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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
LeAnn Gallman,
Interim

Fire Chief
Darrell Fitch

Police Chief
Eric Debus

**Public Works
Director**
Sean Densmore

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE RHOME CITY COUNCIL

Thursday, December 9, 2021 – 6:00 PM

RHOME Community Center, 261 North School Road, Rhome, TX 76078

Call to Order and Establish a Quorum

Mayor Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm 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	Fire Chief Darrell Fitch
City Attorney Carvan Adkins	Police Chief Eric Debus
Interim City Secretary LeAnn Gallman	Public Works Director Sean Densmore

Executive Session

- A. Section 551.071 Consultation with Attorney - pending or contemplated litigation, settlement offer or to seek advice from attorney
- B. 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
 - Appraisal for Old School property
- C. 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 Secretary
 - Accounting Specialist
 - Former Officer Geoffrey Pradia

- D. 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

Reconvene into Regular Session – 7pm or immediately following the Executive Session

The City Council reconvened into Regular Session at 7:13 p.m.

- E. Following Executive Session, motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem McCabe, seconded by Council Member Eason to appoint Shaina Odom City Secretary as of December 10, 2021. Motion passed unanimously.

Invocation

City Administrator Cynthia Northrop gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and Texas Flag

Mayor Pro Tem McCabe led the Pledges of Allegiance to the American Flag and the 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 comments or asked the City Secretary to read their comments:

- Cynthia Hurd – 7950 Paloverde Dr., Ft. Worth, TX
- Mike Goodgion – 217 Cheyenne Trail North, Rhome, TX
- Lisa Wilson - 240 W 1st, Rhome, TX

Announcements from Mayor Council Members

City of Rhome Events:

- Monday, December 13, Rhome Fire Rescue Santa Sightings
- Friday, December 24th, Monday, December 27th: City Hall Offices closed in observance of Christmas
- Friday, December 31st: City Hall Offices closed in observance of New Year’s Day.
- Saturday, January 29, 2022 – Citizen’s Forum on Facilities, 9 am – 11 am

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 October 28, 2021 **(City Secretary)**
- B. Minutes of City Council Special Session dated November 15, 2021 **(City Secretary)**

Motion was made by Council Member Majors, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem McCabe to approve the consent agenda 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.

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

Police Chief Debus introduced newly hired Police Officer Sid Grant. Chief Debus reported on the reorganization of the Police Department. The focus of the reorganization has been a patrol division and an administrative/investigation division. The reorganization will provide a higher level of customer service and has no impact on the budget. To achieve these goals, new first line supervisor level promotions are being made. Chief Debus introduced Officer Rex Ritchey and Officer Aaron Soultaire. They were sworn in as new Sergeants in the Department.

Public Hearing

I. Rhome City Council to conduct a Public Hearing to consider requests for Carports:

1. Legal property being Acres: .423, Lot: 9, Blk: C, Subd: CHISHOLM CREEK PH2, Abst: A-554 J MOFFATT, also known as 217 Cheyenne Trail N, Rhome, Texas 76078.

Mayor Wilson opened the Public Hearing at 7:39 p.m.

Public comments were received from:

Shirley Mize – 170 Russell Street, Rhome, TX IN FAVOR

Debra Becraft – 360 W 2nd Street, Rhome, TX IN FAVOR

Mayor Wilson closed the Public Hearing at 7:43 p.m.

J (1) Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem McCabe to approve the carport request at 217 Cheyenne Trail N, Rhome TX., seconded by Council Member Majors. Council Member Priest recused herself and did not vote. The vote was as follows:

Mayor Pro Tem Cabe – Aye

Council Member Majors – Aye

Council Member Tye – Against

Council Member Eason - Against

The motion failed.

- I. (2) Legal property being Acres: 0.154, Lot: 48, Blk: 4, Subd: Crown Point PH1, Abst: A-280 EJ TADLOCK, also known as 116 Troxell Blvd, Rhome, Texas 76078.

Mayor Wilson opened the Public Hearing at 8:05 p.m.

Shirley Mize – 170 Russell Street, Rhome, TX IN FAVOR

Debra Becraft – 360 W 2nd Street, Rhome, TX IN FAVOR.

Mayor Wilson closed the Public Hearing at 8:08 p.m.

J (2) Motion was made by Council Member Majors to approve the carport request at 116 Troxell Blvd, Rhome, TX, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem McCabe. The motion passed unanimously.

Regular Agenda – New Business

- K. Recognition – 4th quarter SHINE awards (**City Administrator**)

City Administrator announced that the 4th quarter SHINE award is presented to Shaina Odom.

- L. Discussion and any necessary action regarding engaging the auditor for 2020-2021 (**City Administrator**)

The City of Rhome’s current auditor, William Spore has proposed a transition approach to the audit due to his plans to retire. He proposes engaging him to do the bookkeeping portion of the audit and MWH Group, CPA Consultants to complete the audit.

Motion was made by Council Member Eason, seconded by Council Member Majors to authorize City Administrator Northrop to execute the letter(s) of engagement with William Spore and MWJ Group. Motion carried unanimously

M. Discussion and any necessary action regarding sewer rates and winter averaging on wastewater billing (**City Administrator**)

Chris Ekrut, of NewGen consultants addressed Council regarding sewer rates and the capital improvement obligation for the wastewater plant rehabilitation. The consensus of the Council was for staff to look at possible options for structuring the financing of the wastewater plant rehabilitation to reduce the impact of the wastewater increase. No other action was taken.

N. Discussion and any necessary action regarding appointment to the Planning and Zoning Commission (**City Administrator**)

Due to the resignation of Planning & Zoning Commissioner Sarah Hahs, Council considered an appointment to fill the unexpired term. Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem McCabe, seconded by Council Member Priest to appoint Roland Kuhleman to fill that term. Motion carried unanimously.

O. Discussion and any necessary action regarding the location/timing of the Executive Session (**Mayor Wilson**)

Following discussion, the consensus of the Council was to leave Executive Session at the beginning of the meeting, convening to Open Session at 7:00 p.m., and reconvening Executive Session at the end of the meeting if all discussion in Executive Session was not completed.

Future Agenda Items

Mayor Wilson requested that City Administrator Northrop research outstanding monies owed on a prior agreement with Taco Casa.

Adjourn

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem McCabe, seconded by Council Member Eason to adjourn. Mayor Wilson adjourned the meeting at 9:02 p.m.

Jo Ann Wilson,
Mayor

ATTEST:

Shaina Odom
City Secretary