



RIFLE CITY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

November 19, 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 Chris Bornholdt, Councilor Michael Clancy, Councilor Clint Hostettler, Councilor Karen Roberts, and Mayor Sean Strode.

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

Roll Call: Yes - Clint Hostettler, Michael Clancy, Karen Roberts, Chris Bornholdt, 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, Public Works Director Brian Prunty, Chief of Police Debra Funston, Procurement & Grant Manager Iris Trevisano, Community Development Director Zach Higgins, Finance Director Scott Rust, Human Resource Director Danielle Hogan, Communication & Engagement Specialist Kyle Mills, Rifle Police Department Executive Administrative Assistant & Public Information Officer Angela Mills, IT System Administrator I Brenda Maes, Rifle Police Department Corporal Jose Valadez, Corporal Kyle Green Corporal Diego Piña, Patrol Officer Kallie McCain, Patrol Officer Colby Dunn, Patrol Officer Alexx Rice, Patrol Officer Wyatt Bornholdt, CSO - Animal Control Dawn Neely, Post Independent Reporter Katherine Tomaneck, Sierra Green, Scott Marsh and Jonathan Rice.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was heard.

CONSENT AGENDA – CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

- A. Consider Approval of Purchase Order for Parachute Area Transit Service for 2025
- B. Consider Liquor License Renewal for SZN Investments, LLC dba Jon's Liquors
- C. Consider Liquor License Renewal for Brewzone Bistro, LLC dba Brewzone Philly Bistro
- D. Consider Amendment to the Rifle Municipal Code for Development Applications Expedited Review - Ordinance No. 11, Series of 2025 (2nd Reading)
- E. Consider Amendment to the Rifle Municipal Code for Condominiumization – Ordinance No. 12, Series of 2025 (2nd Reading)
- F. Consider Amendment to the Rifle Municipal Code for Driveway Setbacks - Ordinance No. 13, Series of 2025 (2nd Reading)

Councilor Clint Hostettler moved to approve Consent Agenda Items A, B, C, D, E and F; seconded by Councilor Chris Bornholdt.

Roll Call: Yes - Michael Clancy, Joe Carpenter, Chris Bornholdt, Clint Hostettler, Karen Roberts, and Sean Strode.

No – None.

PRESENTATION

Pinning Ceremony for Sgt. Kyle Green

Chief of Police Debra Funston explains the meaning behind a law enforcement pinning ceremony; emphasizing that it's a proud, symbolic tradition that celebrates a major career milestone and represents either the swearing-in of a new officer or the promotion of an existing one. The badge represents a solemn promise to serve with honor, integrity, and dedication. Chief Funston highlighted the important role of loved ones, mentors, and colleagues in an officer's journey.

The ceremony is a celebration of courage, service, leadership, and the vital support offered by family and community. The pinning for Corporal Kyle Green was performed by his wife, Sierra Green along with their children.

Comments were heard from Mayor Sean Strode.

PUBLIC HEARING

Consider Adopting the Proposed 2026 Budget

Mayor Sean Strode opened the public hearing.

City Manager Patrick Waller and Finance Director Scott Rust proposed the 2026 Budget as the culmination of a comprehensive, multi-phase process initiated in June. Budget development began with detailed line-item reviews conducted by department heads in coordination with staff, ensuring that operational needs, strategic priorities, and fund requirements were accurately assessed. This internal evaluation provided the foundation for a refined budget framework across all governmental and proprietary funds. The budget draft was presented to the City Council through a series of dedicated budget workshops. These sessions offered an opportunity for in-depth review of each fund, clarification of underlying assumptions, and alignment of financial allocations with the policy priorities established by the Council. The resulting proposed budget reflects extensive analysis, cross-departmental collaboration, and substantial Council engagement, producing a fiscally responsible and transparent document for formal consideration.

No public comment was heard.

City Manager Patrick Waller and Finance Director Scott Rust answered questions for Council.

Mayor Sean Strode closed the public hearing.

Comments were heard from Councilor Michael Clancy, Councilor Clint Hostettler, Councilor Chris Bornholdt, Councilor Karen Roberts, and Mayor Sean Strode.

Councilor Clint Hostettler moved to approve Resolution No. 23, Series of 2025 - 2026 Budget Adoption and Ordinance No. 14, Series of 2025 - 2026 Annual Appropriation Ordinance on the first and only reading and order it to be published as required by Charter; seconded by Councilor Chris Bornholdt.

Roll Call: Yes- Joe Carpenter, Karen Roberts, Michael Clancy, Clint Hostettler, Chris Bornholdt and Sean Strode.

No – None.

REGULAR AGENDA

Consider Purchase of 2024 Ford F-350 SRW 4X4 Reg Cab for Fleet Maintenance

Procurement & Grant Reporting Manager Iris Trevisano and Public Works Director Brian Prunty presented the request to purchase a 2024 Ford F-350 SRW 4X4 Reg. Cab for Fleet Maintenance. Public Works Director Brian Prunty expressed the urgent need for a replacement field truck for the Fleet maintenance department after their previous vehicle failed due to engine problems and sold at an auction. Using about \$41,000 in remaining FMLD mini-grant funds and the procurement flexibility allowed under Section 4-2-230, fleet pursued a responsible competitive process through a TIPS contract with Phil Long Ford of Denver. The initial concept was to buy a used truck, but Phil Long Ford was able to offer a new 2024 Ford F-350 4x4 Reg. Cab XL for the amount of \$42,835.00. The truck provides strong utility for both Fleet and O&M (Operations & Maintenance), it is designed to carry essential field service equipment including plow capability, planned additions like a generator/air compressor combo and lift gate for field service work. The lift gate will enable the transportation of semi-tires for repair and replacement. It features a gas-powered “mini-Godzilla motor” with 450 horsepower, providing robust performance, and it’s a standard cab model. The acquisition was deemed fiscally responsible, meeting and exceeding Fleet’s needs while staying within the allocated remaining funds.

Procurement & Grant Reporting Manager Iris Trevisano, Public Works Director Brian Prunty and City Manager Patrick Waller answered questions for Council.

Comments were heard from Councilor Michael Clancy, Councilor Karen Roberts, and Mayor Sean Strode.

Councilor Chris Bornholdt moved to approve the purchase of a 2024 Ford F-350 SRW 4X4 Reg Cab for \$42,835.00 from Phil Long Ford of Denver; seconded by Councilor Joe Carpenter.

Roll Call: Yes- Chris Bornholdt, Michael Clancy, Clint Hostettler, Joe Carpenter, Karen Roberts and Sean Strode.

No – None.

Consider Opting Out of the Requirements of HB-24-1173- Resolution No. 24, Series of 2025

**A RESOLUTION OF THE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIFLE,
COLORADO, ELECTING TO OPT OUT OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF HOUSE BILL
24-1173 REGARDING ELECTRICAL VEHICLE CHARGING STATION
PERMITTING PROCESSES AND STANDARDS**

Community Development Director Zach Higgins presented requests to opt out of the House Bill 24-1173 requirements - Resolution No. 24, Series of 2025. This law requires municipalities with a population of 10,000 or more to take specific action by the end of the year regarding electric vehicle (EV) charging system permitting process and standards. Based on discussions at workshop a couple weeks ago, the city is successfully processing and handling EV permits under eight weeks, which is considered an efficient time frame without needing an additional specialized code.

Community Development Director Zach Higgins answered questions for Council.

Comments were heard from Mayor Sean Strode.

Councilor Clint Hostettler moved to approve Resolution No. 24, Series of 2025 electing to opt out of the requirements of the House Bill 24-1173 regarding electric vehicle charging station permitting process and standards; seconded by Councilor Chris Bornholdt.

Roll Call: Yes- Clint Hostettler, Chris Bornholdt, Karen Roberts, Michael Clancy, Joe Carpenter and Sean Strode.

No – None.

Report to City Manager

Reports were heard from Patrick Waller, Brian Prunty, Jim Neu, Zach Higgins, Kyle Mills, Iris Trevisano, Austin Rickstrew, and Debra Funston.

Presentation of Service Awards to Councilor Joe Carpenter and Mayor Sean Strode

City Manager Patrick Waller delivered a speech honoring the years of dedicated service by Councilor Joe Carpenter and Mayor Sean Strode from 2017 to 2025. He acknowledged the meaningful impact their leadership has had on the City of Rifle; an impact that will be long remembered.

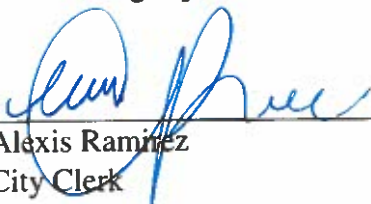
Service Plaques were awarded to Councilor Joe Carpenter and Mayor Sean Strode by City Clerk Alexis Ramirez.

Comments from Mayor and Council

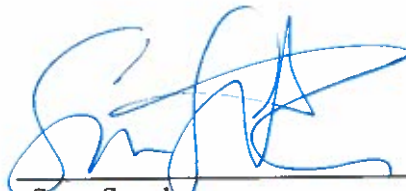
Comments were heard from Councilor Karen Roberts, Councilor Michael Clancy, Councilor Joe Carpenter, Councilor Clint Hostettler, Councilor Chris Bornholdt, and Mayor Sean Strode.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.


Alexis Ramirez
City Clerk




Sean Strode
Mayor

