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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 MEETING OF THE RHOME CITY COUNCIL

Meeting Date: Thursday, December 8, 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.

Invocation – Pastor Ricky Harrison

Pastor Ricky Harrison 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.*
- Lisa Wilson – 240 W First Street
 - JoAnn Wilson – 240 W First Street

Convene into Executive Session –

Council convened into Executive Session at 6:02 pm.

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:

- A. 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
- Police Officer

Regular Agenda – New Business

Council reconvened into regular session at 7:10 pm

- B. Discussion and any necessary action regarding Executive Session

Mayor Pro-Tem McCabe made a motion to uphold Police Chief, Eric Debus, decision to terminate employment of Geoffrey Pradia by the City of Rhome, Council Member Konegni seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Announcements from Mayor and Council Members

- City Hall Closed for Christmas Party December 9, 2022 from 12-2 pm
- City Hall Closed for Christmas December 23 and December 26, 2022
- City Hall Closed January 2, 2022 for New Year's Day
- Court Clerk, Kristi Adams, is now a Certified Court Clerk Level 2

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.

- C. Minutes of City Council Regular Session dated November 10, 2022 (**City Secretary**)

Council Member Tye made a motion to accept the minutes for November 10, 2022 as presented. Council Member Priest 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 opened the Public Hearing at 7:23 pm. Public Hearing was recessed until January 12, 2023 at 6 pm. The Public Hearing was closed at 7:24 pm.

- F. Rhome City Council is to conduct a Public Hearing to consider a Specific Use Permit; legally described as BLK: 7 & ½ 43 ORIGINAL TOWN RHOME 0.9900 Acres, also known as, 311 Old Mill Road Rhome, TX 76078

Mayor Mitchell opened the Public Hearing at 7:24 pm. Public Hearing was recessed until January 12, 2023 at 6 pm. The Public Hearing was closed at 7:24 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**)

Mayor Pro-Tem McCabe made a motion to table this item. Council Member Tye seconded the motion. Motion passed

unanimously.

- H. Discussion and any necessary action regarding a Specific Use Permit; legally described as BLK: 7 & ½ 43 ORIGINAL TOWN RHOME 0.9900 Acres, also known as, 311 Old Mill Road Rhome, TX 76078 **(Interim City Administrator)**

Mayor Pro-Tem McCabe made a motion to table this item. Council Member Konegni seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

- I. Discussion and any necessary action regarding State Highway 114 Billboard **(Interim City Administrator)**

Randy Pierce gave a presentation on his property on State Highway 114 and CR 4841 with the intention of gaining approval to erect a billboard. Council discussed and gave direction for the City Administrator to look into allowing the billboard to be installed. No further discussion was held.

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

Council Member Tye made a motion to approve Ordinance 2022-15 Budget Amendments as presented. Council Member Konegni seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

- K. Discussion and any necessary action regarding Interlocal Agreement with Aurora for police services **(Interim City Administrator)**

Mayor Pro-Tem McCabe made a motion to approve the Interlocal Agreement with Aurora for police services. Council Member Tye seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

- L. Discussion and any necessary action regarding releasing CCN #10989 **(Interim City Administrator)**

Mayor Pro-Tem McCabe made a motion to release CCN #10989 to the property owners. Council Member Konegni seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

- M. Discussion and any necessary action regarding resignation of Council Member, Patrick Meehan **(City Administrator)**

Mayor Pro-Tem McCabe made a motion to accept the resignation of Council Member Place 5, Patrick Meehan. Council Member Tye seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

- N. Discussion and any necessary action regarding appointment of City Council Place 5 **(City Administrator)**

Mayor Pro-Tem McCabe made a motion to post the vacancy online, accept applications until 4 pm on January 5, 2023, and to appoint a new member at the January 12, 2023 Council Meeting. Council Member Tye seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

- O. Discussion and any necessary action regarding process of filing a complaint on personnel **(Priest)**

Tabled by Council Member Priest.

- P. Discussion and any necessary action regarding public comment **(Priest)**

Council Member Priest made a comment that the Public Comment section is an opportunity to make suggestions and give ideas for things to council members to consider. No action was taken.

Q. Discussion and any necessary action regarding water main break (Mayor)

Mayor Mitchell stated she is looking for a gesture of good will to the residents affected by the water main break in Ellis Homestead over the summer and the water main break in Old Town on November 21, 2022. Requesting a credit of \$5 to \$10 be added to each account affected by the loss of water. Council discussed the amount of time the water was off, delivery of water to affected residents, and that the water loss was not charged to any residents. No action was taken.

R. Discussion and any necessary action regarding communications from City Hall (Mayor)

Mayor Mitchell stated CodeRed was used previously to notify residents of road closures, or water line breaks. The contract with CodeRed ended and was not extended. Council would like staff to look into resources to be able to notify residents of unforeseen circumstances. No action was taken.

S. Discussion regarding progress of fire hall repairs approved by Council on June 23, 2022 (Mayor)

Interim City Administrator, Eric Debus, updated Council on the fire hall repairs. Contractors came out and looked at it, but one contractor refused to give a bid and the other did not want to do the job. Staff requested to be able to make repairs to their departments as the department head deems necessary, under \$50,000.00. Council Member Tye made a motion to allow department heads to make the decisions on the safety repairs and astatically pleasing repair to the buildings, Mayor Pro-Tem McCabe seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

T. Discussion and any necessary action regarding Ellis Homestead chip seal (Mayor)

Interim City Administrator, Eric Debus, notified Mayor and Council that the staff has done everything available for the roads in Ellis Homestead. Council directed staff to look into grants for the roads through GrantWorks.

U. Discussion regarding legal fees (Mayor)

Mayor Mitchell tabled this item.

Convene into Executive Session –

Mayor Mitchell convened the meeting into Executive Session at 8:37 pm.

Council reconvened into regular session at 8:58 pm.

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:

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

- X. 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
- Y. 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

- Z. Discussion and any necessary action regarding Executive Session

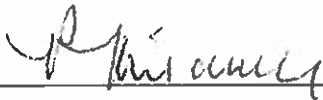
Mayor Pro-Tem made a motion to authorize Interim City Administrator, Eric Debus, to execute the contract with incoming City Administrator, Amanda DeGan. Council Member Tye seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Future Agenda Items

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

Adjourn

Mayor Pro-Tem McCabe made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:59 pm. Council Member Konegni seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.



Patricia Mitchell,
Mayor



ATTEST:



Shaina Odom
City Secretary