



RIFLE CITY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

May 19, 2021

7:00 p.m.

202 Railroad Avenue, Rifle, CO

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

A regular meeting of the Rifle City Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Barb Clifton.

Present at Roll Call:

Mayor Barb Clifton, Councilor Theresa Hamilton, Councilor Brian Condie, Councilor Ed Green, Councilor Clint Hostettler, and Councilor Sean Strode.

Councilor Theresa Hamilton motioned to excuse Councilor Joe Carpenter, seconded by Councilor Clint Hostettler.

Roll Call: Yes - Barbara Clifton, Theresa Hamilton, Brian Condie, Ed Green, Clint Hostettler, Sean Strode; No - None

Others Present:

Rifle City Manager Scott Hahn, Interim City Clerk Misty Williams, City Attorney Jim Neu, Rifle Community Television (RCTV) Michael Churchill, Chief of Police Tommy Klein, Civil Engineer Craig Spaulding, Parks and Recreation Director Tom Whitmore, Senior Center Director Tami Sours, Main Street Manager Kim Burner, Gilbert Frontella, family and friends of Officer Haley Walker.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Citizen comments were heard from Gil Frontella regarding the downtown business subsidies.

CONSENT AGENDA – CONSIDER APPROVING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

- A. Consider Minutes of the March 17, 2021, Regular Meeting
- B. Consider Liquor License Renewal for Western Slope Chicken, LLC dba Wingchesters
- C. Consider Liquor License Renewal for GMT Investments, LLC dba Black Bear Liquors
- D. Resolution to formally accept the City of Rifle, Water and Wastewater Utility Rate Study prepared by Raftelis Consultants dated May 5, 2021

Councilor Theresa Hamilton moved to approve Consent Agenda Items A, B, C and D; seconded by Councilor Sean Strode.

Roll Call: Yes - Barbara Clifton, Theresa Hamilton, Brian Condie, Ed Green, Clint Hostettler, Sean Strode; No - None

PRESENTATION

Swearing-In of New Police Officer Haley Walker

Interim City Clerk Misty Williams administered Oath of Office to new police officer Haley Walker.

Receive Update on the Traveler Program

Senior Center Director Tami Sours presented an update on the Traveler Program. Features of the PATS (Parachute Area Transit System) program and the RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program) have been considered, as well as restructuring the options of the Traveler program that we are currently paying for.

Council directed City Manager Scott Hahn to connect with Ross Peterson, the consultant who was originally involved with the RFTA Traveler Study, to get a better understanding of the City's options, costs and operational effects.

Receive Financial Report on First Quarter 2021

Finance Director Michelle Duran presented the financial report for First Quarter of 2021. She explained the revenue and expenditures for the first 3 months of 2021, and gave a sales tax comparison between this time last year to current, as well as projections for 2021 Second Quarter.

Receive an Update on the Downtown Project

City Engineer Craig Spaulding gave an update on the Downtown Project.

REGULAR AGENDA

Consider Action on West Garfield County Veterans Memorial

Parks and Recreation Director Tom Whitmore explained that during the planning for the 2021 Budget, Council had directed staff to research the actions needed to complete the Veterans Memorial. Council had approved \$15,000 for the 2021 budget to look into a playground at the property at 2025 Birch Avenue, and to look into completion of the Veterans Memorial. \$6,000.00 has been committed to updating the master plan, meetings, and surveying of the Memorial. There is \$9,000 remaining in the 2021 budget that could be used for preliminary estimates for the Veterans Memorial. Parks and Recreation Director Whitmore presented a report covering the background of the Veterans Memorial, the maintenance items involved, and the initial cost for Construction documents to finalize landscaping and civil engineering improvements to necessary to complete the Memorial. Staff requests direction from Council on the action they would like to take regarding the West Garfield County Veterans Memorial.

Councilor Theresa Hamilton moved to direct staff to pursue preliminary estimates for design and construction of the Veterans Memorial using the remainder of the 2021 Budget allotments; seconded by Councilor Brian Condie.

Roll Call: Yes - Barbara Clifton, Theresa Hamilton, Brian Condie, Clint Hostettler, Sean Strode;
No - Ed Green

Discussion of Additional Downtown Business Subsidy

City Manager Scott Hahn explained the Downtown Business Subsidy program. The program would assist Downtown Businesses affected by the COVID pandemic, as well as the downtown construction project limited access to their businesses. Main Street Manager Kim Burner clarified how the subsidy would be distributed, and the criteria necessary for a business to qualify to receive a portion of the subsidy.

Council directed staff to put together a plan for the Downtown Business Subsidy, including qualifications and grant amounts suggested, and present it at the next upcoming City Council meeting.

Added Discussion Regarding Strategic Planning

Time was provided for Council to discuss items not on the agenda, specifically Strategic Planning.

Council directed staff to collect Requests for Proposal (RFP) for a Strategic Planner to present at an upcoming Council meeting.

Administrative Reports

Reports were heard from City Manager Scott Hahn, City Attorney Jim Neu and Chief Tommy Klein.

Comments from Mayor and Council

Comments were heard from Mayor Barb Clifton and Councilors Clint Hostettler, Brian Condie, Sean Strode, Ed Green and Theresa Hamilton.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.



Misty Williams
Interim City Clerk



Barbara Clifton
Mayor