



RIFLE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

June 03, 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 Karen Roberts, Mayor Clint Hostettler, Councilor Michael Clancy, Councilor Chris Bornholdt, Councilor Alicia Gresley, Councilor Jonathan Rice, and Councilor Scott March.

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

No – None.

Others Present:

City Manager Patrick Waller, City Clerk Alexis Ramirez, City Attorney Jim Neu, Parks & Recreation Director Austin Rickstrew, Interim Police Chief Lieutenant Mike Kuper, Community Development Director Zach Higgins, Civil Engineer Craig Spaulding, IT Director Kelly Thompson, Video Production Specialist Brandon Steele, Colorado River District Water Resources Engineer / Project Manager Rebecca Briesmoore, Mike Fisher, Deb Grizzle, Todd Jesse, Devon Spaulding.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Comments were heard from Colorado River District Water Resources Engineer / Project Manager Rebecca Briesmoore and Deb Grizzle.

CONSENT AGENDA – CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

- A. Consider Minutes of the May 20, 2026 Regular Meeting
- B. Consider Liquor License for Western Slope Chicken, LLC dba Wingchesters
- C. Consider Amendment to the Rifle Municipal Code for Accessory Dwelling Unit Parking Requirements – Ordinance No. 13, Series of 2026 (2nd Reading)
- D. Consider the Amendment to the Rifle Municipal Code Adding Section 16-1-145 Traffic Impact Study Criteria – Ordinance No. 12, Series of 2026 (2nd Reading)

Councilor Alicia Gresley moved to approve Consent Agenda Items A, B, C, and D; seconded by Councilor Michael Clancy.

Roll Call: Yes – Scott Marsh, Chris Bornholdt (5A, 5B, & 5D), Karen Roberts, Jonathan Rice (5A, 5B, & 5D), Alicia Gresley, Clint Hostettler, and Michael Clancy.

No – Chris Bornholdt (5C) and Jonathan Rice (5C)

PRESENTATION

A. Parachute Area Transit System – On-Demand Bus Service Presentation

Via Transit General Manager Michael Fisher presented a presentation on the “Ride PATS” app for the Parachute Area Transit System. Currently established bus route maps, stop locations, and times were displayed on screenshots from the app. The new On-Demand option includes service areas for Parachute / Battlement Mesa, and Rifle; passengers can schedule a ride only within their service area. Fees for rides within the Rifle service area are \$1.00, rides within the Parachute/Battlement Mesa service area are \$1.00, and rides on the fixed routes are \$4.00. Payment methods for rides include cash, credit card, punch pass, or monthly pass options. The service also has a call center to accommodate those who do not have or do not use smartphones to access the app.

Comments heard from Councilor Alicia Gresley.

B. Update from Confluence Early Childhood Development Special Service District

Interim Director for the Confluence Early Childhood Development Special Service District Kathryn Kuhlenberg provided the first update since the Fall 2025 campaign. Since the tax issue passed, the district began collecting tax in January. The Colo Tax Trust account has reached \$2 million dollars and is expected to collect the maximum of \$12.1 million in the first year (2026). Administrative processes to establish long-term systems, tuition subsidy systems, quality and capacity grant systems, will take intentional time and effort and will need to consider the greatly varying differences between each community. Due to feedback, there has been a large focus on renaming the special tax district. The new name decided by the board will be "Every Child, Parachute to Aspen". Logo and branding are still in the works and will need to be presented before and approved by all three area district courts in each county before the official roll out, potentially at the end of June. The board has named four finalists in the search for an Executive Director. There will be a community engagement session with the candidates following the boards final interviews on June 11th at the Colorado Mountain College Glenwood Center, 402 Blake Avenue, Glenwood Springs, CO.

Comments heard from Councilor Jonathan Rice and Councilor Alicia Gresley.

C. Update on CMC's Teacher Apprenticeship Program

Associate Dean of Education at Colorado Mountain College Dr. Liz Qualman and Garfield RE-2 School District Human Resource Director Devon Spaulding recognized Justine Terry as the first registered teacher apprentice to graduate and complete the Colorado Mountain College Teacher Apprenticeship Program in the state of Colorado. She recently joined the certified teaching staff in the Garfield RE-2 School District. The program was initiated to seek out and provide career opportunities to local talent within our communities. It allows candidates to continue working while they earn their degree, meaning they continue earning compensation, their benefits stay intact, and they continue earning PERA retirement benefits. It also eliminates the need for student teaching, which is a requirement of a traditional program. The RE-2 School District helps cover tuition and Colorado Mountain College leverages financial aid in an effort to be sure apprentices can graduate debt free. Including next years pool, there are currently 27 candidates for this program, 22 of which service Rifle schools, with a majority being generational to the Rifle community. In the 2026-2027 school year, Rifle High School will be rolling out concurrent enrollment in education classes for Responsive and Inclusive Teaching, giving students the option to complete four 2,000 level EDU classes.

Comments heard from Councilor Jonathan Rice.

D. City of Rifle Fieldhouse / Activity Center Feasibility Study Presentation

Parks & Recreation Director Austin Rickstrew, Founding Principle of Collab Architecture Jordan Lockner, and Recreation Specialist for Studio CKA Chris Costelli presented the City of Rifle Fieldhouse / Activity Center Feasibility Study. Overview metrics and market demographics were given for the service area which encompasses Debeque to New Castle. Attention was brought to the distance that residents in the service area have to travel to participate in community recreation activities. Community input and engagement have included public forums, popup events, and a public survey to gauge the needs and wants of the community. A site analysis for potential location was conducted which presented 9 potential site locations. Through community engagement sessions, the potential site locations were narrowed down which lead to the final selection of the Metro Park area as the most realistic option. The consensus site concept reflects amenities that align with the community needs; indoor track, two court gym, indoor turf area, indoor aquatic facility, indoor playground, a fitness center, and classroom / exercise studio. Cost analyses were presented for a facility with and without the aquatic amenity. Operation and revue projections were also given for a five-year cycle; operations were project at \$1.8 million per year while revenue was projected at \$1.2 million per year.

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

REGULAR AGENDA

Consider Letter of Support for Colorado River Valley Transit Feasibility and Planning Study

City Manager Patrick Waller presented the request from Northwest Council of Governments for access to funding from the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) that would apply to a planning grant for a transit feasibility and planning study for the entire Colorado River Valley. A contractor would be hired to analyze the existing transit conditions in the region, provide an overview of the regional transit infrastructure, and recommend potential changes to the existing system and potential revenue options. Neighboring communities Silt and Parachute have also received the same request for a letter of support.

No Comments were heard.

Councilor Scott Marsh moved to approve Letter of Support for Colorado River Valley Transit Feasibility and Planning Study; seconded by Councilor Karen Roberts.

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

Recuse – Alicia Gresley (8A)

No – None.

Report to City Manager

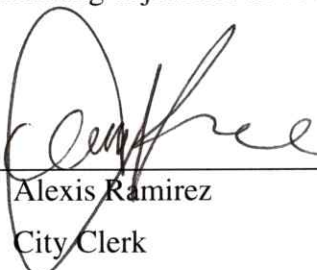
Comments were heard from City Manager Patrick Waller, Parks & Recreation Director Austin Rickstrew, Community Development Director Zach Higgins, and IT Director Kelly Thompson.

Comments from Mayor and Council

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

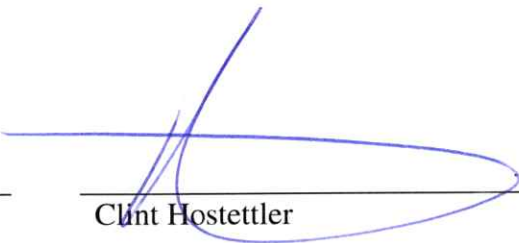
Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:46 p.m.



Alexis Ramirez
City Clerk





Clint Hostettler
Mayor

