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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, September 9, 2021

Location: Rhome Community Center, 261 North School Road, Rhome, TX 76078

MEETING START TIME: 6:30PM

Workshop Session - 5:30pm

Council Members and City Staff trained on the new audio-visual equipment to prepare for Live Streaming of meetings.

Regular Session – 6:30pm

Call to Order and Establish a Quorum

Mayor Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:30pm and announced a quorum of Council Members present.

Council Members Present:

Mayor Jo Ann Wilson
Mayor Pro Tem Josh McCabe
Council Member Michelle Tye

Council Member Elaine Priest
Council Member Sam Eason
Council Member Ashley Majors

City Staff Present:

City Administrator Cynthia Northrop
City Secretary Shannon Montgomery
Fire Chief Darrell Fitch

Police Chief Eric Debus
Public Works Director Sean Densmore

Invocation

Mayor Pro Tem McCabe gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American and Texas Flags

Council Member Eason led both the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and Texas Flag.

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.

The following voiced their presentation or asked the City Secretary to read their presentation:

- Terry Priest – Cheyenne Trail North, Rhome, Texas
- Glenda Mason – Clear Fork Trail, Rhome, Texas
- Cathy Coffee – Mount Lane, Rhome, Texas
- Lisa Wilson – Front Street, Rhome, Texas

Announcements from Mayor and Council Members

Mayor Wilson shared a few words regarding the upcoming 9/11 anniversary and listed the City's September events:

- Saturday, September 11, 2021: 9/11 20th Anniversary Remembrance 9am at Rhome Fire Station
- Monday, September 13, 2021: Planning & Zoning Commission meeting at 6pm
- Thursday, September 23, 2021: City Council meeting at 6:30pm

Council Member Priest stated the city had met a code requirement with the new sound system – ADA accessible.

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 26, 2021 (City Secretary)

Motion made by Council Member Eason, seconded by Council Member Majors to approve the Consent Agenda items as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Monthly Staff Reports and Board Minutes

All items under this section are for informational purposes only; no action will be taken by Council.

B. Departments: Administration, Building & Development, Fire Rescue, Municipal Court, Police, and Public Works (Department Heads)

C. Minutes of Regular Parks & Recreation Board Meeting dated August 5, 2021 (City Secretary)

No discussion, no action taken.

Public Hearing

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

Mayor Wilson opened the Public Hearing at 6:51pm.

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

- Lisa Wilson – Front Street, Rhome, Texas

Mayor Wilson closed the Public Hearing at 6:52pm.

Regular Agenda – New Business

E. Discussion and any necessary action regarding Ordinance No. 2021-18 adopting the Budget for Fiscal Year October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022 (City Administrator)

This proposed budget will raise more total property taxes than last year's budget by an amount of \$11,624.00, which is a 1.47% increase, and of that amount \$21,048.71 is tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year.

Motion made by Council Member Priest, seconded by Council member Tye, to approve Ordinance No. 2021-18 as presented.

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.

**CITY OF RHOME, TEXAS
ORDINANCE 2021-18**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF RHOME, TEXAS, APPROVING AND ADOPTING A BUDGET FOR THE CITY FOR FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2021 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2022; PROVIDING THAT EXPENDITURES FOR SAID FISCAL YEAR SHALL BE MADE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SAID BUDGET; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

F. Discussion and any necessary action regarding Ordinance No. 2021-19 ratifying ad valorem property tax revenue reflected in the adopted Fiscal Year October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022 Annual Budget (City Administrator)

This budget will raise more total property taxes than last year’s budget by an amount of \$11,624.00, which is a 1.47% increase, and of that amount \$21,048.71 is tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year.

Motion made by Council Member Eason, seconded by Council Member Priest, to approve ratifying ad valorem property tax revenue reflected in the adopted fiscal year October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022 annual budget by stating I move that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$0.450857 percent, which is effectively a 1.03% increase in the tax rate. Motion carried unanimously.

**CITY OF RHOME, TEXAS
ORDINANCE 2021-19**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF RHOME, TEXAS, AFFIXING AND LEVYING MUNICIPAL AD VALOREM TAXES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2021 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2022 AT THE RATE OF \$0.450857 PER ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00), AND FOR EACH YEAR THEREAFTER UNTIL OTHERWISE PROVIDED, ON ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF RHOME TO PROVIDE REVENUES FOR THE PAYMENT OF CURRENT EXPENSES AND ALL OUTSTANDING DEBTS OF THE CITY; DIRECTING THE ASSESSMENT THEREOF; PROVIDING FOR DUE DATES AND DELINQUENT DATES FOR PAYMENT OF TAXES TOGETHER WITH PENALTIES AND INTEREST THEREON; APPROVING THE TAX ROLLS; REPEALING CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR SAVINGS AND SEVERABILITY CLAUSES AND DECLARING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

G. Discussion and any necessary action regarding an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Frisco and authorizing the City Administrator to execute all necessary documents (Police Chief)

Motion made by Council Member Majors, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem McCabe, to approve the Interlocal Agreement with the City of Frisco and authorizing the City Administrator to execute all necessary documents. Motion carried unanimously.

H. Discussion and any necessary action regarding future uses of senior building and police department post Bond Election (Council Member Priest)

Mayor Wilson stated that this is not the right time to discuss this agenda item.

City Attorney Adkins stated that elected officials cannot advocate for or against the bond as it is illegal to do so and confirmed that the agenda item itself is not advocating for/against bond.

Council Member Priest stated that the senior building location compromises parking and ingress/egress for the Fire Department. Priest also mentioned the estimate of \$22,000 to repair the electrical issues, \$50,000 for other code repairs and an estimate of the third option – demo the building at approximately \$15,000. Priest commented she was thinking outside the box and wondered if it would be possible to sell the senior building with the provision that the buyer must relocate the building within so many days of purchase.

Council Member Priest stated she is asking if the City could investigate the alternative to sell the building and save money. She is asking for action to proceed with selling with stipulation that the buyer must move the building within 10 days from date of sale and authorize City Administrator and City Attorney to move forward with researching this item.

Priest stated the advantage of moving forward with this item now is to allow for research, advertise to sell the building and have someone clear the land, which saves the City money.

Mayor Pro Tem McCabe stated that this is a good idea, it does not necessarily need a motion, just instruct Staff to research and bring back a recommendation.

Priest continued by asking about the possibility of selling the Police Department if PD is relocated as the upkeep would be expensive and that the City has no plans for the building.

Council Member Eason stated it was premature to discuss selling the PD Property.

City Administrator Northrop stated that she and the City Attorney can explore options regarding selling the senior building and bring back a recommendation to Council.

No action taken; discussion only.

I. Discussion and any necessary action on Economic Development and the creation of a Business Advisory/Focus Group (Council Member Priest)

City Administrator Northrop stated that this agenda item was brought back for clarification of acceptable goals, focus and clarity. Northrop continued that the City's Comprehensive Development Plan discusses Economic Development, she envisions a focus group would show how the City could help local business owners. The City would need to be careful with quorums, foresees two council members along with herself.

Mayor Pro Tem McCabe stated he would like to help Council Member Priest and City Administrator Northrop.

Northrop stated that they would assist business owners, but the business owners need to lead.

Mayor Wilson asked if Staff could come to the next meeting with a plan.

Northrop explained that it would be a very skeletal plan as the business owners would need to lead. Northrop also clarified that it would be herself, Council Member Priest and Mayor Pro Tem McCabe.

No action taken; discussion only.

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:

- J. Section 551.071 Consultation with Attorney - pending or contemplated litigation, settlement offer or to seek advice from attorney**
- City of Newark ETJ/CCN
 - ByWell

- K. 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
- L. 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
- M. 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 7:44pm.

Mayor Wilson reconvened into Regular Session at 8:34pm.

Reconvene into Regular Session

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

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

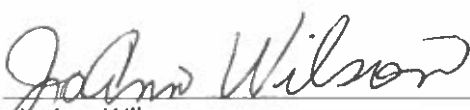
Future Agenda Items

No future agenda items were requested.

Adjourn

Motion made by Council Member Tye, seconded by Council Member Majors to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously; meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.

Minutes approved the 14th day of October 2021


 Jo Ann Wilson,
 Mayor




 Shannon Montgomery, TRMC
 City Secretary