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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, August 26, 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 6:30pm, called roll and announced a quorum of Council Members present.

Council Members Present:

Mayor Jo Ann Wilson

Council Member Sam Eason

Mayor Pro Tem Josh McCabe

Council Member Ashley Majors

Council Member Elaine Priest

Council Member Absent:

Council Member Michelle Tye

City Staff Present:

City Administrator Cynthia Northrop

Police Chief Eric Debus

City Secretary Shannon Montgomery

Public Works Director Sean Densmore

Fire Chief Darrell Fitch

Announcements from Mayor and Council Members

Mayor Wilson listed upcoming City events and shared that the Rhyme Police Department has gone live with an auction. Police Chief Debus stated they have eight vehicles listed for the auction.

Council Member Eason presented COVID related numbers and asked all to please be careful.

Mayor Wilson added that Boyd Elementary School was closed due to COVID.

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@cityofrhyme.com, prior to 4:00pm to be recognized.

The following asked the City Secretary to read their public comment:

- Lisa Wilson – Front Street, Rhyme, Texas
- Deborah BeCraft – Second Street, Rhyme, Texas
- Patricia Mitchell – Old Mill Road, Rhyme, Texas

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 August 12, 2021 (City Secretary)

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem McCabe, seconded by Council Member Majors, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

City Secretary Montgomery asked for a roll-call vote:

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

Motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearing

B. Rhome City Council to conduct Public Hearing to hear citizen input regarding the proposed Budget for Fiscal Year October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022

Mayor Wilson open the Public Hearing at 6:40pm.

The following asked the City Secretary to read their comments during the Public Hearing:

- Lisa Wilson – Front Street, Rhome, Texas
- Deborah BeCraft – Second Street, Rhome, Texas

The following spoke during the Public Hearing:

- Gail Rother – Morris, Rhome, Texas
- Shirley Mize – Russell, Rhome, Texas

Mayor Wilson closed the Public Hearing at 6:48pm

Regular Agenda – New Business

C. Discussion and any necessary action regarding the proposed budget for Fiscal Year October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022 (City Administrator)

City Administrator Northrop gave a brief budget presentation and addressed questions from Council.

Council Member Eason commented that the property tax rate is going down and only Aurora and New Fairview have a tax rate below Rhome and they do not have either a fire department nor a police department.

Motion made by Council Member Eason, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem, to postpone taking action on the FY2021-2022 Proposed Budget until the September 9, 2021 Council Meeting.

City Secretary Montgomery asked for a roll-call vote:

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

Motion carried unanimously.

(City Secretary Note: Copy of presentation will be included with the final set of minutes)

D. Discussion and any necessary action regarding the Proposed Tax Rate for 2022, take a record vote and schedule the Public Hearing (City Administrator)

Motion made by Council Member Priest, seconded by Council Member Eason, to propose a tax rate for 2022 at the rate of \$0.450857.

City Secretary Montgomery asked for a roll-call vote:

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

Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Wilson stated the Public Hearing on the Proposed Tax Rate will be held on Thursday, September 9, 2021 at 6:30pm in the Rhome Community Center.

E. Discussion and any necessary action regarding an Ordinance(s) pertaining to the maintenance of Right-of-Ways, Easements and Alleyways (City Administrator)

Mayor Wilson stated that Staff is continuing to work on the Ordinance and will bring back forward the Ordinance is ready.

F. Discussion and any necessary action regarding the acceptance of ByWell, Phase II roads (City Administrator)

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem McCabe, seconded by Council Member Priest, to accept Staff's recommendation to accept the ByWell Phase II Road Improvements into the City's maintenance program.

City Secretary Montgomery asked for a roll-call vote:

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

Motion carried unanimously.

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:

- G. Section 551.071 Consultation with Attorney - pending or contemplated litigation, settlement offer or to seek advice from attorney**
- H. 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**
- I. 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 a public hearing**
- J. 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**
 - **Wellflex Site**

Mayor Wilson convened into Executive Session at 7:19pm.

Mayor Wilson reconvened into Regular Session at 7:51pm.

Reconvene into Regular Session

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

The was no action taken as result of the executive session.

Future Agenda Items

No future agenda items were requested.

Adjourn

Motion made by Council Member Majors, seconded by Council Member Eason to adjourn.

City Secretary Montgomery asked for a roll-call vote:

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

Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:53pm.

Minutes approved the 9th day of September 2021.


Jo Ann Wilson,
Mayor




Shannon Montgomery, TRMC
City Secretary