

RIVERTON CITY COUNCIL
Minutes of the
Regular Council Meeting
Held October 6, 2020
7:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Riverton City Council was held on the above date and time, duly convened by Mayor Richard P. Gard at 7:00 p.m. City Council Members present were Karla Borders (telephonically), Tim Hancock, Mike Bailey, Rebecca Schatza, and Cory Rota. Council Member Hancock led the pledge of allegiance and Council Member Bailey conducted the invocation.

Roll call was conducted. Council Member Schatza moved, seconded by Council Member Bailey to excuse Council Member Kyle Larson from tonight's meeting. Motion passed unanimously. Mayor Gard declared a quorum of the Council.

City Staff present: City Administrator Tony Tolstedt (telephonically), City Clerk/Human Resource Director Kristin Watson, Public Works Director Kyle Butterfield, Chief of Police Eric Murphy, Finance Director Mia Harris, Community Development Director Eric P. Carr, and Administrative Assistant/Deputy City Clerk Megan Sims.

Approval of the Agenda – Council Member Rota moved, seconded by Council Member Schatza to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Communication from the Floor/Response to Citizen's Comments – Former Mayor Ron Warpness approached the Council in regards to the optional one percent tax that is on the ballot for the general election. Karin Broemer approached the Council with her concerns regarding the optional taxes on both the primary and general ballots.

Consent Agenda – City Clerk/Human Resource Director Kristin Watson read the consent agenda items by title only: Approval of the Minutes – September 15, 2020 Regular Council Meeting; Approval of the Minutes – October 6, 2020 Finance Committee Meeting; Approval of the Finance Committee Recommendations – October 6, 2020 claims to be paid in the amount of \$660,774.82, manual check in the amount of \$1,300.00, payroll/liabilities for 9/11/2020 and 9/25/2020 in the amount of \$672,197.93 for a total of \$1,334,272.75; and Approval of the Municipal Court Report for the month of September 2020. Council Member Schatza moved, seconded by Council Member Bailey to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor's Proclamation: Support of Riverton Police Officers – Mayor Richard Gard read a proclamation which expresses sincere thanks to the Riverton Police Department and all Police Departments throughout the Nation for their diligent and good service to our communities. This proclamation was signed by Mayor Gard on the 6th day of October 2020.

Introduction of New Dispatchers; Introduction and Oath of Office of New Police Officers – Police Chief Eric Murphy introduced recently hired dispatchers to the Council: Meagan Ayers and Kaityln Girgen. Also recently hired at the Police Department were Investigative Technician Lisa Looper and Executive Administrative Assistant Summer Cassady. The newly hired police officers that were hired and introduced by Chief Murphy were: Taggart Harmelink, Preston Richardson, Sean Tatro, and Arnulfo Zertuche. Mayor Gard administrated the oath of office to Officers Harmelink, Richardson, Tatro, and Zertuche; and Dispatchers Ayers and Girgen.

Public Hearing & Consideration of Transfer of Location & Ownership of a Retail Liquor License, from The Topsy Tulip, LLC to Starting Gate, LLC - City Clerk/Human Resource Director Kristin Watson reported of a retail liquor license transfer of ownership and location from Starting Gate, LLC to operate at 1409 W Main St. This liquor license is currently held by The Topsy Tulip, LLC operating at 409 E Main St. Council Member Schatza moved, seconded by Council Member Bailey to open the public hearing. Motion passed unanimously. Steve Wocicki with Starting Gate, LLC approached the Council in regards to the liquor license transfer request. There being no others to address the Council, Council Member Bailey moved, seconded by Council Member Schatza to close the public hearing. Motion passed unanimously. Council Member Schatza moved, seconded by Council Member Rota to approve the retail liquor license transfer of location and ownership to Starting Gate, LLC located at 1409 W Main St. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Hearing for Ordinance Nos. 20-007 & 20-009: Franchise Agreements for Visionary Communications, Inc. & Contact Communications, Inc. – City Clerk/Human Resource Director Kristin Watson presented Ordinance No. 20-007 as well as Ordinance No. 20-009 which establishes franchise agreements with Visionary Communications, Inc. and Contact Communications, Inc., respectively. City Clerk/Human Resource Director Kristin Watson read both Ordinance Nos. 20-007 and 20-009 by title only. Council Member Schatza moved, seconded by Council Member Bailey to open the public hearing. Motion passed unanimously. Steve Mossbrook with Contact Communications and Brian Worthen with Visionary Broadband Communications both expressed their gratitude in developing a franchise agreement with the City. There being no others to address the Council, Council Member Bailey moved, seconded by Council Member Hancock to close the public hearing. Motion passed unanimously.

Consideration of Ordinance No. 20-007, 1st Reading: Visionary Communications, Inc Franchise Agreement – Council Member Bailey moved, seconded by Council Member Schatza to adopt Ordinance No. 20-007 on first reading, with the ability to allow work to proceed immediately. Motion passed unanimously.

Consideration of Ordinance No. 20-009, 1st Reading: Contact Communications, Inc Franchise Agreement – Council Member Bailey moved, seconded by Council Member Schatza to adopt Ordinance No. 20-009 on first reading, with the ability to allow work to proceed immediately. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Hearing and Consideration of Ordinance No. 20-008, 1st Reading: RMC 10.04 Right of Way Closures – Public Works Director Kyle Butterfield presented Ordinance No. 20-008 which amends Riverton Municipal Code chapter 10.04. City Clerk/Human Resource Director Kristin Watson read Ordinance No. 20-008 by title only. Council Member Schatza moved, seconded by Council Member Rota to open the public hearing. Motion passed unanimously. There being no one to address the Council, Council Member Rota moved, seconded by Council Member Bailey to close the public hearing. Motion passed unanimously. Council Member Rota moved, seconded by Council Member Schatza to adopt Ordinance No. 20-008 on first reading. Motion passed unanimously.

Memorandum of Understanding: Blue Sky Renewable Energy Grant – Community Development Director Eric P. Carr reported on the previously submitted application, on the behalf of the Riverton Senior Citizen’s Center, to Rocky Mountain Power for the Blue Sky Renewable Energy Grant for solar panels at the Senior Center. Mr. Carr stated the City received notification that the grant was approved for the full amount requested and presented the Memorandum of Understanding with Rocky Mountain Power to utilize the funds received for the project. Council Member Schatza moved, seconded by Council Member Hancock to approve the Rocky Mountain Power: Blue Sky Renewable Energy Grant Memorandum of Understanding.

Council Committee Reports & Council Members’ Roundtable – Council Member Rota reported on the Fremont County School District #25 Recreation Board meeting he attended and commented on the City of Riverton website; Council Member Schatza commented on the sale of the old Days Inn and commented on the Christmas tree lighting; Council Member Bailey commented on the Fall Harvest Festival and reported on the Airport Board Meeting he attended; Council Member Hancock commented on the diligent work of the community members volunteering throughout the town.

City Administrator’s Report – City Administrator Tony Tolstedt also attended the Fall Festival and enjoyed his time; commented on the current enplanements at the airport; and expressed his appreciation to call in for the meeting.

Mayor’s Comments – Mayor Richard P. Gard reported of meeting with the County Commissioners; commented on the FCAG meeting he attended; thanked the FAST committee as well as everyone involved in their diligent work in achieving over 700 passengers for the month of September; commented on the current Coronavirus numbers; and commented on the Fall Festival. Mayor Gard also briefly discussed the optional 1% tax.

Adjourn – There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Gard adjourned the Regular Council meeting at 8:18 p.m. There was no objection from the Council.

CITY OF RIVERTON, WYOMING

Richard P. Gard
Mayor

ATTEST:

Kristin S. Watson
City Clerk/Human Resource Director

Publication Date: *November 3, 2020*