in La Junta
- **Rocky Ford Public Library:**
 - 4/4-Lego Club started
- **Rocky Ford Museum:**
 - A Night at the Museum Presents: Beth Dodd Interpretation at Bent's Fort National Historic Site

ROCKY FORD MUSEUM

CURATOR'S REPORT

for March 2025

In the month of March, we were pleased to welcome 30 visitors to the museum.

As part of our ongoing efforts to enhance accessibility, we began the process of photographing our artifacts for integration into our digital database. Special thanks to Tom Mullins, Nannette, and Chuck Mosby for their dedication and significant contributions to this project. The final goal of this initiative is to make these images available on our website, allowing visitors to explore and learn more about specific artifacts.

On March 21st, Morgan & Sons Glass Company assisted with the restoration of our wall showcase displays by trimming and replacing the chipped glass. We are proud to report that all cracked, chipped, or broken glass on the first floor of the museum has now been repaired or replaced.

Additionally, we are excited to welcome Mr. Daimen Ryder as the newest member of our museum board. Mr. Ryder is a science teacher at East Otero School District and brings valuable experience, having previously served as a museum board member.

Sincerely,

Rob Marshall

Curator, Rocky Ford Museum



Ordinance Number: 989

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE 13 OF CHAPTER 18 OF THE CITY OF ROCKY FORD MUNICIPAL CODE CONCERNING REGISTRATION OF VACANT BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES WITHIN THE CITY.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Rocky Ford wishes to amend Article 13 of Chapter 18 to clarify its intent to require land and building owners to register all vacant property and structures within the City of Rocky Ford; and

WHEREAS, The City of Rocky Ford has the authority to enact responsible ordinances to help rehabilitate vacant buildings and land.

NOW THEREFORE, IT HEREBY BE ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROCKY FORD, COLORADO AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Section 18-13-10(d) of the City of Rocky Ford Municipal Code is hereby amended as follows:

Sec. 18-13-10. – Definitions.

* * *

(d) Vacant building. A building (~~not including government owned buildings~~) which is:

- (1) Unoccupied ~~or~~ and unsecured.
- (2) Unoccupied and secured by other than normal means.
- (3) Unoccupied and an unsafe building determined by the Fire Department.
- (4) Unoccupied and having utilities disconnected.
- (5) Unoccupied and has housing or building code violations.
- (6) Illegally occupied including loitering and vagrancy.
- (7) Unoccupied for over ninety (90) days and having an existing code violation issued by the Fire Department.
- (8) Unoccupied with a mortgage status of abandonment (deceased or foreclosed).
- (9) Unoccupied and abandoned by the property owner.

Section 2. Section 18-13-20 of the City of Rocky Ford Municipal Code is hereby amended as follows:

Sec. 18-13-20. – Vacant property building.

* * *

(c) The owner shall submit a vacant building plan which must meet the approval of the City Manager. The plan, at a minimum, must contain information from one of the following two choices:

- (1) If the building is to be demolished, a demolition plan indicating the proposed time frame for demolition which includes starting within 30 days of acceptance of the proposed demolition timeline and does not exceed one year in accordance with the Rocky Ford Building Code. The demolition plan must also include proof of available funds of an amount equal to the actual value as set forth in the most recent Otero County Assessor's Valuation Notice, or the actual cost of demolition removal and asbestos removal. Proof of funds is required to be verified every 90 days.

* * *

Section 3. Section 18-13-30 of the City of Rocky Ford Municipal Code is hereby repealed in its entirety.

Section 4. The City Council hereby finds, determines and declares that this ordinance is promulgated under the general police power of the City of Rocky Ford, that it is promulgated for the health, safety, and welfare of the public, and that this ordinance is necessary for the preservation of health and safety and for the protection of public convenience and welfare. The City Council further determines that the ordinance bears a rational relation to the proper legislative object sought to be obtained.

Section 5. If any clause, sentence, paragraph, or part of this ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstances shall for any reason be adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction invalid, such judgment shall not affect application to other persons or circumstances.

PASSED on the first reading the ____ day of _____, 2025.

ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2025.

By: _____
Duane L. Gurulé, Mayor

Attest: _____
Rebecca Korinek, City Clerk

See you later alligator

Antonio "Reggie" Ortega III

2/10/1961 -10/17/2021

Always a Meloneer



