



RIFLE CITY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

October 16, 2024

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 Sean Strode.

Present at Roll Call:

Councilor Clint Hostettler, Councilor Alicia Gresley, Councilor Joe Carpenter, Councilor Karen Roberts, and Mayor Sean Strode.

Councilor Clint Hostettler moved to excuse Councilor Bornholdt and Councilor Clancy from tonight's meeting; seconded by Councilor Karen Roberts.

Roll Call: Yes - Alicia Gresley, Clint Hostettler, Karen Roberts, Joe Carpenter, and Sean Strode.

No – None.

Others Present:

City Manager Patrick Waller, City Clerk Alexis Ramirez, City Attorney Jim Neu, Finance Director Scott Rust, Network & Systems Administrator Jake Statler, Parks & Recreation Director Austin Rickstrew, Court Administrator & Public Information Officer Kathy Pototsky, Procurement & Grant Reporting Manager Iris Trevisano, and Police Chief Debra Funston.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was heard.

CONSENT AGENDA – CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

- A. Consider Minutes of the October 2, 2024 Regular Meeting

Councilor Alicia Gresley moved to approve Consent Agenda Item A; seconded by Councilor Clint Hostettler.

Roll Call: Yes - Karen Roberts, Clint Hostettler, Joe Carpenter, Alicia Gresley, and Sean Strode.

No – None.

PRESENTATION

Annual Update - Middle Colorado Watershed Council

Executive Director of Middle Colorado Watershed Council Paula Stepp, Onboarding Executive Director Kate Collins, Director Chris Trees, and Christina Pearson from SGM presented the annual update from Middle Colorado Watershed Council. Executive Director Paula Stepp provided an overview of upcoming projects for next year, as well as projects completed in the past year. Projects include the Rifle Creek Restoration Project, the Glenwood Canyon Sign Replacement Project, the Gravel Pit Restoration Project, and the Wildfire Ready Action Plan Risk and Susceptibility Assessment Project. Several pre-wildfire and post-wildfire mitigation activities were discussed as part of the Wildlife Ready Action Plan Risk and Susceptibility Assessment Project.

Executive Director of Middle Colorado Watershed Council Paula Stepp and Christina Pearson from SGM answered questions for Council.

Annual Update - Mind Springs Withdrawal Management Facility

Regional Outreach Instructor for Mind Springs Health Hans Lutgring, Director of Substance Use Treatment Services Tracy Harris, and Program Coordinator Lead Andre Gossweiler presented the annual update for Mind Springs Withdrawal Management Facility. Program Coordinator Lead Andre Gossweiler provided an explanation of current programs and recent successes, including a fully staffed medical and case management team, relapse prevention programs, and external recovery resources. Director of Substance Abuse Treatment Services Tracy Harris provided an overview of the impact that the Mind Springs Withdrawal Management Facility has had on the community since opening the facility. The overview included local statistics, program information, data tracking, and admission numbers to Mind Springs Withdrawal Management Facility. The 2025 Budget Plan for Mind Springs Withdrawal Management Facility consists of a strategic plan that includes a communication and outreach plan to community partners, outreach

to other counties and entities that are utilizing services, and developing billing capacity.

Comments were heard from Councilor Alicia Gresley, Councilor Clint Hostettler, and Mayor Sean Strode.

Regional Outreach Instructor for Mind Springs Health Hans Lutgring, Director of Substance Use Treatment Services Tracy Harris, and Program Coordinator Lead Andre Gossweiler answered questions for Council.

Presentation of the 2025 Proposed Budget

Finance Director Scott Rust and City Manager Patrick Waller presented the 2025 Proposed Budget for City of Rifle. The 2025 Proposed Budget has been discussed at several Workshop Meetings. A list of budgeted funds included in the 2025 Budget was provided, which includes several governmental and proprietary funds. The Budget-Creation Timeline was also provided and explained, beginning in June with Capital Planning and finalizing in December with the adoption of the budget. Budgets act as a policy document, operations guide, financial plan, and communication tool for City of Rifle and for the public. The proposed budget total for 2025 is \$54,626,712. City Manager Patrick Waller described City of Rifle's mission statement, vision statement, and the organization's strategic priorities. Also included in the 2025 Budget is the implementation of cost-of-living wage increases and step increases for staff. If there are no major changes, the Public Hearing regarding the 2025 Proposed Budget is set for the City Council Meeting on November 6th, 2024.

Comments were heard from Councilor Alicia Gresley, Councilor Clint Hostettler, and Mayor Sean Strode.

REGULAR AGENDA

Consider Updating the Animal Shelter Name in the City of Rifle Municipal Code - Ordinance No. 21, Series of 2024 - 1st Reading

Court Administrator & Public Information Officer Kathy Pototsky presented a request to consider updating the animal shelter name in the City of Rifle Municipal Code. Journey Home Animal Care Center, Inc. is the new and correct name of the animal shelter in Rifle. The old name, Rifle Animal Shelter, is still present in the City of Rifle Municipal Code, which needs to be updated to reflect the current and correct name.

Councilor Clint Hostettler moved to approve updating the name of the Rifle Animal Shelter to Journey Home Animal Care Center, Inc. with Ordinance No. 21, Series of 2024 on first reading as presented and order it to be published as required by Charter; seconded by Councilor Joe Carpenter.

Roll Call: Yes - Clint Hostettler, Alicia Gresley, Karen Roberts, Joe Carpenter, and Sean Strode.
No - None.

Consider Amending Article IX of Chapter 10 of the Rifle Municipal Code to Expressly Provide that the Possession of a Deadly Weapon is Prohibited on School Property - Ordinance No. 22, Series of 2024 - 1st Reading

Court Administrator & Public Information Officer Kathy Pototsky presented a request to consider amending Article IX of Chapter 10 of the Rifle Municipal Code to expressly provide that the possession of a deadly weapon is prohibited on school property. Under state law, bringing a gun to school is a misdemeanor, but any other deadly weapon is a felony. Rifle Municipal Code currently has a section that covers prohibited use of weapons. The proposed change would make the same behavior that is prohibited elsewhere in the City, also prohibited on school property.

Court Administrator & Public Information Officer Kathy Pototsky answered questions for Council.

Councilor Alicia Gresley moved to approve amending article IX of the Rifle Municipal Code to expressly provide that possession of a deadly weapon is prohibited on school property with Ordinance No. 22, Series of 2024 on first reading as presented and order it to be published as required by Charter; seconded by Councilor Karen Roberts.

Roll Call: Yes - Joe Carpenter, Alicia Gresley, Karen Roberts, Clint Hostettler, and Sean Strode.
No - None.

Consider Engagement of Hinkle & Company, PC for 2024 Financial Audit

Finance Director Scott Rust presented a request to consider engagement of Hinkle & Company, PC for the 2024 Financial Audit. Hinkle & Company, PC has completed the annual financial audit for City of Rifle for the last five years. Due to City of Rifle exceeding the \$750,000 threshold in federal expenditures, City of Rifle must also have a single audit. The cost of the annual audit was budgeted at \$25,000 for 2024. The total cost of the audit per the engagement letter from Hinkle & Company, PC should not exceed \$20,000.

Finance Director Scott Rust answered questions for Council.

Councilor Clint Hostettler moved to approve and sign the engagement letter in order to retain Hinkle & Company, PC for the 2024 Financial Audit and to approve the purchase order request in the amount of \$20,000 to Hinkle & Company, PC for the 2024 Financial Audit; seconded by Councilor Joe Carpenter

Roll Call: Yes - Alicia Gresley, Karen Roberts, Clint Hostettler, Joe Carpenter, and Sean Strode.
No – None.

Consider Purchase of Replacement and Additional MDTs for the Police Department

Procurement & Grant Reporting Manager Iris Trevisano and Network & Systems Administrator Jake Statler presented a request to consider the purchase of replacement and additional MDTs for the Police Department. Rifle Police Department staff have been using Mobile Data Terminals (MDTs) in vehicles since 2018, which increase the efficiency of the Police Department by allowing staff to access additional information and create reports on-scene. The majority of the mobile data terminals are due for replacement. After research and testing, Panasonic Toughbooks have been determined as the best choice for replacement of the mobile data terminals. This will require replacing vehicle docks as well, to accommodate Panasonic technology, compared to the previous Dell technology. This item was included in the 2024 Budget for the amount of \$60,000; the additional amount can be covered by savings from other purchases.

Procurement & Grant Reporting Manager Iris Trevisano and Network & Systems Administrator Jake answered questions for Council.

Councilor Clint Hostettler moved to approve the purchase of Panasonic Toughbook laptops and vehicle docking stations totaling \$76,322.49; seconded by Councilor Joe Carpenter.

Roll Call: Yes - Alicia Gresley, Clint Hostettler, Karen Roberts, Joe Carpenter, and Sean Strode.
No – None.

Report to City Manager

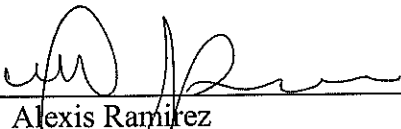
Reports were heard from City Manager Patrick Waller and Police Chief Debra Funston.

Comments from Mayor and Council

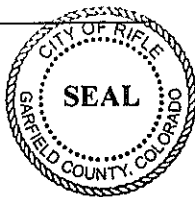
Comments were heard from Councilor Alicia Gresley, Joe Carpenter, and Mayor Sean Strode.

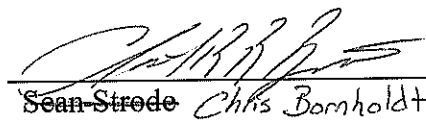
Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.



Alexis Ramirez
City Clerk





~~Sean Strode~~ Chris Barnhardt
Mayor Pro tem