



ROCKY FORD CITY COUNCIL

August 28, 2018

Rocky Ford City Council met in Council Chambers for a work session at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 28, 2018, with Interim City Manager Steve Rabe, City Attorney Bart Mendenhall and the City Auditors, Patrick Hancock and Andrew Froese. Others in attendance were Shannon Wallace, Rick Long, Cheryl Grasmick, Charles "Bill" Pattie, Marty Lee, Jolly Rose, Peggy Sue Romero, Scott Grasmick and a few other community members. The Auditors presented the 2017 Audit for the City of Rocky Ford and answered questions for the group.

Council then met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Thompson called meeting to order. Those present at roll call were:

Mayor: J. R. Thompson

Councilmembers: Susan Jung, Cuco Ruiz, Rachel Patrick, Rich Geist, Barbara Hunter

Staff: Interim City Manager Steve Rabe, City Attorney Bart Mendenhall, City Clerk Cheryl Grasmick

Others present: Rick Long, Marty Lee, Peggy Sue Romero, Jolly Rose, Charles "Bill" Pattie, Curtis Johnson, Andy Hartless, Jess Smith, Christyne Smith, N Silvia, Jessi Wallace, Larry Johnson, Rick Weiss, Meghan Stulp, Ute Bustamante, Daryl Grasmick, Scott Grasmick and several who chose not to sign in for meeting.

Mayor J. R. Thompson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Jung moved to approve the minutes from the regular **August 14, 2018** council meeting as presented. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Hunter. Voting results were:

YES Jung, Ruiz, Patrick, Hunter, Thompson

NO None

ABSTAIN Geist

Motion carried 5-0, with one abstaining.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Charles "Bill" Pattie explained the reasons for his resignation from Rocky Ford City Council. After he requested that the Rocky Ford Rural Fire Board be allowed to speak with Council at the August 14, 2018 budget work session, he stated that he was advised by the City Attorney that there appeared to be a conflict of interest for him to bring the issue to Council. Since he felt like he was being asked to make a choice, he said that made the decision easy for him. The Mayor and Council thanked Mr. Pattie for his explanation.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Councilmember Jung and seconded by Councilmember Hunter to approve the agenda and consent agenda as presented. Voting results were:

YES Jung, Ruiz, Patrick, Geist, Hunter, Thompson
NO None

Motion carried 6-0.

The consent item approved was renewal of tavern liquor license for Smith's Pub located at 966 and 968 Front Street, Rocky Ford, CO.

APPROVAL OF 2017 AUDIT

Interim City Manager Steve Rabe advised Council that subsequent to the Auditors' presentation at the work session, Council should formally adopt the 2017 Audit. Councilmember Jung moved to accept the City Audit as presented by the City's Auditors, Hancock Froese & Company, for fiscal year 2017.

Councilmember Patrick seconded motion. Voting results were:

YES Jung, Ruiz, Patrick, Geist, Hunter, Thompson
NO None

Motion carried 6-0.

APPROVAL OF LETTER OF ENGAGEMENT

City Council was advised that they need to select an audit firm to conduct the 2018 Audit. Following discussion, it was moved by Councilmember Patrick and seconded by Councilmember Ruiz to authorize the Mayor to sign the letter of engagement, as presented by Hancock Froese & Company, to conduct the audit for fiscal year 2018. Voting results were:

YES Jung, Ruiz, Patrick, Geist, Hunter, Thompson
NO None

Motion carried 6-0.

APPROVAL OF CITY MANAGER SEARCH PROCESS AND TIMELINE

C.R.S. § 24-6-402(3.5) states that the local government body shall establish job search goals, including the writing of a job description (already completed), deadlines for applications, including the writing of a job description (already completed), deadlines for applications, requirements for applicants, selection procedures and the time frame for appointing a city manager in an open meeting of said body. It was the general consensus of Council to re-advertise the position at this time due to Mr. Rizzuto's decision to withdraw from consideration for the position. Councilmember Jung moved to approve the application process and timeline as outlined and presented by Interim City Manager Rabe. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Geist. Voting results were:

YES Jung, Ruiz, Patrick, Geist, Hunter, Thompson
NO None

Motion carried 6-0.

STAFF REPORTS

Interim City Manager Steve Rabe reported on the following items:

- He shared his task list with Council in the agenda packet. Several of the items were completed.
- Revised budget calendar was given to Council to reflect changes in dates.
- Recreation Director Stacey Milenski is in process of preparing application for GOCO (Great Outdoors Colorado) planning grant to develop master plan for all of Rocky Ford parks and recreation resources.

- He reminded Council that CML Fall District 6 meeting is in Lamar on September 20. Please be sure to let City Clerk Grasmick know if you plan to attend so she can register you

Public Works Director Rick Long gave Council a recap of City accomplishments for Arkansas Valley Fair. He listed all city services used for this year's fair which included trash services, labor for fair set-up and tear-down, fencing materials purchased for traffic control, paint purchased for marking streets around fairgrounds for traffic control, plumbing contract charges for sewer problems and sewer maintenance. Total cost to the City for this fair year was \$9,035.38, which will be invoiced to the Fair Board. This was very similar to the City's cost last fair year, for which the fair board paid \$5,000.00 to the City. Fair Board also pays police over-time and some of fire department's cost.

MAYOR/CITY COUNCIL REPORTS/UPDATES

Councilmember Jung reported on the following items:

- She attended August 20, 2018 OCLI/OPI meetings. OCLI members heard from Dee Hostetler who came to promote a proposal for cardboard recycling at site 2 landfill.
- September 17, 2018 OCLI/OPI meetings were re-scheduled for September 24 because Danelle Berg will be out of town to attend her son's wedding.
- Several loans are being processed by OPI at this time.
- She attended the August 17th Fair Parade, breakfast, luncheon and toured the fair several times as Mayor Pro Tem in lieu of the Mayor's attendance.
- She gave kudos to the 4H and FFA ladies, who she said were all gracious and well-trained for their posts at the fair.
- The public safety command center that was donated by Fowler and shared by the Rocky Ford police and fire departments at the fair was very impressive. Fire Chief Gonzales outfitted the center in a job well-done.

Mayor Thompson would like to wait for appointment of the new Rocky Ford City Councilmember before Council chooses a designated representative for the City to the OCLI/OPI boards. He then presented Council with a packet of information for "Let's GO Colorado" that he received at the commissioners meeting. Mayor Thompson also reported that he worked with the vice chairman of the Arts Commission to prepare a 2019 budget for the Grand Theater.

Councilmember Ruiz shared his hopes and plans for improvement of the park across from his house near 700 block of North 13th Street. He would like to see a community garden developed there. Councilmember Ruiz and his wife would be caretakers responsible for the garden. Interim City Manager Rabe will draft an appropriate contract for oversight of the community garden since Council expressed their interest and had no objections.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AT FUTURE AGENDA

- Resolution of Charges/Fees for Parks facilities
- 2019 Budget
- City Manager position
- Ward I Vacancy
- Consultant Agreement – Rabe
- GOCO Grant Resolution (Stacey's planning grant for recreation)
- RF Rural Fire District Request at 6:00 p.m. work session September 11

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilmember Patrick moved to go into Executive Session pursuant to C.R.S. §24-6-402(4)(b) and 24-6-402(4)(e) to receive legal advice from the City Attorney with regard to the contract for services with the Rocky Ford Rural Fire District and to possibly direct negotiators on behalf of the City, with no anticipated action to follow this Executive Session. Councilmember Ruiz seconded motion. Voting results were:

YES	Jung, Ruiz, Patrick, Geist, Hunter, Thompson
NO	None

Motion carried 6-0.

Council left Council Chambers at 7:50 p.m. Those going into executive session in the conference room at 7:55 p.m. were Councilmembers Jung, Ruiz, Patrick, Geist, Hunter, Mayor Thompson, Interim City Manager Rabe and City Attorney Mendenhall. The recorder was turned off at 7:57 p.m. for attorney/council privileged information and then turned back on at 8:40 p.m. Council left executive session at 8:41 p.m. and returned to Council Chambers.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Patrick moved to adjourn meeting at 8:42 p.m. There being no further business, Mayor Thompson adjourned meeting.

J. R. Thompson, Mayor

Cheryl Grasmick, City Clerk