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Mayor
Patricia Mitchell

City Council

Mayor Pro-Tem,
Place 1
Josh McCabe

Place 2
Michelle Tye

Place 3
Elaine Priest

Place 4
Kathy Konegni

Place 5
Patrick Meehan

Interim City
Administrator
Eric Debus

City Attorney
Carvan Adkins

City Secretary
Shaina Odom

Interim Fire Chief
Michelle Di
Credico

Police Chief
Eric Debus

Public Works
Director

MINUTES OF THE RHOME CITY COUNCIL
Meeting Date: Thursday, November 10, 2022

Regular Session: 6 pm

Executive Session: Immediately Following Regular Session

Meeting Location: Rhome Community Center, 261 North School Road, Rhome, TX 76078
Regular Session: 6 pm

Call to Order and Establish a Quorum –

Mayor Mitchell called the meeting to order at 6 pm. Council Member Tye participated virtually.

Invocation – Pastor Heath Van Zandt

Pastor Van Zandt led the Invocation

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag

Honor the Texas Flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, One state under God, One and indivisible

Public Comments

1. *The Council is not permitted to take action on or discuss any comments made to the Council at this time concerning an item not listed on the agenda. However, a Council Member or Mayor may make a statement of fact regarding the item, make a statement concerning the policy regarding the item and/or may propose that the item be placed on a future agenda or direct the City Administrator to contact the individual to address. If you are attending the meeting via Live Streaming, and you would like to make a Public Comment, you must email the City Secretary at citysecretary@cityofrhome.com prior to 4 pm on the day of meeting and must identify each subject you plan to present to be recognized.*
2. *If the writer of a Public Comment is unable to read their own comment, it should be given to a friend, family member, or associate, that is able to attend in person and read the statement in their stead.*
3. *Public Comments made in person require the speaker to submit the sign-up form to the City Secretary prior to the meeting, and the form must identify each subject the speaker plans to present.*
4. *A statement of no more than 3 minutes may be made. There will be no yielding of time to another person. Comments should be directed to the entire Council, not individual members. Engaging in verbal attacks, or comments intended to insult, abuse, malign, or slander any individuals shall be cause for termination of time privileges and removal from Council Chambers.*
 - *Steven Knight - 1313 Prairie Point*
 - *Lisa Ann Wilson by JoAnn Wilson – 240 W First Street*
 - *Mike Martucci - 1109 Ellis Lane*
 - *Deborah BeCraft – 360 W Second Street*
 - *Shirley Mize – 170 Russell Street*
 - *Sam Eason - 1107 Mount Lane*
 - *Donna DeGarmo – 104 Kensington*
 - *Ashley Majors - 200 Dogwood*

Announcements from Mayor and Council Members

- City Hall Closed November 11, 2022 for Veterans Day
- City Hall Closed November 24-25, 2022 for Thanksgiving

Regular Agenda – Recognition

- A. Discussion and any necessary action regarding the 2022 third quarter Shine Award recipient (**Interim City Administrator**)

Interim City Administrator recognized Officer Marc Stanwyck for the 3rd Quarter Shine Award. In 2021 the Rhome Police Department was approved \$80,000 for the purchase of new radios. Rhome Officers had been using the same radios for several years and some had resorted to purchasing their own on eBay. Clearly, this situation was a detriment to officer safety and placed the department in a precarious liability standpoint. With the budget approval, work began to find the best equipment that will serve officers for years to come. Officer Marc Stanwyck, being highly knowledgeable about radios and their functioning, was tasked with finding the right equipment.

After much research and consultation, Officer Stanwyck found the perfect solution. He selected new models of Kenwood Viking Radios that are not only high quality but cost effective. Rhome PD was able to acquire all needed equipment for about half the cost expected.

Not only did Officer Stanwyck save money on the equipment but utilized his knowledge and experience by programming and installing the in-car radios himself. Officer Stanwyck also programmed the individual officer’s portable radios. Through his hard work and diligence, Officer Stanwyck is to be commended for ensuring officer safety through his work on communications as well as the cost savings to the City of Rhome.

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.

- B. Minutes of City Council Regular Session dated October 27, 2022 (**City Secretary**)
- C. Minutes of City Council Regular Session dated November 1, 2022 (**City Secretary**)

Mayor Pro-Tem McCabe made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Council Member Meehan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Monthly Staff Reports and Board Minutes

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

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

Public Hearing

- E. City Council to conduct a Public Hearing to consider a replat; one tract being legally described as Acres: 3.00, Abst: A-817 JC, also known as 401 E Hickory Street, Rhome, TX 76078

Mayor Mitchell called the Public Hearing to order at 6:36 pm. The meeting was recessed until December 8, 2022 at 6 pm.

Recessed Public Hearing at 6:36 pm

- F. City Council to conduct a Public Hearing to consider a replat; one tract being legally described as Acres: TRACT 21 6.81330 ACRES, also known as 5399 Hwy 114, Rhome, TX 76078

Mayor Mitchell opened the Public Hearing at 6:37 pm. Ashley Majors, Steve Knight, and Deborah BeCraft spoke in favor of the replat. Mayor Mitchell closed the Public Hearing at 6:48 pm.

Regular Agenda – New Business

- G. Discussion and any necessary action regarding a replat; one tract being legally described as Acres: 3.00, Abst: A-817 JC, also known as 401 E Hickory Street, Rhome, TX 76078 (**Interim City Administrator**)

Item was tabled until December 8, 2022

H. Discussion and any necessary action regarding a replat; one tract being legally described as Acres: TRACT 21 6.81330 ACRES, also known as 5399 Hwy 114, Rhome, TX 76078 **(Interim City Administrator)**

Council Member Priest made a motion to approve the replat. Mayor Pro-Tem McCabe seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

I. Discussion and any necessary action regarding Ordinance 2022-20 vetoed by Mayor

Ordinance 2022-20 was vetoed by Mayor Mitchell on November 3, 2022 after its passage by Council on November 1, 2022. Ordinance 2022-20 was brought back to Council for reconsideration per Mayor Mitchell's request. Council discussed the ordinance again, Mayor Pro-Tem McCabe stated the council would not pass this ordinance if there were any other options, but they were forced to come up with a solution since Council and Mayor were unable to come to an agreement for a City Administrator. Council Member Meehan, who originally abstained from voting on November 1, 2022, stated he regretted not showing the public that the City Council is united. Council Member Priest made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-20, Council Member Meehan seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

McCabe – Aye

Tye – Aye

Priest – Aye

Konegni – Aye

Meehan - Aye

J. Discussion and any necessary action regarding FY 2021-2022 Budget amendments **(Interim City Administrator)**

Mayor Mitchell voiced her concerns regarding the budget amendments presented. She stated she was not comfortable moving money from credited line items to deficit lines. Mayor Pro-Tem McCabe stated this is a common practice for the city to conduct budget amendments at the year end, right before the audit is completed. Interim City Administrator, Eric Debus, stated the budget amendments were not going to raise the bottom line, as the city did not over spend on the budget. Inflation affected some line items, such as gasoline, and not others, such as equipment. Mayor Mitchell wanted to table the item until the next meeting. City Secretary, Shaina Odom, asked to go through the amendment line by line to figure out what council's questions were so she could bring explanations back to the next council meeting. Questions regarding the budget amendment for the Sewer Line replacement on First Street were raised, repair was previously approved to come out of General Fund Savings. City Secretary to correct Ordinance 2022-21, and bring back to Council. Council Member Meehan made a motion to table the budget amendments to the next scheduled council meeting to be held December 8, 2022 at 6 pm. Council Member Konegni seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

K. Discussion and any necessary action regarding transparency, Oath of Office, Code of Conduct, and Closed Sessions **(Priest)**

Council Member Priest tabled this item. No action was taken.

L. Discussion and any necessary action regarding performance of Mayoral duties **(Priest)**

Council Member Priest recapped the mayoral duties to be conducted for the city. Council Member Priest stated documents were not being signed after they were passed by Council. Mayor Mitchell stated she has not been signing anything she does not agree with, since her name is on the document. No action was taken.

M. Discussion and any necessary action regarding Ellis Homestead road project **(Mayor)**

Council authorized an interlocal agreement with Wise County to chipseal the roads in Ellis Homestead. The project was completed. The weather did not allow the roads to meld together correctly before it got cold. Interim City Administrator, Eric Debus, worked with Wise County to sweep up the excess rock. There are no other options currently. No action was taken.

N. Discussion and any necessary action regarding Waiver of Conflict **(Interim City Administrator)**

Mayor Pro-Tem McCabe made a motion to approve the Waiver of Conflict. Council Member Konegni seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

O. Discussion regarding Interlocal Agreement with Aurora for police services **(Interim City Administrator)**

Interim City Administrator, Eric Debus, discussed the Interlocal Agreement between Rhome and Aurora for policing services. The City of Rhome would receive quarterly payments in the amount of \$12,500.00 for an annual total of \$50,000.00. Discussion item only. No action was taken.

P. Discussion and any necessary action regarding appointment of City Administrator

Mayor Pro-Tem McCabe made a motion to appoint Amanda DeGan as the Rhome City Administrator with Interim City Administrator, Eric Debus, to enter into negotiations for a contract for the new City Administrator, and bring that contract back to council for approval. Council Member Konegni seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

McCabe – Aye

Tye – Aye

Priest – Aye

Konegni – Aye

Meehan - Aye

Convene into 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:

- Q. Section 551.071 Consultation with Attorney - pending or contemplated litigation, settlement offer or to seek advice from attorney

- R. 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
- S. 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
 - City Administrator
- T. 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

Regular Agenda – New Business

- U. Discussion and any necessary action regarding Executive Session

No executive session was held.

Future Agenda Items

(Agenda items are due by 5 pm on the Wednesday of the week prior to the council meeting)

Adjourn

Council member Meehan made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Konegni seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:54 pm



Patricia Mitchell,

Mayor

ATTEST:



Shaina Odom
City Secretary