



CITY COUNCIL

WORKSHOP AND REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

September 25, 2024
7:00 PM
202 Railroad Avenue, Rifle, CO

7:00 PM - Special Meeting

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Roll Call**
4. **Public Comment** *(Maximum time permitted for Public Comment is 3 minutes per person)
*(Reserved for general comments or items on the agenda that are not a public hearing)
5. **Regular Agenda**
 - 5.a. Consider Appointment for City Council Vacancy
6. **Adjournment**

ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT

The City of Rifle values full inclusion and access for all of our facilities, programs, activities and services. We are pleased to provide meaningful accommodations to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and reasonably provide translation, interpretation, modifications, accommodations, alternative formats, auxiliary aids, and services. To request special assistance, call City Clerk Alexis Ramirez at 970-665-6405 or email aramirez@rifleco.org. Please allow 48 hours for your requests to be met.

La Ciudad de Rifle valora la plena inclusión y acceso para todas nuestras instalaciones, programas, actividades y servicios. Nos complace proporcionar alojamientos significativos para cumplir con la Ley de Estados Unidos con Discapacidades (ADA) y proporcionar razonablemente traducciones, interpretaciones, modificaciones, adaptaciones, formatos alternativos, ayudas auxiliares y servicios. Para solicitar asistencia especial, llame a la City Clerk Alexis Ramírez al 970-665-6405 o envíe un correo electrónico a aramirez@rifleco.org. Por favor, permita 48 horas para que se atiendan sus solicitudes.



Agenda Item #5.a.

Agenda Item Name:

Consider Appointment for City Council Vacancy

Presenter:

Patrick Waller, City Manager

Item Description:

Consider Appointment for City Council Vacancy

Recommended Action:

Move to approve the Appointment of (*Candidate Name*) to fill the City of Rifle Council vacancy.

Fiscal Impact:

N/A

Operational Impact:

A full Council roster ensures that the City will have a quorum to conduct City business in meetings, even if a few Council members are absent.

Prior Board Motions:

N/A

Background Information:

Council member Brian Condie resigned from his position on September 5 to take a new job out of state. His resignation leaves one open seat on Council.

Executive Summary:

City Staff has sent out applications to members of internal City advisory boards for Council to consider for appointment of the vacant position. Two applications were received from Michael Clancy and Rick Steffan. Council will review and interview interested applicants at this meeting. Once the review is complete, staff recommends that Council vote on an appointment to fill the vacancy.

Notification Requirements:

N/A

Prepared By:

Alexis Ramirez, City Clerk

Attachments:

1. Michael Clancy Interest Letter Application_Redacted

2. Rick Steffen Interest Letter Application_Redacted_Redacted

Michael Clancy

9/22/2024

City Council
City of Rifle
202 Railroad Ave.
Rifle, CO 81650

Dear Members of the City Council,

I am writing to express my interest in serving on the Rifle City Council. As a dedicated resident of Rifle, I am deeply committed to contributing to the growth and success of our community. My professional background and passion for public service provide me with the skills and perspective to make informed, thoughtful decisions that will benefit all citizens of our city. I am excited about the opportunity to collaborate with fellow council members and engage with the public to address the needs and priorities of Rifle, ensuring a prosperous and sustainable future. I would be honored to be considered for this role and look forward to the opportunity to serve.

Sincerely,
Michael Clancy



CITY OF RIFLE APPLICATION FOR CITY COUNCIL VACANCY

Name:

Address: Rifle CO

Mailing Address (if different):

How long have you been a resident of the City of Rifle?

E-mail:

Phone:

Occupation:

Employer:

Please list any civic or volunteer activities in which you have been involved.

Have you ever attended or watched any of the City Council meetings or similar meetings? If so, please explain the reason for your attendance:

Are you familiar with the City of Rifle Charter and Municipal Code?

Please describe why you are interested in serving on City Council.

Please explain your qualifications to serve on the City Council (education, experience, community service, etc.).

In your opinion, what are the most significant issues facing the City of Rifle?

Please provide any additional information or comments which you believe will assist the City Council in considering your application.

3.2 – COUNCIL MEMBER QUALIFICATIONS

Each council member when nominated and elected shall be a qualified elector of the City, a citizen of the United States of America and shall have resided in the City for one year immediately preceding the election. No council member shall be a salaried employee of the City. The term of any council member shall terminate when he no longer resides within the City Limits of the City of Rifle.

Applications must be submitted to the City Clerk's office either by mail to 202 Railroad Avenue, Rifle, CO 81650; or e-mail to aramirez@rifleco.org no later than **Tuesday, September 24th, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. A resume, letter of interest, or other supplemental information may be attached to this application.**

COUNCILOR RESPONSIBILITIES

The following list of Council responsibilities is a representation of duties for Rifle City Councilors, and is intended to present a general idea of the time commitment required for this position.

Regular Council Meetings: Held the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month, beginning at 7:00 p.m., and typically lasting 2-3 hours. Council Packets are made available the Friday before each meeting. These packets contain the agenda for the meeting, detailed information for each agenda item, and other information for Council to review. Additionally, Council generally has a Workshop that begins at 6:00 pm on the same day that Council members are expected to attend. Dinner is provided on meeting days.

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Other Meetings/Conferences: In addition to serving as a Council representative on various committees and boards, Council also has the opportunity to become involved in educational and training opportunities. The Colorado Municipal League (CML) hosts an annual conference, and sponsors continuing education programs for elected officials.

Rick Steffen

Rifle, CO 81650

09/21/2024

Rifle City Council
202 Railroad Ave
Rifle, CO 81650

Dear Members of the Rifle City Council,

I am writing to express my interest in filling the vacant seat on the Rifle City Council. As a committed resident, local business owner, and current commissioner on the Rifle Planning and Zoning Commission, I am passionate about contributing to the continued success of our city. I believe my professional experience, community involvement, and dedication to Rifle make me well-suited to serve in this role.

Through my work as the owner of SMR Inspection Services and The Rough Bar & Grill, I have developed a deep understanding of the economic and social dynamics within our community. I have firsthand knowledge of the challenges facing local businesses, residents, and city leadership, which allows me to bring a balanced perspective to the council. Additionally, my role on the Planning and Zoning Commission has given me direct experience with land use, development policies, and city planning, all of which have prepared me to effectively serve in a council capacity.

I have a strong commitment to community service and actively participate in various local charitable events and initiatives that support Rifle's residents. My desire to serve on the City Council stems from a deep belief in the importance of civic duty and a drive to help shape a positive future for our community. I aim to promote responsible growth, support local businesses, and advocate for policies that improve the quality of life for all residents of Rifle.

If given the opportunity, I would approach this position with a collaborative mindset, seeking to work with fellow council members, city staff, and the community to address the key issues facing our city. I am enthusiastic about contributing my skills and experiences to the City Council and look forward to the possibility of serving our community in this important role.

Thank you for your consideration. I would be honored to further discuss my qualifications and vision for Rifle if selected to fill the vacant seat.

Sincerely,
Rick Steffen



CITY OF RIFLE APPLICATION FOR CITY COUNCIL VACANCY

Name: **Rick Steffen**

Address: **Rifle, CO 81650**

Mailing Address (if different): **Same**

How long have you been a resident of the City of Rifle? **35 Yrs.**

E-mail: Phone:

Occupation: **Business Owner** Employer: **Self**

Please list any civic or volunteer activities in which you have been involved.

I currently serve on the Rifle Planning and Zoning Commission, where I work closely with city leaders and community members to help guide the growth and development of our city.

In addition to my role on the commission, I actively participate in several charity and community events throughout the year. As a local business owner, I believe in giving back to the community that supports us. Some of the activities I have been involved in include sponsoring and participating in local fundraising events, supporting local youth sports programs, and contributing to various charitable causes in Rifle. These opportunities allow me to engage with the community on a more personal level and help make a positive impact on the lives of our residents.

Being an active member of the community is something I take pride in, and I am always looking for ways to further contribute to the betterment of Rifle.

Have you ever attended or watched any of the City Council meetings or similar meetings? If so, please explain the reason for your attendance:

Most of the City Council meetings I have attended were in connection with observing officers being sworn in with the Rifle Police Department. These events are important to me as they reflect the city's commitment to public safety, and I wanted to show my support for both the department and the community.

Are you familiar with the City of Rifle Charter and Municipal Code?

As both a local business owner and a current commissioner on the Rifle Planning and Zoning Commission, I have gained valuable insight into the City of Rifle Charter and Municipal Code. In my role as a commissioner, I have worked closely with zoning laws, land use regulations, and city planning to ensure that developments align with our city's legal framework and community needs. This experience has provided me with a solid foundation in understanding how these regulations impact both public and private interests.

Additionally, as the owner of SMR Inspection Services and The Rough Bar & Grill, I have regularly navigated the Municipal Code as it relates to operating businesses in Rifle. From adhering to business regulations and licensing requirements to staying informed about local policies, I understand the challenges and opportunities that these codes present to entrepreneurs and residents alike.

While I have a solid understanding of many aspects of the City Charter and Municipal Code, I am committed to expanding my knowledge, particularly in areas beyond planning, zoning, and business regulations. If selected to serve on the City Council, I will make it a priority to familiarize myself with all relevant codes to ensure that I can make informed decisions that benefit our community.

Please describe why you are interested in serving on City Council.

I am interested in serving on the City Council because I am deeply committed to the future of Rifle and want to contribute to the continued growth and success of our community. As a business owner and a current commissioner on the Rifle Planning and Zoning Commission, I have gained firsthand experience working with local regulations and engaging with residents, business owners, and city officials. This has given me valuable insight into the challenges our city faces and the opportunities we have to make positive changes.

I believe that my diverse background in business, community involvement, and local governance uniquely positions me to bring a balanced perspective to the council. My passion for this community drives me to take a more active role in shaping its future. I want to help ensure that Rifle continues to grow in a way that benefits all residents while maintaining the values that make it such a special place to live and work.

Serving on the City Council would allow me to advocate for responsible development, economic growth, and maintaining the high quality of life we enjoy in Rifle. I am excited about the opportunity to work collaboratively with other council members to address the issues that matter most to our community and help guide Rifle toward a prosperous and sustainable future.

Please explain your qualifications to serve on the City Council (education, experience, community service, etc.). I believe my combination of business ownership, community engagement, and leadership experience uniquely qualifies me to serve on the City Council. My qualifications include the following:

Business Ownership and Management

As the owner of SMR Inspection Services, a company providing comprehensive home, commercial, and rural property inspections, and The Rough Bar & Grill at the Rifle Creek Golf Course, I have firsthand experience managing successful operations in Rifle. These roles have equipped me with strong problem-solving, financial management, and decision-making skills, as well as a deep understanding of the needs and challenges facing both small businesses and homeowners in our community.

Economic Insight

Through running two businesses in Rifle, I have a deep understanding of our local economy and its impacts on residents and businesses. My daily work requires me to be in touch with a variety of stakeholders, from local homeowners to government agencies and business partners, which has provided me with valuable insight into how policies can best serve the community's interests.

Community Engagement

Living and working in this community has been a privilege, and I am actively involved in understanding the needs of our citizens. I engage with a diverse group of people through both of my businesses, which keeps me well-connected to the concerns and aspirations of Rifle's residents. As an active participant in the community, I am driven by a commitment to its well-being and growth.

Leadership and Collaborative Skills

Owning and operating multiple businesses requires me to lead teams, make important decisions, and work with a variety of stakeholders to accomplish shared goals. My leadership style emphasizes collaboration, communication, and thoughtful decision-making. These qualities would serve me well in a City Council role, where teamwork and strategic thinking are critical.

While my path may not include a traditional background in public administration, I believe my hands-on experience running successful local enterprises, coupled with my active role in the community, positions me to make meaningful contributions to the City Council. I am eager to bring my knowledge and leadership skills to the table and work alongside fellow council members to address the needs of our city and its residents.

In your opinion, what are the most significant issues facing the City of Rifle?

In my opinion, the City of Rifle is at a critical juncture where balancing growth, maintaining our unique community character, and ensuring the well-being of our residents are key challenges. The most significant issues I believe the city faces include:

1. Economic Growth and Diversification

While Rifle has long relied on industries such as energy, we need to prioritize economic diversification to ensure long-term stability. Encouraging the growth of small businesses, tourism, and new industries will create more job opportunities and boost local revenues, making our city more resilient to economic fluctuations. Striking the right balance between growth and maintaining our small-town feel is essential.

2. Affordable Housing and Development

As our community grows, the demand for affordable housing has become a pressing concern. We need to address housing shortages by working with developers to create affordable options for both current residents and newcomers while preserving the character of our neighborhoods. Thoughtful urban planning and zoning that supports sustainable development are vital to managing this growth responsibly.

3. Infrastructure and Public Services

Rifle is seeing increased demand for improved infrastructure, including roads, water, and sewer systems, as well as expanded public services. Upgrading these critical services is essential to accommodate future growth and ensure the safety and comfort of our residents. This also extends to maintaining our parks, recreational spaces, and public safety services like fire and police departments.

4. Supporting Local Businesses

As a business owner, I recognize the challenges local entrepreneurs face in navigating regulations, taxes, and market competition. Ensuring that Rifle remains a business-friendly environment is crucial to fostering innovation and keeping our local economy thriving. Simplifying processes for new businesses and offering support programs for small business owners can help stimulate local commerce.

5. Community Engagement and Quality of Life

One of Rifle's strengths is its tight-knit community, but as we grow, we must ensure that our city remains a place where people feel connected and involved. This includes enhancing recreational opportunities, supporting local events, and maintaining the overall quality of life that draws people to Rifle. Keeping our community engaged and informed is key to addressing concerns early and ensuring we grow in a way that reflects our shared values.

Addressing these issues requires careful planning, open communication, and a collaborative approach that brings together residents, business owners, and city

leadership. I am committed to working on solutions that support Rifle's future while preserving what makes our community special.

Please provide any additional information or comments which you believe will assist the City Council in considering your application.

I want to express my gratitude to the City Council for the opportunity to apply for this position. I am deeply committed to Rifle's future and am motivated by a desire to give back to the community that has given me so much.

As a business owner, I've developed strong problem-solving, leadership, and financial management skills, which I believe are directly applicable to the role of a City Council member. I am accustomed to working under pressure, making informed decisions, and balancing the needs of various stakeholders, which are essential traits for public service. My day-to-day interactions with residents, customers, and fellow business owners provide me with a unique understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing our city.

Moreover, my experience in the construction, inspection and hospitality industries has allowed me to develop a keen understanding of regulations, public health, and safety—key concerns for any growing community. I've also learned the importance of listening, compromise, and teamwork, as these qualities foster constructive dialogue and lead to positive outcomes.

I am also a strong advocate for transparency and open communication between the City Council and our residents. I believe in making decisions that reflect the collective needs of the community, not just the interests of a few. Should I be given the opportunity to serve, I will prioritize community input, ensuring that every resident feels heard and valued in the decision-making process.

While my professional background has largely focused on business, my passion for this community extends beyond that. I am eager to contribute to Rifle's continued growth and success by working hard, listening to our residents, and being an active and dedicated member of the City Council.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Rick Steffen

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