



RIFLE CITY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

June 18, 2025
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 Joe Carpenter, Councilor Karen Roberts, Councilor Alicia Gresley, Councilor Clint Hostettler, and Mayor Sean Strode.

Councilor Clint Hostettler moved to excuse Councilor Michael Clancy and Councilor Chris Bornholdt from tonight's meeting; seconded by Councilor Alicia Gresley.

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

Others Present:

City Manager Patrick Waller, City Clerk Alexis Ramirez, City Attorney Jim Neu, Parks & Recreation Director Austin Rickstrew, Community TV/Multimedia Manager Michael Churchill, Civil Engineer Craig Spaulding, Chief of Police Debra Funston, Community Development Director Zach Higgins, Finance Director Scott Rust, and Main Street Manager Kim Burner.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was heard

CONSENT AGENDA – CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

- A. Consider Minutes of the June 4, 2025 Regular Meeting
- B. Consider Liquor License Renewal for RCG Rifle, LLC dba Rib City Grill
- C. Consider Amending Chapter 16 of the Rifle Municipal Code to Define the Comprehensive Plan and Set Procedures for Amendments to the Comprehensive Plan - Ordinance No. 8, Series of 2025 - 2nd Reading
- D. Consider the Appointment of Milton Rodas to the City of Rifle Planning Commission as a Voting Member
- E. Consider Approval of Standard Purchase Contract for Preparation of Senior Meals

Councilor Clint Hostettler moved to approve Consent Agenda Items A, B, C, D, and E with the advised redaction to minutes; seconded by Councilor Joe Carpenter.

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

REGULAR AGENDA

Consider Appointment of Ryan Mackley to the Greater Rifle Improvement Team Advisory Board (GRIT)

Main Street Manager Kim Burner presented a request to consider the appointment of Ryan Mackley to the Greater Rifle Improvement Team Advisory Board (GRIT). A seat on the Greater Rifle Improvement Team Advisory Board was vacated by Katie Mackley in late April of 2025. Notice of the vacant seat was published as required by the Rifle Municipal Code in May of 2025. One application was received for the open seat from Ryan Mackley, a lifelong Rifle resident. The Greater Rifle Improvement Team Advisory Board interviewed candidate Ryan Mackley at the regular June meeting and found he met all qualifications. The Greater Rifle Improvement Team Advisory Board also felt that Mr. Mackley's prior board service on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, as well as on the Visitor Improvement Fund Board was valuable experience. Staff recommends the appointment of Ryan Mackley to the Greater Rifle Improvement Team Advisor Board.

Main Street Manager Kim Burner answered questions for Council.

Councilor Karen Roberts moved to approve the appointment of Ryan Mackley to the Greater Rifle Improvement Team Advisory Board; seconded by Councilor Joe Carpenter.

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

Consider Adopting the 2026 Budget Preparation Calendar - Resolution No. 12, Series of 2025

Finance Director Scott Rust presented a request to consider adopting the 2026 Budget Preparation Calendar – Resolution No. 12, Series of 2025. City Council is required to set forth and adopt a budget calendar on an annual basis to guide the budget process. The 2026 Budget Preparation Calendar, as presented, will guide all budget preparation activities and significant compliance deadlines with the State of Colorado and the City of Rifle Municipal Code. Staff recommends moving forward with adopting the 2026 Budget Preparation Calendar – Resolution No. 12, Series of 2025.

Finance Director Scott Rust answered questions for Council.

Councilor Clint Hostettler moved to approve Resolution No. 12, Series of 2025 for the 2026 Budget Preparation Calendar as presented; seconded by Councilor Alicia Gresley.

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

Consider Authorizing Submission of the U.S. Department of Transportation's Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Implementation Grant - Resolution No. 11, Series of 2025

Civil Engineer Craig Spaulding presented a request to consider authorizing the submission of the U.S. Department of Transportation's Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Implementation Grant – Resolution No. 11, Series of 2025. SS4A Implementation Grant eligibility requires applicants to demonstrate jurisdiction over the proposed project area or obtain an agreement from the agency with ownership and/or maintenance responsibilities for the roadway. Because Highway 13 is under the Colorado Department of Transportation's jurisdiction, a letter of intent or other formal acknowledgment is being requested from Colorado Department of Transportation affirming that: Colorado Department of Transportation supports the City of Rifle's SS4A Implementation Grant application; Colorado Department of Transportation agrees to partner with the City to implement the proposed safety improvements; and Colorado Department of Transportation will allow the City to exercise project-level jurisdiction for the purposes of SS4A grant eligibility and implementation. This project proposes urgently needed infrastructure improvements along the northern Highway 13 corridor, from 24th Street to 30th Street, including the construction of a pedestrian bridge at 30th Street and sidewalks between 24th and 26th Streets, which will provide comprehensive safety upgrades near Wamsley Elementary School. These improvements directly address one of the most dangerous pedestrian corridors in our community and reflect priorities identified in Rifle's recently completed SS4A Action Plan. There is a 20% match requirement that would be expended over the years 2026 through 2028. This includes two planned capital projects that are on the 5-year look ahead so the costs have been accounted for in long-range planning. If awarded, the sidewalks and bridge would be maintained by the City. Staff recommends authorizing submission of the U.S. Department of Transportation's Safe Streets and Roads for All Implementation Grant – Resolution No. 11, Series of 2025.

Civil Engineer Craig Spaulding answered questions for Council.

Councilor Alicia Gresley moved to approve Resolution No. 11, Series of 2025, to allow staff to submit the U.S. Department of Transportation's Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Implementation Grant program for the Highway 13 Corridor Safety Improvement Project; seconded by Councilor Karen Roberts.

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

Consider Council Member Appointment to the Project Team for the Fieldhouse Feasibility Study Project

Parks & Recreation Director Austin Rickstrew presented a request to consider Council member appointment to the Project Team for the Fieldhouse Feasibility Study Project. The City is conducting a feasibility study to evaluate the potential development of a new community Field House. The study will assess community needs, explore facility options, estimate costs, and identify funding strategies. The final report will be presented to City Council in January 2026 to help guide decisions on the project's future. As part of this process, staff is assembling a project team to help guide and support the study's direction, ensure transparency, and represent

community interests. To enhance Council involvement and provide valuable perspective throughout the project, staff seeks one City Council member to serve on the project team. This Council representative would participate in key discussions, review findings, and help ensure alignment with community goals and City priorities.

Parks & Recreation Director Austin Rickstrew answered questions for Council.

Councilor Alicia Gresley moved to appoint Mayor Strode to the project team for the Field House Feasibility Study; seconded by Councilor Karen Roberts.

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

Report to City Manager

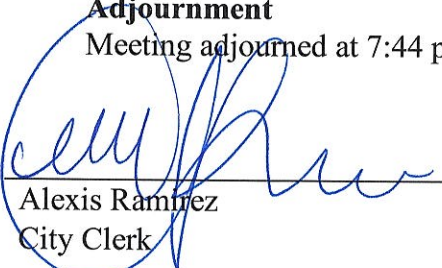
Reports were heard from Alexis Ramirez, Patrick Waller, Zach Higgins, Debra Funston, Kim Burner, and Austin Rickstrew.

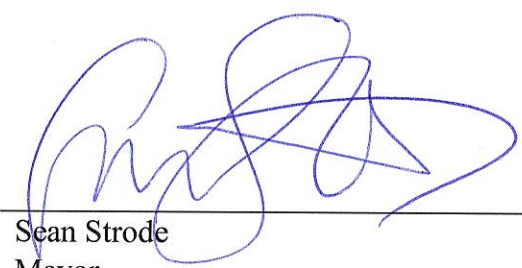
Comments from Mayor and Council

Comments were heard from Councilor Karen Roberts, Councilor Alicia Gresley, Councilor Clint Hostettler, Councilor Joe Carpenter, and Mayor Sean Strode.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.



Alexis Ramirez
City Clerk

Sean Strode
Mayor