

RIFLE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, May 5, 2010

REGULAR MEETING

7:00 p.m. * Council Chambers

The regular meeting of the Rifle City Council was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Mayor Keith Lambert.

PRESENT ON ROLL CALL: Councilors Alan Lambert, Jay Miller, Jonathan Rice, Jen Sanborn, Jeanette Thompson, Randy Winkler, and Mayor Keith Lambert.

OTHERS PRESENT: John Hier, City Manager; Matt Sturgeon, Assistant City Manager; Wanda Nelson, City Clerk; Jim Neu, City Attorney; Jim Bell, Cable 10; Michael Churchill, Cable 10; Aleks Briedis, Recreation Director; Charlie Stevens, Utility Director; Tom Whitmore, Parks Director; Buzz Kehoe, IT Director; Dick Deussen, City Engineer; Rod Hamilton, Public Works Director; Charles Kelty, Finance Director; Mike Braaten, Government Affairs Coordinator; Kevin Kelley, Public Works Inspector; Peter Hayes, Building Inspector; John Savage; Annick Pruet; Scott Becker; John Kuersten.

CONSENT AGENDA

MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 21, 2010 COUNCIL MEETING; MARCH FINANCIAL REPORT; MARCH SALES TAX REPORT; TI LINE AT JUSTICE CENTER; ACCOUNTS PAYABLE; LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWALS

Councilor Thompson excused herself from voting on the Minutes. Councilor Lambert moved to approve the Consent Agenda; seconded by Councilor Sanborn.

Roll Call: Yes – A. Lambert, Miller, Rice, Sanborn, Thompson, Winkler, K. Lambert

CITIZEN COMMENTS AND LIVE CALL-IN

Kris Swanson with the Rifle Economic Development Corporation provided an update on the Health + Wellness Center, and encouraged everyone to participate in a meeting on May 13th to discuss the building plans and possible services offered. Monica Piergrossi, Senator Bennett's liaison, provided an overview of the projects the Senator is working on, and encouraged everyone to contact his office with questions or concerns. Mayor Lambert invited the public to attend the dedication ceremonies for the new Wastewater Plant and the new Parks Maintenance Facility.

PROCLAMATION: BUILDING SAFETY MONTH

Mayor Lambert read the Proclamation aloud. This Proclamation declares May as Building Safety Month. Councilor Miller moved to approve the Proclamation; seconded by Councilor Rice.

Roll Call: Yes – A. Lambert, Miller, Rice, Sanborn, Thompson, Winkler, K. Lambert

Peter Hayes, Building Inspector, was present to receive the signed Proclamation, and Mayor Lambert thanked them for him for his work.

PROCLAMATION: POLICE OFFICER WEEK

Mayor Lambert read the Proclamation aloud, which honors National Police Week. Councilor moved to approve the Proclamation; seconded by Councilor.

Roll Call: Yes – A. Lambert, Miller, Rice, Sanborn, Thompson, Winkler, K. Lambert

Officer Jose Valadez was present to receive the Proclamation, and received praise for his work as a Police Officer.

RESOLUTION 7-10: THE FARM PRELIMINARY PLAN EXTENSION

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIFLE, COLORADO, GRANTING A TWO YEAR EXTENSION FOR THE FARM AT RIFLE PUD PRELIMINARY PLAN AND PRELIMINARY PUD DEVELOPMENT PLAN.

Applicant John Savage described his request for an extension of its approved Preliminary Plan for an additional two years. Resolution 7-10 approves that request. Councilor Lambert moved to approve Resolution 7-10; seconded by Councilor Sanborn.

Roll Call: Yes – A. Lambert, Miller, Rice, Sanborn, Thompson, Winkler, K. Lambert

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY LEASE TO CACALOCO

Mr. Stevens noted that staff has been working with the applicant Jim Duke regarding a composting facility adjacent to the City's new wastewater reclamation facility on the West UMTRA Site. The City is leasing five acres to Cacaloco, with an option to expand it to ten acres, and they must have adequate insurance for its operations. The CDPHE and DOE have approved this operation pursuant to the deed restrictions on the property. Mr. Duke reported that the need for garden fertilizer has increased as more citizens are growing personal gardens. Councilor Thompson moved to approve the lease and authorized the Mayor to sign the lease; seconded by Councilor Sanborn.

Roll Call: Yes – A. Lambert, Miller, Rice, Sanborn, Thompson, Winkler, K. Lambert

LOCAL PURCHASING PREFERENCE

Mr. Hier stated that last fall Council directed staff to review the City's Purchasing Code. Mr. Hier met with Annick Pruett, Chamber of Commerce, and a group of local contractors to discuss proposed updates to the Code. Suggested changes to the Code include amending the definition of a local vendor and updating the discount schedule. State and Federal Grant requirements could remove the preferences for local vendors. Council could modify the preferences on a case-by-case basis and would be included in the bid packet sent to vendors. Annick Pruett, Scott Becker, and John Kuersten were present for this discussion and noted their appreciation for the spirit of cooperation that existed among the contractor community and City staff during this process. Council directed staff to draft an ordinance that incorporates the proposed updates.

RESOLUTION 6-10: LAND USE APPLICATION FEE SCHEDULE

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIFLE, COLORADO, ADOPTING A FEE SCHEDULE FOR LAND USE APPLICATIONS

Council approved Ordinance 6-10 at the previous Council meeting which amended Section 16 of the Code regarding Land Use Application Fees. Resolution 6-10 adopts the proposed Fee Schedule. The Schedule includes a new fee for GIS system integration and new deposit amounts. Councilor Miller moved to approve Resolution 6-10; seconded by Councilor Rice.

Roll Call: Yes – A. Lambert, Miller, Rice, Sanborn, Thompson, Winkler, K. Lambert

UPDATE ON WORKFORCE HOUSING

Mr. Sturgeon noted that Council passed an ordinance in 2009 that extended the Workforce Housing Incentive Pilot Program through April 30, 2010. Council will now consider whether the Program should be extended further or allow it to sunset. The Program was first introduced in 2008, and resulted in the construction of seven workforce units. Because of the economic conditions and number of units available for purchase, it is recommended that the Program be allowed to sunset, with the understanding that it could be brought back at a future date. Council concurred with this recommendation to let the Workforce Housing Program to sunset, and thanked community members for their efforts in making the Program a success.

BUDGET REDUCTION RECOMMENDATIONS

At a workshop held earlier this evening, Mr. Hier and Mr. Kelty presented additional budget reductions for Council's consideration. Earlier cost-savings measures were taken, to include reducing or eliminating projects, hiring and pay freezes, and reductions in training budgets. There is a need to achieve additional cost savings in the amount of \$600,000 to balance the 2010 budget. These savings can be achieved through further budget reductions, furloughs, and reductions in force. Councilor Thompson moved to approve the recommended budget cuts to achieve a savings of \$600,000; seconded by Councilor Lambert.

Roll Call: Yes – A. Lambert, Miller, Rice, Sanborn, Thompson, Winkler, K. Lambert

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Mr. Hier reported on: Spring clean-up; Centennial Park; Westfest; IGA regarding the Energy Innovation Center; Ute Theatre lease; 4th Street Crossing; 9th Street Light; upcoming Open Houses. Ms. Nelson stated that a work session will be held on May 12th with the P&Z Commission regarding Public Official's Liability. A presentation by the Place Branding Committee will also occur. Mr. Sturgeon stated that a grant was received to conduct a study on a circulator route in Rifle. Mr. Neu will have several IGA's for Council's consideration at a future meeting. Mr. Whitmore invited everyone to attend the Parks Maintenance Building dedication ceremony on May 10th. Mr. Kehoe reported that an IT Tech has been hired and will start on Monday. Mr. Braaten discussed the Mainstreet Initiative. Mr. Stevens reported on: dedication ceremony for the new wastewater plant; AWWA Drinking Water Week; and a possible grant for the new water plant.

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COMMENTS FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL

UPCOMING FACILITY DEDICATIONS

Councilor Sanborn and Mayor Lambert encouraged folks to bring their families to the upcoming dedication ceremonies.

SYMPHONY IN THE VALLEY

Councilor Thompson noted there will be two performances this weekend: one Saturday night in Rifle, and the second on Sunday in Glenwood Springs.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Councilor Miller wished Keith and Sarah Lambert a very Happy Anniversary!

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

Mayor Lambert wished all the mothers a Happy Mother's Day!

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Wanda Nelson
City Clerk

Keith Lambert
Mayor