

**RIFLE CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Wednesday, December 17, 2014

REGULAR MEETING

7:00 p.m. \* Council Chambers

A regular meeting of the Rifle City Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Randy Winkler.

**PRESENT AT ROLL CALL:** Councilors Rich Carter, Barb Clifton, Joe Elliott, Jay Miller, Dirk Myers, Jonathan Rice, and Mayor Randy Winkler.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Matt Sturgeon, City Manager; Lisa Hamilton, City Clerk; Jim Neu, City Attorney; Michael Churchill, Rifle Community Television Assistant Manager; John Dyer, Police Chief; Hannah Klausman, City Planner; and Nathan Lindquist, Planning Director.

**CONSENT AGENDA - APPROVE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:**

- A. Minutes from the December 3, 2014 regular meeting
- B. Stipulation in Water Court Case No. 14CR3014
- C. Appoint Tim Barnett as alternate member of Planning Commission
- D. October 2014 Sales Tax Report
- E. October 2014 Financial Report
- F. Accounts Payable

Councilor Miller moved to approve Consent Agenda Items A, B, C, D, E, and F; seconded by Councilor Rice. Roll Call: Yes – Carter, Clifton, Elliott, Miller, Myers, Rice, Winkler

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

There were no citizen comments.

**PUBLIC HEARING – CONSIDER LANDSCAPE CODE AMENDMENTS - ORDINANCE NO. 20, SERIES OF 2014 – 1ST READING**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF RIFLE, COLORADO, REPEALING AND REENACTING THE LANDSCAPE GUIDELINES OF THE CITY OF RIFLE SET FORTH AT ARTICLE XIII OF CHAPTER 16 OF THE RIFLE MUNICIPAL CODE, REPEALING ARTICLE VIII OF CHAPTER 2 OF THE RIFLE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO THE RIFLE TREE BOARD, AMENDING ARTICLE V OF CHAPTER 7 RELATING TO CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF TREES WITHIN THE CITY OF RIFLE, AND AMENDING SECTION 16-3-450 RELATING TO LANDSCAPING OF COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL ZONE DISTRICTS

Mayor Winkler opened the public hearing. Planning Director Nathan Lindquist explained that proposed Ordinance No. 20, Series of 2014, would change regulations that are overly restrictive in areas of landscape coverage and types of materials used, as well as increase requirements to provide a pleasing and uniform landscape aesthetic throughout Rifle’s commercial properties. Changes would be made to the size and composition of the landscape buffer to ensure it is applied logically in different situations.

In addition, in an effort to promote water wise landscape design, xeric plant requirements would be added. Xeriscapes provide for reduced water consumption, adaptive drought resistant plant types, visually interesting landscape, and less maintenance for property owners.

The ordinance would also replace the defunct Tree Board with the Planning Commission.

Council directed staff to eliminate the requirement of foundation plantings, as well as change the definition of mulch, so the definition only defines and does not regulate.

Councilor Carter moved to approve Ordinance No. 20, Series of 2014, on first reading as amended and order it to be published as required by Charter; seconded by Councilor Clifton. Roll Call: Yes – Carter, Clifton, Elliott, Miller, Myers, Rice, Winkler

**PUBLIC HEARING – CONSIDER SIGN CODE AMENDMENTS - ORDINANCE NO. 19, SERIES OF 2014 - 1ST READING**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF RIFLE, COLORADO, REPEALING AND REENACTING THE SIGN CODE OF THE CITY OF RIFLE SET FORTH AT ARTICLE VIII OF CHAPTER 16 OF THE RIFLE MUNICIPAL CODE

Mayor Winkler opened the public hearing. City Planner Hannah Klausman explained that proposed Ordinance No. 19, Series of 2014, would alter how total allowable square footage for signs is calculated. It would also allow types of signage previously prohibited, that can be integrated into a business’s signage in a visually pleasing manner.

Council directed staff to allow private light pole banners only for businesses with an outdoor sales component, allow inflatable signs by permit; and reduce the allowed time for banners to 30 days.

Councilor Carter moved to approve Ordinance No. 19, Series of 2014, on first reading as amended and order it to be published as required by Charter; seconded by Councilor Rice. Roll Call: Yes – Carter, Clifton, Elliott, Miller, Myers, Rice, Winkler

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

City Manager Matt Sturgeon reported to Council on the following issues: strategic planning; Hometown Holiday; \$2 million grant for water treatment plant; changing administrator for employee retirement plans; and holiday schedule.

Police Chief John Dyer expressed his appreciation to the area agencies that supported the DuBois memorial event.

**COMMENTS FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

Council’s consensus was that Mayor Winkler should write a letter supporting the expansion of Natural Soda.

Councilors wished Happy Holidays to all.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

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Lisa K. Hamilton  
City Clerk

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Randy Winkler  
Mayor