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Mayor
Jo Ann Wilson

City Council

Mayor Pro-Tem,
Place 1

Josh McCabe

Place 2

Michelle Tye

Place 3

Elaine Priest

Place 4

Sam Eason

Place 5

Ashley Majors

City

Administrator
Cynthia Northrop

City Attorney

Carvan Adkins

City Secretary

Shannon
Montgomery

Fire Chief

Darrell Fitch

Police Chief

Eric Debus

Public Works

Director
Sean Densmore

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE RHOME CITY COUNCIL

Meeting Date: Thursday, June 24, 2021

Location: **VIA TELEPHONE CONFERENCE**

MEETING START TIME: **6:30 PM**

Call to Order and Establish a Quorum

Mayor Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:31pm. City Secretary Montgomery called roll and announced a quorum of Council Members present.

Council Members Present:

Mayor Jo Ann Wilson

Council Member Elaine Priest

Mayor Pro Tem Josh McCabe

Council Member Sam Eason

Council Member Michelle Tye

Council Member Ashley Majors

City Staff Present:

City Administrator Cynthia Northrop

Municipal Court Clerk Kristi Adams

City Secretary Shannon Montgomery

Police Chief Eric Debus

Fire Chief Darrell Fitch

Public Works Director Sean Densmore

Public Presentations and Input

The Council is not permitted to take action on or discuss any presentations made to the Council at this time concerning an item not listed on the agenda. The Council will hear comments during this designated time. Request form, or email, must be submitted to the City Secretary, via email to citysecretary@cityofrhome.com, prior to 4:00pm to be recognized.

The following made Public Presentations to the Council:

- Tommie Eason – Mount Lane, Rhome, Texas
- Deborah BeCraft – West Second, Rhome, Texas
- Fabiola Valdez – South Dogwood, Rhome, Texas

Announcements from Mayor and Council Members

Mayor Wilson stated that the City Offices will be closed, Monday, July 5, 2021 in observance of Independence Day.

Consent Agenda

All items under this section are recommended for approval for the Consent Agenda. These items are of a routine nature and require only brief deliberation by Council. Council reserves the right to remove any item on the Consent Agenda for further deliberation.

A. Minutes of City Council Regular Session dated June 10, 2021 (City Secretary)

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem McCabe, seconded by Council Member Majors to approve the Minutes of City Council Regular Session dated June 10, 2021, as amended.

City Secretary Montgomery asked for a roll-call vote:

Mayor Pro Tem McCabe: Aye
Council Member Tye: Aye
Council Member Priest: Aye
Council Member Eason: Aye
Council Member Majors: Aye

Motion carried unanimously.

Regular Agenda – Old Business

B. Discussion and any necessary action regarding public use of the Senior Center Building as the City transitions from State mandated COVID restrictions (Mayor)

City Administrator Northrop stated Council tabled this item from the June 10 Meeting seeking additional information on the cost of completing some of the health and safety items identified by our third-party inspector. Staff has received quotes on these items. Some of the items (i.e., exit signs, seals around doorways, etc.) were relatively inexpensive. However, there are several electrical issues that are costly and are not budgeted.

Council discussed the needed repairs of the Senior Center Building and consensus of the Council was to bring this agenda item back to Council once the Community Center floor is repaired as a possible alternative.

Discussion only; no action taken.

Regular Agenda – New Business

C. Discussion and any necessary action regarding a Sanitary Control Easement on Meadowlark Drive, Rhome, Texas and authorizing the City Administrator to execute necessary documents (City Administrator)

City Administrator Northrop stated Aqua Texas holds the CCN in By Well Estates and they are adding new wells in ByWell Estates and are seeking a Sanitary Control Easement, which is a common measure around wells for protection. The City of Rhome is only granting the easement that falls within our public right-of-way (i.e., the street). Northrop also stated Legal has reviewed.

Motion made by Council Member Eason, seconded by Council Member Priest, to approve the Sanitary Control Easement and authorize the City Administrator to execute all necessary documents.

City Secretary Montgomery asked for a roll-call vote:

Mayor Pro Tem McCabe: Aye
Council Member Tye: Aye
Council Member Priest: Aye
Council Member Eason: Aye
Council Member Majors: Aye

Motion carried unanimously.

D. Discussion and any necessary action regarding Appointment for expiring seats on Parks & Recreation Board (3 seats) and Planning & Zoning Commission (2 regular seats and 1 alternate) for two-year terms (City Secretary)

City Secretary Montgomery stated Mayor Pro Tem McCabe would be recusing himself from the Parks & Recreation Board discussion and vote; he will be participating in the Planning & Zoning Commission discussion and vote.

Montgomery listed the applications received for both the Parks & Recreation Board and Planning & Zoning Commission.

Motion made by Council Member Eason, seconded by Council Member Tye, to re-appoint Tommie Eason and Kaitlyn Dilts to the Parks & Recreation Board, leaving one vacancy.

City Secretary Montgomery asked for a roll-call vote:

Mayor Pro Tem McCabe: Abstained
Council Member Tye: Aye
Council Member Priest: Aye
Council Member Eason: Aye
Council Member Majors: Aye

Motion carried 4-0-1 with Council Members Tye, Priest, Eason and Majors voting for and Mayor Pro Tem McCabe abstaining.

Mayor Pro Tem McCabe returned to the discussion.

Motion made by Council Member Majors to appoint Gary Walker to a seated position on the Planning & Zoning Commission; motion died for lack of a second.

Motion made by Council Member McCabe, seconded by Council Member Tye, to re-appoint Thomas Cannon and Sarah Hahs to their seated positions and to appoint Gary Walker as Alternate #1.

City Secretary Montgomery asked for a roll-call vote:

Mayor Pro Tem McCabe: Aye
Council Member Tye: Aye
Council Member Priest: Aye
Council Member Eason: Aye
Council Member Majors: Nay

Motion carried 4-1-0 with Council Members McCabe, Tye, Priest, and Eason voting for and Council Member Majors voting against.

City Secretary Montgomery will continue to advertise for the vacant positions on both the Planning & Zoning Commission and Parks & Recreation Board.

E. Discussion and any necessary action regarding water quality (Council Member Majors)

Council Member Majors requested that Public Works Director Densmore research and come back to Council with a recommendation on water quality as the TCEQ reports do not matter and she would like a solution to Ms. Valdez' earlier stated issue with the color of her water filters.

Council Member Priest stated that you cannot compare water color to water quality.

Council Member Eason stated that the TCEQ reports do matter and that those regulations set by TCEQ are the standards for water quality.

City Administrator Northrop stated the City has posted the 2020 Consumer Confidence Report for the Public Water System online and that she has met with Council Member Majors on several occasions and explained the variables regarding the different colored water filters and has offered to me with Ms. Valdez. Northrop also stated that the City is meeting the TCEQ requirements set for monthly testing.

Discussion only; no action taken.

F. Discussion and any necessary action regarding department head self-evaluations (Council Member Majors)

Council Member Majors requested that the Department Heads conduct self-evaluations.

Mayor Pro Tem McCabe asked Council Member Majors to respect the Chain of Command, that they report to the City Administrator and to allow the Department Heads to do their jobs. Council Member Tye echoed Mayor Pro Tem McCabe's statement.

Council Member Priest explained self-evaluations and stated that per the personnel manual, the Department Heads are already completing self-evaluations.

Discussion only; no action taken.

**G. Discussion and any necessary action regarding rescheduling the regularly scheduled Thursday, November 11, 2021 meeting to Thursday, November 18, 2021, as City Hall is closed November 11, 2021 in observance of Veterans Day
City Secretary)**

City Secretary Montgomery reminded Council that there is only one meeting for November and this year, it falls on the City observed Holiday of Veterans Day. Montgomery asked Council to consider moving the scheduled November 11, 2021 meeting to November 18, 2021.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem McCabe, seconded by Council Member Tye, to move the November 11, 2021 meeting to November 18, 2021.

City Secretary Montgomery asked for a roll-call vote:

Mayor Pro Tem McCabe:	Aye
Council Member Tye:	Aye
Council Member Priest:	Aye
Council Member Eason:	Nay
Council Member Majors:	Aye

Motion carried 4-1-0 with Council Members McCabe, Tye, Priest and Majors voting for and Council Member Eason voting against.

Executive Session

Pursuant to the following designated section of the Texas Government Code, Annotated, Chapter 551 (Texas Open Meetings Act), the Council may convene into executive session to discuss the following:

- H. Section 551.071 Consultation with Attorney - pending or contemplated litigation, settlement offer or to seek advice from attorney**
- I. Section 551.072 Deliberation regarding Real Property - purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property if deliberation in an open meeting would have detrimental effect on position of the governmental body in negotiations with a third person**
- J. Section 551.074 Personnel – discuss appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of a public officer or employee, or hear complaint or charge against officer or employee in executive session unless officer or employee requests public**
 - **Officer Involved Shooting**
- K. Section 551.087 – Deliberations regarding Economic Development Negotiations – to discuss or deliberate regarding commercial or financial information that the City has received from a business prospect that the City seeks to locate, stay or expand in or near the City and with which the City is conducting economic development negotiations**

Mayor Wilson convened into Executive Session at 7:53pm.

Mayor Wilson reconvened into Regular Session at 9:20pm.

Reconvene into Regular Session

L. Discussion and any necessary action as a result of Executive Session

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem McCabe, seconded by Council Member Tye to authorize the City Administrator to expend funds to allow the Officer to receive 100 percent of his salary and to re-evaluate in 90 days.

City Secretary Montgomery asked for a roll-call vote:

Mayor Pro Tem McCabe: Aye
Council Member Tye: Aye
Council Member Priest: Aye
Council Member Eason: Aye
Council Member Majors: Aye

Motion carried unanimously.

A Point of Order Motion made by Council Member Eason, seconded by Council Member Tye, to move back to Public Presentations and have resident Marie Moore's statement read.

City Secretary Montgomery asked for a roll-call vote:

Mayor Pro Tem McCabe: Aye
Council Member Tye: Aye
Council Member Priest: Aye
Council Member Eason: Aye
Council Member Majors: Nay

Motion carried 4-1-0 with Council Members McCabe, Tye, Priest, and Eason voting for and Council Member Majors voting against.

Mayor Wilson moved back to Public Presentations and Council Member Eason read resident Marie Moore's statement.

Future Agenda Items

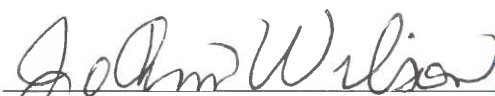
Council Member Majors asked that the City Administrator's weekly report be placed on the next agenda.

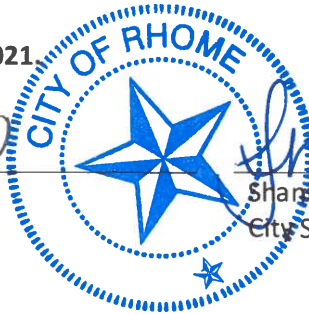
Mayor Wilson asked for a discussion on underground utilities and maintenance of easements and alleys be placed on the next agenda.

Adjourn

Mayor Wilson, hearing no objections, adjourned the meeting at 9:27pm.

Minutes approved the 8th day of July 2021.


Jo Ann Wilson,
Mayor




Shannon Montgomery, TRMC
City Secretary