

Rhyme Record

August – 2024

Summer is in full swing here in Rhyme! We hope you all are enjoying vacations, cooling off with a cold slice of watermelon, and spending time with friends and family as we move closer to the start of the new school later this month. Please be mindful that school zones will resume and the hotter temperatures will be here in full force. Stay hydrated and cool knowing we can all look forward to cooler days soon...

Bond Progress/Updates

Proposition A: Water Wells

Proposition B: West Wastewater Treatment Plant

Proposition C: Sanitary Sewer System

Staff continues to work with our engineering firm to put the finishing touches on the engineering plans for the projects. We have submitted the required information to our financial advisor's team, and they are calculating the data we need to help set the tax rate for the coming fiscal year. Staff will work on moving all three (3) projects forward at the same time using contracting firms who will handle the bulk of the actual on-site work. We will keep you updated as new milestones are reached on these improvements.

Rollback Election

The rollback petition to change the tax rate from .437815 to .335372 per \$100 valuation was approved by the voters. The Wise County Appraisal District has mailed the checks to those who qualified for a refund. The average amount of the refund was \$340 per check which was calculated based on the number of checks issued and the total amount to be refunded. For each property owner, the check may have been higher or lower based on the exemptions and valuation.

Budget for FY 24/25

City Council members have had two (2) budget updates in preparation for the coming fiscal year. The first meeting was a broad overview of our financial systems (presented each year) and the second meeting, Council reviewed the base budget numbers for the coming year.

Council priorities include directing any growth so that it will enhance our current city goals and objectives, ensuring our infrastructure is operating well, preparing for the future as well as providing high quality public safety services. We are focusing on public works, police, and fire service areas as part of the feedback we have received from residents so please watch our coming agendas for the Council's current and future planning efforts.

Budget Planning is Underway!

Rhome Record

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Development

Ace Hardware – We continue to work with the owners of the new Ace Hardware site that will be re-developed along B.C. Rhome (at the old Milling Around business site). Elevation plans and other necessary documents have been submitted for review and we are looking forward to seeing this project come to life!

Sale of Mixed Beverages – As part of a recent Council meeting, our attorney confirmed that the city had approved for mixed beverages to be served within city limits. As a result, Staff received two (2) applications - one location would be a new tavern site near the Old Mill (not currently in use) and one location at El Sazon Mexican food restaurant (off of FM 3433). The applications are making their way through the Texas Alcohol Beverage Commission (TABC) review processes, which may take several weeks/months to finalize.

FM 3433 Bridge – we have been notified that the construction work on the bridge will be completed sooner than anticipated. The new opening date is set for August 8th! We hope this helps everyone with traffic congestion in getting to and from home/school.

Fast-Food Options – staff have also been in discussions with a fast-food vendor who is looking to open a new location off SH 114 (near Love's). When we have definitive information, we will share it with the community!

Important Dates to Remember:

- ✓ Aug. 6th – Bulk trash pick-up
 - ✓ Aug. 7th – Monthly outdoor warning siren test (weather permitting)
 - ✓ Council Meeting(s) – Aug. 8th and 22nd
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Current Water Restriction Levels

The City is currently under Stage 2 water restrictions per Walnut Creek Special Utility District (WCSUD). This means that our residents may water once a week as follows: even addresses on Wednesday and odd addresses on Friday. Please check our website as the restriction level may change at any time.

Electronic Newsletter Option

If you would prefer an electronic version of the newsletter, please email us at cityadministrator@cityofrhome.com with the email address where you would like to receive the publication.