

ROCKY RIDGE TOWN MONTHLY MEETING

September 18, 2024

7:30 PM

TOWN HALL

DRAFT

Opening:

Presiding: Mayor Ronald Allred

Present from the Town Council: Ronald Allred, Joanna Covington, Lucy Gold, Bethany Sturgeon, and Andrew Aagard.

Present from the Town Staff: Marilyn Bronson, Rachel Bronson, Terry Allred, and Benjamin Allred.

Others Present: Katie Allred, Nephi Laub, Shay Morrison, Alden Covington, Alvin Jenson and Legacy Vickery.

Invocation was given.

Meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

Town Clerk Marilyn Bronson noted that July's minutes were not included on the agenda and therefore, could not be approved at this time and will need to be addressed next month.

August Minutes:

Council Member Bethany Sturgeon noted several clarifications in regards to those who were present and absent/excused as well as the spelling of Shay Morrison's name, as it was different in 2 places. She also expressed that it was Council Member Andrew Aagard that suggested the term "Building Superintendent."

Council Member Bethany Sturgeon also noted that during the Citizen Items, Water/EMS Director Casey Reynolds chastised the Council for the poor turnout at the County Commissioners' meeting. She acknowledged this and expressed disappointment in herself for not attending the event, especially after Mayor Ron had requested a good turnout. She also emphasized that better reminders, such as notifications a week or a few days in advance, would have been helpful. Although the event had been discussed in Staff Meetings, it was not communicated clearly to Council Members. A suggestion that the Town Clerk send earlier reminders to avoid similar situations in the future was made.

Multiple council members explained their absences and the challenges they faced in receiving information. While acknowledging the hard work of the Town Staff, the importance of clear and timely communication, especially with Council Members not present at Staff Meetings was made.

Council Member Bethany noted changes to the minutes regarding the I-15 project: Council Member Bethany Sturgeon, along with Casey and Head of the Road Department, Terry Allred, would meet the following Monday to manage the project. A minor correction was made to the minutes regarding the phrasing of her report, changing "I" to "She."

A motion was made to approve August's minutes as amended by Council Member Andrew Aagard and seconded by Council Member Joanna Covington. All others were in favor except Mayor Ron Allred, who abstained due to his absence at last months meeting.

MINUTES: August

Visitors: Shay Morrison

Shay presented a Region 6 (R6) update on the following topics:

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1. **Capital Improvement Board (CIB) Submissions:** Morrison highlighted the upcoming October 1 deadline for CIB submissions. While funding has been limited, there has been a slight increase, and small communities are encouraged to apply if they have projects.
2. **Geographic Information System (GIS) Printer:** A new, large-format printer has been acquired for GIS purposes. Morrison offered to help print or create zoning maps for the council, if needed. Town Clerk/Recorder Marilyn Bronson felt that this may be useful to the Town due to past inquiries regarding zoning maps. She expressed that she would speak to Head of the Road Dept. Terry Allred about this.
3. **Subdivision Updates:** Senate Bill 174 changes are due by December. The approval process for subdivisions will shift from the city council to the Planning Commission and Administrative Land Use Authority. Council Member Andrew Aagard suggested to Marilyn that this be brought to the Town Council before December.
4. **Regional Council of Governments (RCOG) Grant for Railroad Project:** An RCOG grant of up to \$600,000 to potentially improve the railroad in the Town limits. The grant opened on September 16 and closes on October 30. Marilyn and Shay met before this meeting to start the process on applying for this.
5. **Regional Growth Summit:** A mini-training session will be held on September 26, focusing on financial topics like cash accounts and enterprise funds. Staff and council members are encouraged to attend.
6. **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG):** A workshop on applying for CDBG funding will take place on September 25-26. It's a federal grant that can support infrastructure and community projects.
7. **Closed Meeting Training (Open Public Meetings Act - OPMA):** A reminder was given, that all closed sessions must be recorded, separate from regular meeting recordings, even though they don't need to be publicly posted.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Security for Town Hall – Proposal:** The council discussed a proposal for installing security cameras at the Town Hall, provided by Harmony Audio. Concerns were raised about the high cost for the number of cameras suggested, which ranged from six to seven, covering entryways and external areas to prevent vandalism. Some members felt fewer cameras might suffice, particularly at key entrances, while others emphasized the need for full coverage to prevent potential damage. It was noted that there may not be funds in the current budget for the system, and the idea of postponing the decision until the next fiscal year was discussed. Some members expressed that the risk of vandalism was low, but agreed on the potential benefits of having cameras, particularly for the outdoor ballot box, which could increase election participation.

The Council decided to seek a second quote from Verkada, a security company, to compare costs and ensure an informed decision.

2. **New Line item in the Budget – B&C Road Funds:** Marilyn proposed creating a new line item in the budget for B&C Road Funds, which are currently tracked in a spreadsheet by herself. She explained that having a dedicated line item in the budget would simplify tracking and provide clearer transparency for the council. The line item would allow for easier monitoring of expenditures related to road maintenance and projects. The proposal was discussed, and there was consensus that this change would improve financial management. A motion to approve the addition of the line item was made by Council Member Andrew Aagard and seconded by Council Member Bethany Sturgeon. All others voted in favor.

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DEPARTMENTAL UPDATES:

1. **EMS/CERT:** EMS – None CERT: The Town’s Emergency Trailer has been reviewed and younger members are enthusiastic about it.
2. **Water:** Well #3 is now fully operational and running smoothly.
3. **Road: Backhoe Lease:** Terry presented the financial history and current options regarding the Town's backhoe lease. The backhoe has been leased since 2006, with an initial annual lease of \$4,000, allowing the town to receive a new machine yearly. However, lease costs have risen significantly, now reaching \$18,915 annually under the current provider, RDO Equipment, a substantial increase from \$9,982 in recent years. Comparing the current lease option with the possibility of purchasing the backhoe over the next three years, the Town would pay \$56,000 to lease the equipment, compared to a \$75,000 purchase price (for the current 2021 backhoe), which has only 600 hours of use and is expected to last for 10,000 hours before requiring major repairs. The alternative would be buying a new machine, and would cost \$119,000 after discounts. The purchase would be made by drawing funds from both the Water and Road Departments.

It was recommended that the Town buy the current backhoe instead of continuing the lease, as it offers better long-term value. A motion was made by Council Member Andrew Aagard to approve the proposal to purchase the backhoe and seconded by Council Member Lucy Gold. All others voted in favor.

Cemetery Project Update: Nearly all of the curb and gutter work has been completed, with just one radius remaining. Concrete pouring will continue tomorrow, with the project about halfway through the sidewalk and waterway installation. The goal is to complete the asphalt work before winter, though the concrete must cure for at least seven days first. Terry plans to have the curb and gutter finished within the next three weeks.

Mayor Allred acknowledged Terry and Park Superintendent Benjamin Allred for their dedication to the project, along with gratitude for the volunteer help involved. Terry expressed hope that the project would result in significant cost savings to the Town.

4. **P & Z:** An update on the new subdivision law – SB 174: Council Member Andrew Aagard asked that this be taken care of before the December 2024 deadline. There was clarification on the process, with confirmation that although administrative work will be handled by Planning and Zoning (P&Z), the Town Council must still approve the final version. Mike Hanson is overseeing the legislative process to ensure everything is completed properly.

5. **Admin: Monthly Expenditures:** The Council reviewed the Town's monthly expenditures, with members discussing various expenses and seeking clarification. A key issue raised was a \$2,200 payment for electrical work in the restrooms, specifically addressing problems with motion sensor lights. Some Council Members expressed surprise at the cost and questioned if alternative, more cost-effective solutions were considered. There was also a discussion regarding other payments, such as a \$1,900 expense for inspections. Rachel explained that this expense covered multiple inspections on projects within the Town.

Terry made corrections regarding Nephi City Corporation and Fleet Pride bills clarifying that the Nephi City Corporation charge was for gas, not electric. The Fleet Pride entry was actually related to the fuel network program.

6. **Park:** Benjamin provided an update on the park's maintenance, particularly focusing on the grass and its condition in relation to the Recreation Program's use. He mentioned that he has been applying additional fertilizer to the grass, which he believes will be sufficient to maintain its green appearance.

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7. **Library:** None

***OPEN FLOOR:**

1. Citizen Items: None
2. Town Council Items: None

Adjournment:

Council Member Andrew Aagard moved to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Lucy Gold seconded the motion; all others voted in favor, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Approved by Marilyn Bronson
Town Clerk/Recorder; UCC, CMC