



RIFLE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

March 18, 2026
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 Clint Hostettler.

Present at Roll Call:

Councilor Michael Clancy, Councilor Chris Bornholdt, Councilor Alicia Gresley, Councilor Scott Marsh, Councilor Karen Roberts, Councilor Jonathan Rice, and Mayor Clint Hostettler.

Roll Call: Yes – Michael Clancy, Chris Bornholdt, Alicia Gresley, Scott Marsh, Clint Hostettler, Jonathan Rice, and Karen Roberts.

No – None.

Others Present:

City Manager Patrick Waller, City Clerk Alexis Ramirez, City Attorney Jim Neu, Parks & Recreation Director Austin Rickstrew, Chief of Police Debra Funston, Lieutenant Mike Kuper, Community Development Director Zach Higgins, Procurement & Grant Reporting Manager Iris Trevisano, Public Works Director Brian Prunty, O&M Supervisor Colton Secary, Recreation Coordinator I - Special Events Delaney Passmore, Colorado River Fire Rescue Fire Marshal Orrin Moon, Journey Home Animal Center Representative Heather Grant, and CLEER Education & Outreach Manager Emily Williams.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments heard.

CONSENT AGENDA – CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

- A. Consider Minutes of the March 4, 2026 Regular Meeting
- B. Consider Declaring Decommissioned Vehicles
- C. Consider Approval of Purchase Order for Garfield County Victims Response Team
- D. Consider Liquor License Renewal for Western Slope Investments dba Wing Nutz Bar and Grill
- E. Consider Liquor License Renewal for Brenden Theatre Corporation dba Brenden Rifle 7 Theatres

Councilor Alicia Gresley moved to approve Consent Agenda Items A, B, C, D, and E; seconded by Councilor Scott Marsh.

Roll Call: Yes - Karen Roberts, Clint Hostettler, Scott Marsh, Jonathan Rice, Alicia Gresley, Michael Clancy, and Chris Bornholdt.

No – None.

REGULAR AGENDA

Consider a Letter of Support for Colorado Energy Office CAMP Implementation Phase Grant

CLEER Education and Outreach Manager Emily Williams presented a request to consider letter of support for the Colorado Energy Office CAMP Implementation Phase grant. The proposed project would expand an electrical vehicle carshare access across the Western Slope, including a site located in the shared parking lot between Rifle City Hall and Garfield County Library. The Rifle site would use three parking spaces to accommodate two ADA-accessible EV charging stations, with one charging port designated for the carshare vehicle and one for public charging. Discussion focused on the benefits to Rifle residents, including affordable transportation access for individuals without vehicles, households needing occasional second-car access, businesses needing temporary fleet options, and residents interested in trying electric vehicles without ownership.

Council also discussed ownership and long-term maintenance of the charging equipment, liability questions, and the eventual transfer of charger ownership to either the City or the library at the end of a 10-year mark.

Comments were heard from Councilor Alicia Gresley, Mayor Clint Hostettler, Councilor Jonathan Rice, Councilor Karen Roberts and Councilor Michael Clancy.

CLEER Education & Outreach Manager Emily Williams answered questions for Council.

Councilor Alicia Gresley moved to approve the letter of support for the Colorado Energy Office CAMP Implementation Phase Grant; seconded by Councilor Karen Roberts.

Roll Call: Yes – Clint Hostettler, Scott Marsh, Karen Roberts, Alicia Gresley, Chris Bornholdt, Michael Clancy and Jonathan Rice.

No – None.

Consider Approval of Purchase of a John Deere 444 P-Tier Wheel Loader for O&M

Procurement and Grant Reporting Manager Iris Trevisano and Operations and Maintenance Supervisor Colton Secary presented request to consider purchase of a John Deere 444 P-Tier Wheel Loader. The purchase would be through a cooperative agreement with 4 Rivers Equipment. The agreement includes a \$35,000 trade-in allowance for the City's 2014 Volvo Loader. Staff stated the Volvo loader is currently showing significant wear, including hydraulic leaks, smoke blow-by, and reduced reliability. The final purchase price after the trade-in would be \$168,753.29, which is within the 2026 budget and significantly below the originally budgeted amount. Staff explained that the loader is used citywide by multiple departments, including utilities, parks, and other operations.

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

Operations and Maintenance Supervisor Colton Secary answered questions for Council.

Councilor Scott Marsh to approve the purchase of a John Deere 444 P-Tier Wheel Loader for the amount of \$168,753.29 from 4Rivers Equipment; seconded by Councilor Jonathan Rice.

Roll Call: Yes – Chris Bornholdt, Jonathan Rice, Alicia Gresley, Clint Hostettler, Michael Clancy, Karen Roberts, and Scott Marsh.

No – None.

Consider Adopting the Colorado Wildfire Resiliency Code by Reference - Ordinance No. 8 Series of 2026 (1st Reading)

Community Development Director Zach Higgins and Colorado River Fire Rescue - Fire Marshal Orrin Moon presented request to consider letter of support for the Colorado Wildfire Resiliency Code by Reference - Ordinance No. 8 Series of 2026 on first reading. The adoption of the Colorado Wildfire Resiliency Code is intended to increase fire protection in affected areas of the city and help prevent or slow the spread of fire during major wildfire events. Staff noted that, according to the State's draft map, the City of Rifle includes areas with no restrictions, Class 1 (low risk) restrictions, and Class 2 (moderate risk) restrictions. Staff explained that the code would apply only to properties located within the moderate-risk areas identified on the State's Wildfire Resiliency Code map, thereby limiting the impact on most Rifle residents and avoiding broader construction cost increases citywide. Staff identified the most significant areas of enforcement in applicable zones are related to roofing materials, siding materials, building envelope construction, and defensible space. Defensible space was described as an area around a structure where combustible vegetation and other materials are cleared, treated, or modified in order to reduce wildfire intensity and provide safer conditions for fire suppression efforts. CRFR – Fire Marshall Orrin Moon explained that implementation will be a partnership among the City, Garfield County, and neighboring municipalities. The code addresses both building standards and defensible space requirements around new homes. CRFR district staff will assist with defensible space inspections, while city building inspectors will continue to focus on the structures themselves. The state deadline for adoption is April 1, 2026 with an effective date of July 1, 2026.

Comments were heard from Mayor Clint Hostettler, Councilor Chris Bornholdt and Councilor Scott Marsh.

CRFR – Fire Marshall Orrin Moon answered questions for Council.

Councilor Scott Marsh moved to adopt the Colorado Wildfire Resiliency Code by reference as presented - Ordinance No. 8, Series of 2026 on first reading as presented and order it to be published as required by Charter; seconded by Councilor Alicia Gresley.

Roll Call: Yes – Jonathan Rice, Clint Hostettler, Karen Roberts, Scott Marsh, Michael Clancy, Chris Bornholdt and Alicia Gresley.

No – None.

Consider Adopting Liquor Permitting Process for Festivals - Ordinance No. 9, Series of 2026 (1st Reading)

City Clerk Alexis Ramirez presented request to consider to adopting liquor permitting process for festivals – Ordinance No. 9, Series of 2026 on first reading. The process would allow active liquor license holders to sell products for both on-premise consumption and take-out at approved participating events. The proposed festival liquor permitting process is designed to mirror the City’s existing special event permit structure while expanding eligibility to include licensed vendors, rather than limiting participation to non-profit organizations. The festival permitting application would be subject to local and state authorization. Staff noted that events such as Barks, Brew and BBQ would benefit from increased vendor participation under this process. The application process entails a 60-day application deadline, established permit fees, annual participation limits for both city and non-city license holders, and submission of required documentation such as site diagrams, control and security plans, sales tax information and proof of liability insurance. This ordinance gives the City a formal local process to regulate festival permits.

Special Events / Recreation Coordinator I Delaney Passmore and Journey Home Animal Center Representative Heather Grant were present to answer questions for Council.

Comments were heard from Councilor Alicia Gresley.

Councilor Jonathan Rice moved to adopt liquor permitting process for festivals - Ordinance No. 9, Series of 2026 on first reading as presented and order it to be published as required by Charter; seconded by Councilor Chris Bornholdt.

Roll Call: Yes – Scott Marsh, Karen Roberts, Michael Clancy, Clint Hostettler, Alicia Gresley, Jonathan Rice and Chris Bornholdt.

No – None.

Consider Purchase of Two Beverage Units for the Rifle Creek Golf Course

Procurement and Grant Reporting Manager Iris Trevisano and Parks and Recreation Director Austin Rickstrew presented request to consider the purchase of two beverage units for the Rifle Creek Golf Course. The purchase would be through a cooperative agreement with Masek Rocky Mountain Golf Carts. The cost for both units is \$48,750, which is within the golf course’s 2026 equipment budget of \$83,000. Staff explained that the existing beverage units have reached the end of their useful life and can no longer safely and effectively operate on the course, particularly on the back nine. The new units are intended to support the golf course and restaurant operations, as required under the concession arrangement. The units will be owned by the City but used as part of the golf course concession operation, similar to other leased restaurant equipment. The concessionaire provides liability coverage for their operations.

Comments were heard from Councilor Alicia Gresley, Mayor Clint Hostettler, Councilor Karen Roberts, Councilor Scott Marsh, and Councilor Jonathan Rice.

Councilor Scott Marsh moved to approve the purchase of two Bar Carts from Masek Rocky Mountain Golf Carts for \$48,750.00, once the sale of the Rifle Creek Golf Course is completed; seconded by Councilor Alicia Gresley.

Roll Call: Yes – Alicia Gresley, Michael Clancy, Chris Bornholdt, Scott Marsh, Jonathan Rice, Karen Roberts and Clint Hostettler.

No – None.

Consider Purchase of Two Upfit Packages for New Police Interceptor Patrol Vehicles

Procurement and Grant Reporting Manager Iris Trevisano and Lieutenant Mike Kuper presented request to consider the purchase of two upfit packages for the new police interceptor patrol vehicles previously approved by Council. The upfit work will be completed by Graco Customs, a local outfitter, under a miscellaneous exemption due to the specialized nature of the work and the benefit of maintaining consistency across the Police Department fleet. The requested amount is \$58,399.67, which includes equipment installation and a contingency for shipping. Staff also noted that vehicle wrapping will be completed separately and that the total project remains within budget. Vehicles will be ready by mid-June.

Comments were heard from Mayor Clint Hostettler and Councilor Michael Clancy.

Councilor Michael Clancy moved to approve the purchase of two upfit packages for new police interceptor patrol vehicles from GreyCO Customs in the amount of \$58,399.67; seconded by Councilor Jonathan Rice.

Roll Call: Yes –Karen Roberts, Clint Hostettler, Scott Marsh, Jonathan Rice, Alicia Gresley, Michael Clancy, and Chris Bornholdt.

No – None.

Consider Purchase of a 2025 Ford Police Interceptor Utility Patrol Vehicle

Procurement and Grant Reporting Manager Iris Trevisano and Lieutenant Mike Kuper presented request to consider the purchase of a 2025 Ford Police Interceptor Utility Patrol Vehicle. Staff explained the reason for request was due to previous fleet discussions to review the options of adding another patrol vehicle in support of a potential take-home vehicle program to strengthen fleet availability. During discussion, Council expressed interest in purchasing two vehicles instead of one, contingent upon the availability of an additional 2025 model. Council cited several factors supporting this approach, including the need to remain competitive in officer recruitment, planned implementation of a take-home vehicle program, the potential for hiring certified officers requiring faster deployment, and the benefit of securing remaining 2025 inventory before potential price increases and longer lead times. Staff confirmed that two vehicles had previously been available but noted that current availability would need to be verified. Council discussed proceeding with approval of a not-to-exceed amount for two vehicles, limited specifically to 2025 models if still available.

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

Lieutenant Mike Kuper and Procurement and Grant Reporting Manager Iris Trevisano answered questions for Council.

Councilor Chris Bornholdt moved to approve the purchase of two 2025 Ford Police Interceptor Utility patrol vehicles from Phil Long Ford Denver in the amount not to exceed \$104,000; seconded by Councilor Jonathan Rice.

Roll Call: Yes – Chris Bornholdt, Clint Hostettler, Scott Marsh, Karen Roberts, Alicia Gresley, Michael Clancy and Jonathan Rice.

No – None.

Report to City Manager

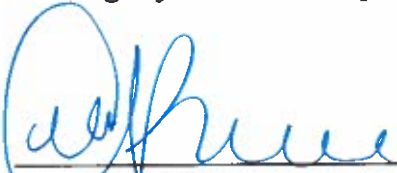
Report was heard from City Manager Patrick Waller.

Comments from Mayor and Council

Comments were heard from Councilor Scott Marsh, Councilor Michael Clancy, Councilor Alicia Gresley and Councilor Jonathan Rice.


Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.


Alexis Ramirez

City Clerk




Clint Hostettler

Mayor