



Physical Address: 501 South Main Street

Mailing Address: PO Box 228

Rhome, Texas 76078

Telephone: 817-636-2462

[www.cityofrhome.com](http://www.cityofrhome.com) | [citysecretary@cityofrhome.com](mailto:citysecretary@cityofrhome.com)

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  
Kasey Shumake

City  
Administrator  
Amanda DeGan

City Attorney  
Carvan Adkins

City Secretary  
Shaina Odom

Fire Chief  
Scott Estes

Police Chief  
Eric Debus

Public Works  
Director

## NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE RHOME CITY COUNCIL

Meeting Date: Thursday, April 13, 2023

Regular Session: 6 p.m.

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

**LIVE Streaming:** In an effort to be as accessible as possible, we *may*  
Live Stream the meeting using GoToMeeting from your computer or phone.

### By Computer

GoToMeeting: Select Join: Select Meeting	Call 1 (517) 317-3116
Session ID: 517-317-3116	Access Code: 141-301-733
Access Code: 141-301-733	Toll Free Option: 1 (866) 899-4679

### By Phone

The Rhome City Council *may* conduct this meeting by videoconference call in accordance with Section 551.127 of the Texas Open Meetings Act. A quorum of the City Council will be physically present at the address listed above and the public may attend the meeting at the same location.

### Regular Session: 6 p.m.

#### Call to Order and Establish a Quorum

Invocation – Pastor Heath Van Zandt

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](mailto: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.

## **Announcements from Mayor and Council Members**

- City Council Meeting April 20, 2023 @ 6 p.m.

## **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.*

1. Minutes of City Council Regular Session dated March 23, 2023
1. 2006 Fuel and Gas Code update (**City Administrator**)
2. Sale of Old Brush Truck (**City Administrator**)

## **Monthly Staff Reports and Board Minutes**

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

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

## **Regular Agenda**

**Discussion and any necessary action for the following:**

1. Recognizing the SHINE Recipient for the Second Quarter of FY 22-23 (**City Administrator**)
2. Resignation of Place 4 Council Member – K. Konegni (**City Administrator**)
3. Event for Public Safety sponsored by business owner and maintaining flag poles at Old City Hall (**City Administrator**)
4. Organizational Overview and Project Update (**City Administrator**)
5. Aurora Police Contract Activity (**Council Member Tye**)
6. Special Event Fee Application and Use (**Council Member Priest**)
7. Citizen Survey (**City Administrator**)
8. Ordinance revisions to clarify roles and responsibilities of staff positions (**City Administrator**)
9. Fire Department pay (**City Administrator**)

## **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:*

1. Section 551.071 Consultation with Attorney - pending or contemplated litigation, settlement offer or to seek advice from attorney.
2. 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.
3. 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.
  - a. City Secretary
  - b. Utility Billing – Permit Clerk
  - c. City Administrator Evaluation

4. 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 (Resume)**

1. Action to be taken from Executive Session discussions

#### **Future Agenda Items**

***(Agenda items are due by 5 p.m. on the Wednesday of the week prior to the Council meeting)***

#### **Adjourn**

**A quorum of Planning & Zoning Commissioners may be present at this meeting and its members may participate in the discussions of the items on the agenda over which they have responsibilities or authority.**

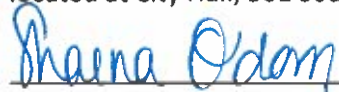
**A quorum of Parks & Recreation Board Members may be present at this meeting and its members may participate in the discussions of the items on the agenda over which they have responsibilities or authority.**

*\*Pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code, the Council may convene into executive session at any time during the meeting if a need rises for the City Council to seek advice from the City Attorney concerning any item on this agenda, to discuss pending and contemplated litigation, or a settlement offer, or to discuss a matter in which the duty of the attorney to the City Council under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Board of Texas clearly conflicts with Chapter 551.*

*The Council may vote and / or act upon each of the items listed in this Agenda. Except for Public Presentation and Input and items in the agenda designated as public hearing or otherwise designated for public input, there will be no public input during the course of this meeting without express authorization from the presiding officer.*

*This facility is wheelchair accessible and accessible parking spaces are available. Requests for accommodations or interpretive services must be made 48 hours prior to the meeting. Please contact City Hall at 817-636-2462 for further information.*

**CERTIFICATION:** I do hereby certify that the above City Council Agenda was posted on the designated bulletin board located at City Hall, 501 South Main Street, Rhome, Texas by 6 p.m. on April 10, 2023.



Shaina Odom, City Secretary

I certify that the attached notice and agenda of items to be considered by the Rhome City Council was removed by me from the designated bulletin board located at City Hall, 501 South Main Street, Rhome, Texas, on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

, Title: \_\_\_\_\_



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# AGENDA ITEM 1



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## AGENDA ITEM 2



**Agenda Commentary**  
**Meeting Date: April 13, 2023**

Department: Administration  
Contact: Amanda DeGan, City Administrator  
**Agenda Item: Fuel and Gas Code Update**

Type of Item: ☐ Ordinance ☐ Resolution ☐ Contract/Agreement ☐ Public Hearing  
☐ Plat ☒ Discussion & Direction ☐ Other

**Summary:**

- The City of Rhome ordinances currently comply with the 2006 IFGC (International Fuel and Gas Code).
- Staff would propose that we adopt a newer version - the 2018 IFGC.
- This will help ensure our building codes stay up-to-date and promote quality building and safety practices, especially as we continue to grow over the next few years.
- Staff has worked with our third-party building inspector and legal has reviewed as well.

Funding Expected: ☐ Revenue ☐ Expenditure ☒ N/A

Budgeted Item: ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A

GL Account: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Legal Review Required: ☒ Yes ☐ No Date Completed: 3/17/2023

Engineering Review: ☐ FD Review: ☐ PD Review: ☐ PW Review: ☐

**History / Details / Recommendation:**

**ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF RHOME, TEXAS AMENDING SECTION 3.03 DIVISION 8 “FUEL GAS CODE” OF ARTICLE 3.03 “TECHNICAL AND CONSTRUCTION CODES AND STANDARDS” OF CHAPTER 3 “BUILDING REGULATIONS” OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF RHOME, TEXAS BY ADOPTING THE 2018 EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL FUEL GAS CODE; PROVIDING FOR THE ADOPTION OF LOCAL AMENDMENTS; PROVIDING FOR RECORDING OF THE CODES AS PUBLIC RECORDS; PROVIDING THAT THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE CUMULATIVE OF ALL ORDINANCES; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR A PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION IN THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Rhome, Texas is a Type A general-law municipality located in Wise County, created in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 6 of the Local Government Code and operating pursuant to the enabling legislation of the State of Texas; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council has previously adopted the 2006 edition of the International Fuel Gas Code; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council has determined that it is in the best interest of the citizens of the City to update and adopt the 2018 editions of the International Fuel Gas Code (Fuel Gas Code) and has determined that this will promote the health, safety and general welfare of the citizens of the City of Rhome and the general public; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council desires to adopt certain local amendments to the such Codes reflecting the unique needs of the City of Rhome; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council further desires to provide a mechanism by which local modifications reflecting the unique needs of the City may be made when deemed appropriate.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RHOME, TEXAS, THAT:**

**SECTION 1.**

Section 3.03 Division 8 “Fuel Gas Code” of Article 3.01 “Technical and Construction Codes and Standards” of Chapter 3 “Building Regulations” of the Code of Ordinances, City of Rhome, Texas is hereby revised to read as follows:



### **“3.03 Division 8 Fuel Gas Code**

#### **Sec. 3.03.351. International Fuel Gas Code adopted.**

The 2018 International Fuel Gas Code is hereby adopted as the official fuel gas code of the City of Rhome, Texas. This fuel gas code is fully incorporated by reference as though copied into this article in its entirety. The material contained in the International Fuel Gas Code shall not be included in the formal municipal codification of ordinances but shall be maintained as a public record in the office of the City Secretary and will be available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours.

#### **Sec. 3.03.352. Amendments.**

The 2018 International Fuel Gas Code, as adopted herein, is hereby amended as shown on Exhibit “A” attached to Ordinance No. \_\_\_\_\_. The material contained in Exhibit “A”, although fully adopted and incorporated by reference, shall not be included in the formal municipal codification of ordinances. The material contained in Exhibit “A” shall instead be maintained as a public record in the office of the City Secretary. This exhibit will be available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours.”

### **SECTION 2.**

The City may from time to time determine that additional local modifications to the code adopted herein are necessary and appropriate to meet the unique needs of the City. To effectuate modifications, the City Council may enact individual ordinances amending this Ordinance fully setting forth the changes to be made. Such subsequent amendments shall be consolidated as an exhibit to this Ordinance, and shall be maintained as a public record in the office of the city secretary, available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours.

### **SECTION 3.**

This Ordinance shall be cumulative of all provisions of ordinances of the City, except where the provisions of this ordinance are in direct conflict with the provisions of such ordinances, in which event the conflicting provisions of such ordinances are hereby repealed.

### **SECTION 4.**

It is hereby declared to be the intention of the City Council that the phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs and sections of this Ordinance are severable, and if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this Ordinance shall be declared unconstitutional by the valid judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality shall not affect any of the remaining, phrase, clauses, sentences, paragraphs or sections of this Ordinance since the same would have been enacted by the City Council without incorporation in this Ordinance of any such unconstitutional phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section.

## **SECTION 5.**

Any person, firm or corporation who violates, disobeys, omits, neglects or refuses to comply with or who resists the enforcement of any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be fined no more than Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) for all violations involving zoning, fire safety or public health and sanitation, and shall be fined not more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) for all other violations of this Ordinance. Each day that a violation is permitted to exist shall constitute a separate offense.

## **SECTION 6.**

All rights and remedies of the City are expressly saved as to any and all violations of the provisions of any ordinances of the City which have accrued at the time of the effective date of this Ordinance; and, as to such accrued violations and all pending litigation, both civil and criminal, whether pending in court or not, under such ordinances same shall not be affected by this Ordinance but may be prosecuted until final disposition by the courts.

## **SECTION 7.**

The City Secretary of the City is directed to publish the caption and penalty clause of this Ordinance in the official newspaper of the City as required by Section 52.011 of the Texas Local Government Code.

## **SECTION 8.**

This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication as provided by law, and it is so ordained.

**PASSED AND APPROVED THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY SECRETARY

EFFECTIVE DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CARVAN E. ADKINS, CITY ATTORNEY



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## AGENDA ITEM 3



**Agenda Commentary**  
**Meeting Date: April 13, 2023**

Department: Administration  
Contact: Amanda DeGan, City Administrator  
**Agenda Item: Brush Truck**

Type of Item: ☐ Ordinance ☐ Resolution ☐ Contract/Agreement ☐ Public Hearing  
☐ Plat ☒ Discussion & Direction ☐ Other

**Summary:**

- Chief Estes has located a cost-effective way to update our skid unit for the new large chassis unit the Council authorized the purchase for use in our Fire Department.
- The details are below for Council review.

Funding Expected: ☒ Revenue ☒ Expenditure ☐ N/A

Budgeted Item: ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

GL Account: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Legal Review Required: ☐ Yes ☐ No Date Completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Engineering Review: ☒ FD Review: ☐ PD Review: ☐ PW Review: ☐

**History / Details / Recommendation:**

We have the opportunity to obtain a skid unit from Chicota VFD in exchange for Brush Truck 217. We would purchase the skid unit under the grant money received for \$18,500. In return we will sell Chicota VFD Brush 217 for \$18,500. The skid from Chicota VFD would be used by Rhome on the new large chassis brush truck that is being purchased for the Rhome Fire Department.

The skid unit itself has only 8 hours of use as the Chicota VFD truck it was used on blew an engine and department could not afford to replace the truck. This is the reason the skid unit is for sale. We need the skid unit and they need a brush truck. Chief Estes contacted the Chief of Chicota and they are coming Monday April 10th to drive and inspect the truck. If Council agrees, both departments could receive the needed equipment at a very good price.

Rhome would then have \$18,500 in order to repair engine 317 and get it back up to minimum operating standards. Chief Estes will be available for any questions you may have.

Photo of both units shown below:



Rhyme Brush Truck 217



Chicota Skid Unit that would be mounted on our incoming large chassis truck bed



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## Administration by the Numbers – March 2023

### Bank Statement Balances

Account Name	Balances as of March 2022	Balances as of March 2023
2019 Bond Checking	\$191,635.77	\$0.00
Business Checking	New Account 2022	\$4,408,702.68
Fire Dept Checking	\$89,691.89	CLOSED
Fire Dept Savings	\$64,580.11	\$60,350.46
General Fund Checking	\$887,357.41	CLOSED
General Fund Savings	\$219,994.63	\$221,065.02
Hotel Motel Tax	\$87,484.30	CLOSED
Interest & Sinking	\$434,438.23	CLOSED
LOGIC	\$435,494.08	\$339,950.55
MC Building Security	\$35,335.43	CLOSED
MC Technology Fund	\$2,429.35	CLOSED
Meter Deposits	\$108,526.22	\$130,731.03
Parks & Recreation Checking	\$41,605.72	CLOSED
Payroll ZBA Account	\$0.00	\$0.00
Police Grant Account	\$2,835.93	CLOSED
Police Seizure Funds	\$12,085.92	CLOSED
Rhome Beautification Fund	\$451.00	CLOSED
Rolling V	\$25,366.00	CLOSED
TEXSTAR	CLOSED	CLOSED
Water & Sewer Checking	\$1,240,414.18	CLOSED
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,879,726.17</b>	<b>\$5,160,799.74</b>

Per Council's previous direction to reduce costs and to streamline processes, Staff worked with OpenGov to implement consolidated cash. Several accounts were closed in December 2022 as a result of reaching the desired goal.

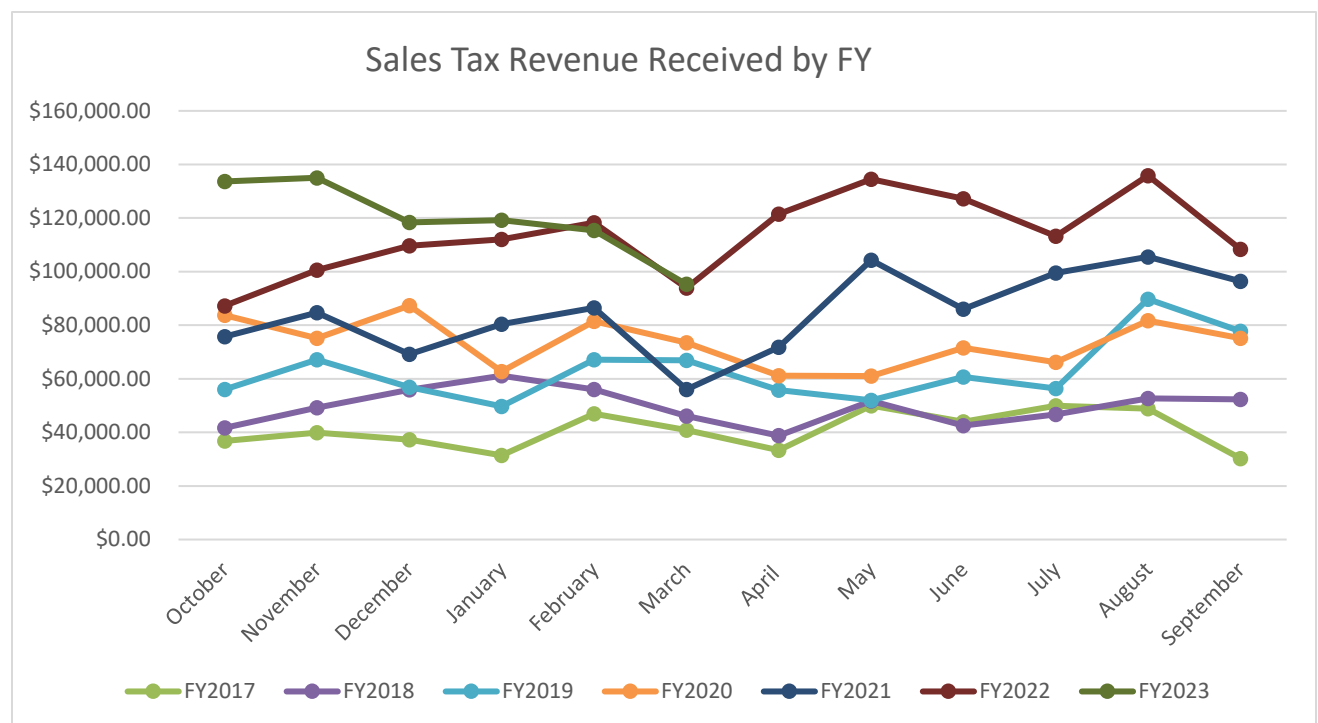
**During the month of December 2022 staff closed Fire Department checking, General Fund Checking, Hotel Motel Tax, Interest and Sinking, MC Building Security, MC Technology Fund, Parks & Recreation Checking, Police Grant Account, Police Seizure Funds, Rhome Beautification Fund, and Water & Sewer Checking.**



## Fiscal Year Sales Tax Revenue Received

March 2023 –

Month Received	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023
October	\$36,761.46	\$41,715.19	\$55,994.48	\$83,748.34	\$75,745.64	\$87,240.35	\$133,715.93
November	\$39,909.64	\$49,257.27	\$67,076.39	\$75,077.06	\$84,636.19	\$100,616.96	\$135,029.18
December	\$37,325.73	\$55,857.75	\$56,827.29	\$87,313.44	\$69,183.69	\$109,601.99	\$118,417.56
January	\$31,401.41	\$61,139.42	\$49,719.73	\$62,703.14	\$80,355.58	\$112,070.99	\$119,211.81
February	\$47,000.93	\$56,030.60	\$67,180.35	\$81,459.72	\$86,432.78	\$118,263.75	\$115,348.10
March	\$40,837.42	\$46,156.35	\$66,853.76	\$73,488.63	\$56,025.15	\$93,857.59	\$95,262.56
April	\$33,361.07	\$38,766.96	\$55,814.51	\$61,205.25	\$71,816.35	\$121,488.55	
May	\$49,987.00	\$51,754.08	\$52,022.35	\$61,014.98	\$104,220.79	\$134,530.78	
June	\$43,940.94	\$42,538.20	\$60,712.41	\$71,595.88	\$86,028.11	\$127,257.66	
July	\$49,928.81	\$46,649.99	\$56,382.32	\$66,189.23	\$99,504.10	\$113,283.50	
August	\$48,878.03	\$52,698.74	\$89,739.58	\$81,658.50	\$105,530.55	\$135,847.46	
September	\$30,263.17	\$52,300.18	\$77,788.90	\$75,181.40	\$96,366.36	\$108,366.36	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$489,595.61</b>	<b>\$594,864.73</b>	<b>\$756,112.07</b>	<b>\$880,635.57</b>	<b>\$1,015,847.29</b>	<b>\$1,362,425.94</b>	<b>\$621,722.58</b>





## Requests for Information:

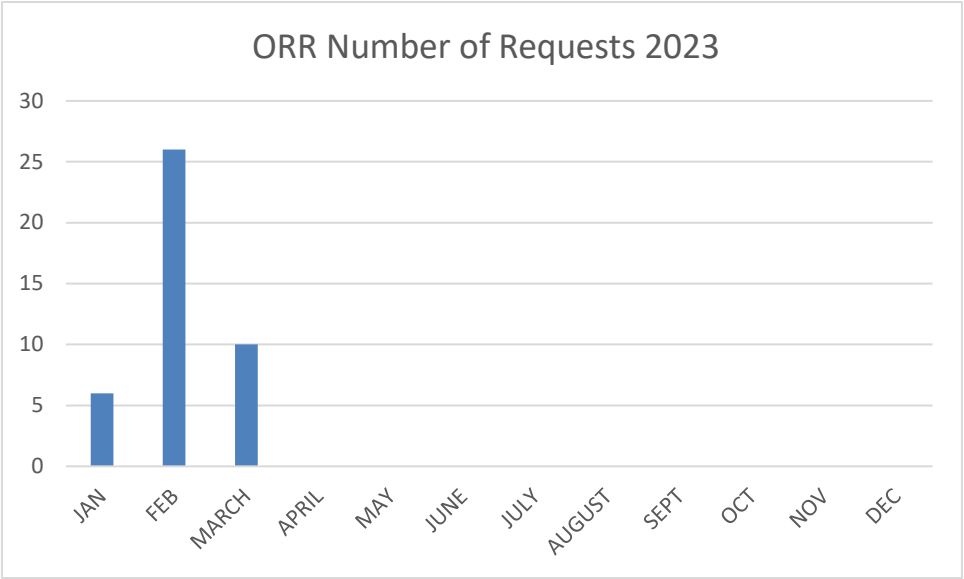
ORR NUMBER	NAME REQUESTED	DATE REQUESTED	DATE DUE	INFORMATION REQUESTED	TIME TO COMPLETE	RELEASE DATE
2023-033	Aaron Alexis	3/1	3/15	SmartProcure is submitting a public records request to the City of Rhome for all current employee/staff contact information. The request is limited to readily available records without physically copying, scanning, or printing paper documents. Any editable electronic document is acceptable. First Name, Last Name, Position Title, Department, Phone number, Business Cell Phone, Email Address, and Office Address	30	3/20
2023-034	Lovleen Punia	3/2	3/16	I would like to receive information from permits for residential new construction. I am interested in: address, permit number, builder/contractor name, subdivision, date permit was issued, and any value, square footage information or floor plan name or number for permits issued for residential new construction from February 1, 2023 - February 28, 2023.	20	3/20

2023-035	Carole Bartholomew	3/2	3/16	Please email me building permits and plats for bluestem and reunion in Rolling V Ranch in excel and any other permits in the city for residential and swimming pools for january and february 2023.	20	3/20
2023-036	Ian Mercado	3/8	3/22	•Properties with lawn maintenance or unmowed lawns from 1/28/2023 through 02/28/2023.	20	3/20
2023-037	Ian Mercado	3/8	3/22	•Properties with open code enforcement issues from 1/28/2022 through 02/28/2023.	20	3/20
2023-038	Ian Mercado	3/8	3/22	•Properties that have been deemed as substandard or condemned structures from 1/28/2022 through 02/28/2023.	20	3/20
2023-039	Louis Godfrey	3/10	3/24	would like a copy of the agenda and the minutes where the city council has discussed and approved the \$11,000 plus gate at the police department.	20	3/24
2023-040	Louis Godfrey	3/10	3/24	I would also like a copy of the notice that was put out for bid for the gravel work done at the police department. I understand that the gravel work was about \$60,000. if it was, then it should have gone out to bid by law since it was over \$50,000, and I would like a copy of that bid notice that should have been placed. If it did not cost \$60,000, I would	20	3/24

				like a copy of the bill receipt for the final cost to do the gravel work at the police department.		
2023-041	Louis Godfrey	3/10	3/24	I would also like a copy of the agenda and minutes showing the council did discuss and approve the gravel work.	20	3/24
2023-042	James Hunt	3/24	4/10	Itemized Listing of fees for 2022 National Night Out, 2022 Splash Days, 2023 Easter Egg Hunt, 2022 Fall Festival	20	3/24
2023-043	Louis Godfrey	3/30	4/14	I am officially requesting a copy of the city audit. I would like copies of documents that show when it was done and by what CPA firm. The city audit for 2022 should have been done within 120 days of 2023 according to our city ordinance. Thank you for your time.	10	3/30

## Calendar YTD Requests for Information

Requests Received	43
Pending / Open	0
Sent for Attorney General Opinion (RFO)	1
Complete / Closed	42
Requestor Fees – <i>in an effort to streamline, responses less than 50 pages will be emailed to the requestor to reduce supply costs and staff time</i>	0
Approximate Staff Time	21.00
Approximate Supply Cost	0
Approximate Staff Cost	\$527.00



# RHOME POLICE DEPARTMENT

Monthly Report  
March 2023



# RHOME PD UPDATES



In March, your Rhome Police Department was honored to participate in the Northwest High School First Responders Night. Coach Shelby Hodo and her softball team were gracious hosts and we were happy to cheer them on to a win! We love spending time with the community and appreciate the opportunity to be a part of the Northwest High School team.



# TRAINING

**Chief Debus** attended the Texas Police Chief Leadership Series is designed to assist top police administrators in developing their leadership skills and in recognizing those factors that impact the effectiveness of law enforcement agencies. The program is taught by nationally recognized experts in each area of the curriculum to provide the highest caliber of instruction available. The topics focus on legal, legislative and professional updates as well as discussions of current issues of importance to law enforcement agencies. Hosted by LEMIT.

**Sergeant Richie** attended an Interdiction for the Protection of Children (IPC) class. This class is presented by the Texas Department of Public Safety.

*IPC uses a multidisciplinary approach to train law enforcement, prosecutors, criminal analysts, child protective services, victim services, and child advocacy center professionals collectively. The IPC training team works with local, state, federal, tribal, U.S. territory, and international partners to provide classes and educate others on how to intervene when a child is in danger.*



TEXAS COMMISSION  
ON LAW ENFORCEMENT

**Officer Barnard** completed the TCOLE mandated 87<sup>th</sup> Legislative Update. This is mandated for all Peace Officers to be completed every 2-year training cycle.

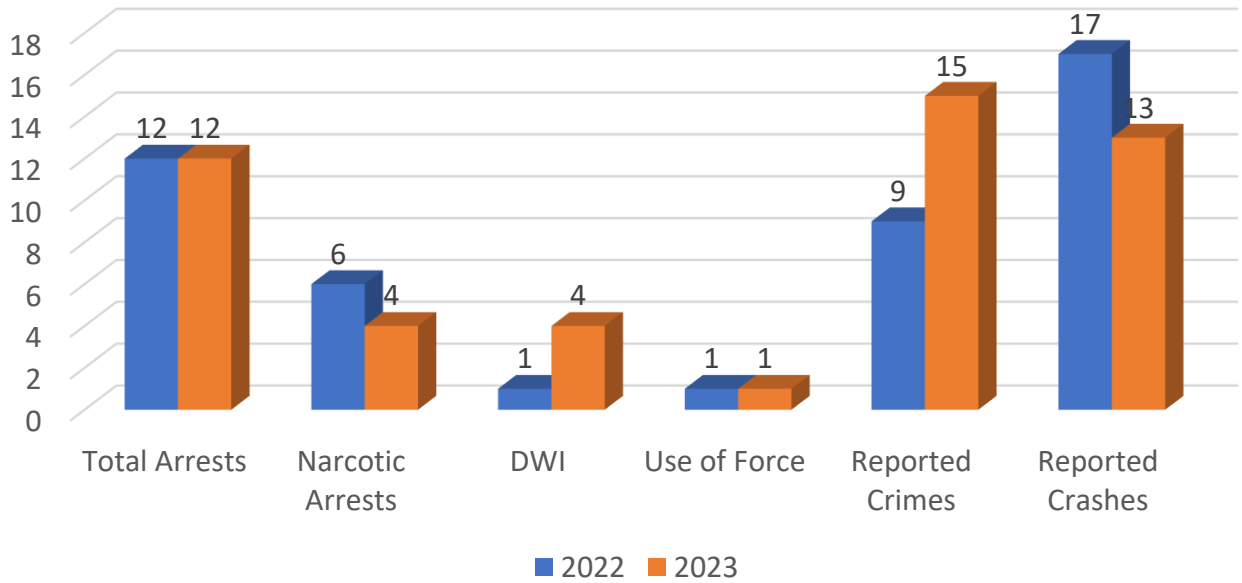


**Officer Roberson** completed ALERT active shooter response training.

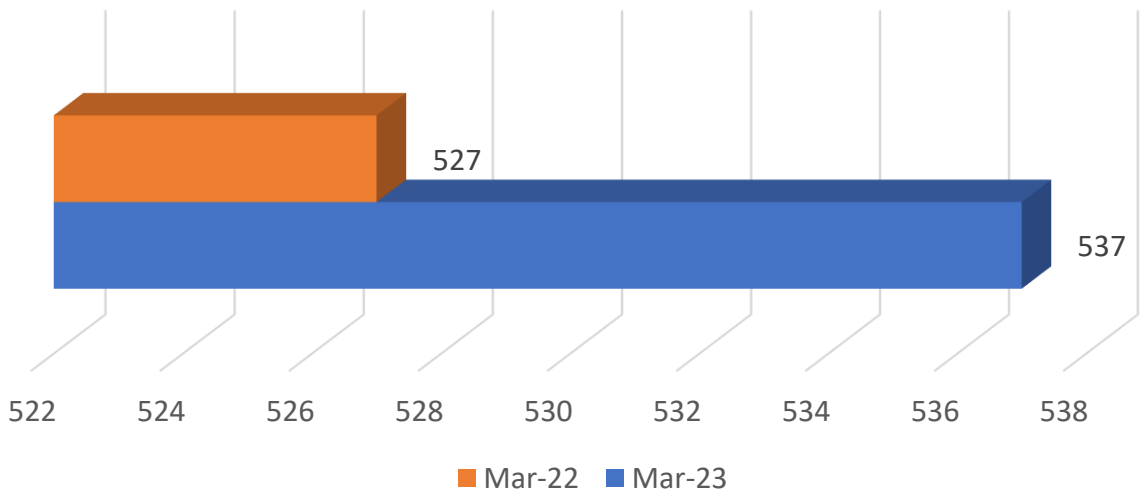


# MONTHLY STATISTICS

## Monthly Activity



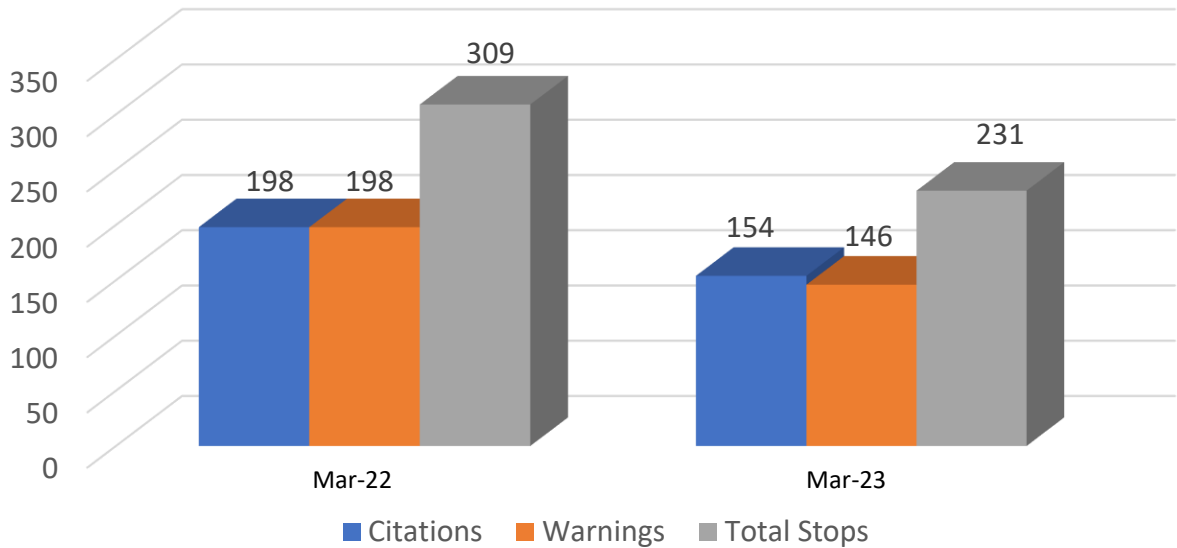
## Calls For Service



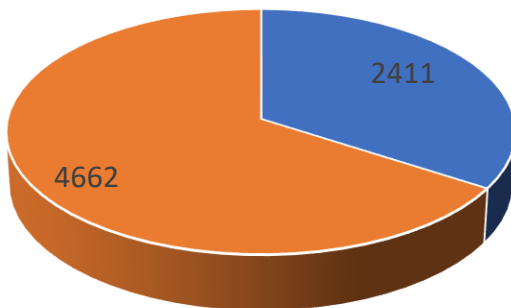


# MONTHLY STATISTICS

## Traffic Stops

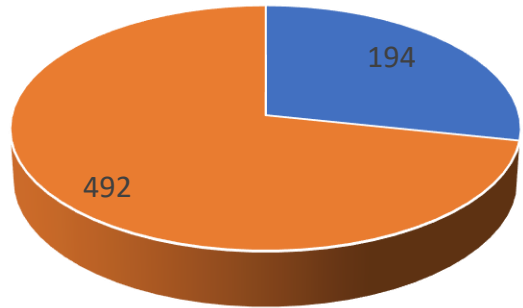


## Security Checks



■ Mar-22 ■ Mar-23

## Neighborhood Patrols



■ Mar-22 ■ Mar-23



# NARCOTICS SEIZED

# Methamphetamine

## 1.08 Grams

## THC Wax

## 2 Bottles



# FUTURE PLANS / PROJECTS

The Rhome Police Department is committed to constantly improving how we do business to provide the best level of law enforcement customer service to the citizens of Rhome.

- With approval from the Rhome City Council, we have entered into an agreement with [propertyroom.com](http://propertyroom.com) and will soon be disposing of unused and outdated items in the storage area.
- We have begun making minor improvements to the Police Department building using the funds granted by the City Council.
- We are continuing to identify areas of improvement within the department and are implementing new policies and procedures to those ends.

I am always available if you have any further questions.



**Chief of Police**  
RHOME POLICE DEPARTMENT





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Telephone: 817-636-2462

[www.cityofrhome.com](http://www.cityofrhome.com) | [permits@cityofrhome.com](mailto:permits@cityofrhome.com)

## Building and Development

MARCH 2023		FY 2022-2023
Permits Issued:	8	296
Building Permit	2	58
Certificate of Occupancy	2	6
Electrical Permit:		37
Plumbing Permit:	1	17
Lights on Inspection		
Mechanical	1	8
Moving Structure		90
Irrigation Permit		
Demolition		4
Pelim/Final Plat	1	8
Right of Way	1	6
Concrete		1
Solicitor		2
Fire Alarm		
Fire Sprinkler		
Specific Use		1
Health Permit		36
Zoning Change		
Liquid Waste		
Backflow		1
Sign		4
Event		3
Type:	Address:	Assoc. Permits:
Mechanical	245 W. Second	
Certificate of Occupancy	101 US hwy 287 x2 Health and Building	
Building	583 FM 3433	
	609 FM 3433	
Right of Way	FM 3433	
Final Plat	PMB Rolling V EAST 1	





## **Code Enforcement Monthly Report**

**Rhyme Police – March 2023**

**Violations reported to Code Enforcement via email – 2**

**Violations reported to Code Enforcement via phone – 0**

**New violations cases opened – 6**

**1112 Mount Ln – Junked vehicle parked in grass.**

**150 S. Old Mill – Junked vehicle parked in grass.**

**621 Troxell – Trash/debris in front yard.**

**1112 Mount Ln – Trash/debris in front yard.**

**601 Old Mill – High grass/weeds over 12”**

**1109 Mount Ln – Vehicle parked in front yard**

**Violations closed due to compliance – 4**

**1112 Mount Ln – Vehicle removed from property**

**1112 Mount Ln – trash/debris removed from yard/driveway**

**150 S. Old Mill – Vehicle removed from property**

**621 Troxell – Trash and debris cleaned up by property owner**

**City ordinance calls responded to – 0**

**Estimated labor hours spent on code enforcement for month – 11**

**In Progress**

**601 Old Mill – The property owner has been ignoring notices mailed and multiple voicemails, since December. Left a card on property owner’s residence in New Fairview this morning. I will make attempts each shift until I make contact and issue citation for trash in yard.**



## RHODE MUNICIPAL COURT

COURT ACTIVITY	FEB. 2023	MAR. 2023				
<b>Monthly Violation Activity</b>						
<i>Violations issued:</i>	145	154				
<i>Average speed over posted limit:</i>	18.60	20.50				
<i>Fines/Fees/Costs Assessed (for issued violations):</i>	\$41,350.00	\$43,973.00				
<i>Citations closed:</i>	340	216				
<i>Citations dismissed (best interest/compliance)</i>	190	121				
<b>Court Fines/Fees/Costs Revenue</b>						
<i>Total Court Revenue:</i>	\$49,804.65	\$48,620.09				
<i>Court Security Fund Revenue:</i>	\$813.38	\$773.48				
<i>Court Technology Fund Revenue:</i>	\$720.38	\$664.01				

Private Collections Activity						
Total # of violations paid:	60	53				
Total amount collected:	\$20,226.22	\$16,443.09				
Less 30% owed to Private Collections (commission)	\$4,667.57	\$3,764.23				
Monthly Court Expenditures						
Contract Labor:						
a. Presiding Judge	\$900.00	\$900.00				
b. DART Courier Service (to transport files to/from prosecutor & judge for dockets)	\$81.40	162.80				
Legal Fees (State's Attorney/Prosecutor)	(pending invoice)	(pending invoice)				
GHS – Private Collections Company (30% fee of total collected)	\$4,667.57	\$3,764.23				





# RHOME FIRE RESCUE

*Duty • Honor • Compassion • Service*

261 N. School Road - P.O. Box 228 - Rhome, Texas 76078  
817-636-2001 station17@rhomfirerescue.com

## March 2023 – Council Fire Report

### Calls for Service Monthly:

	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
2023	78	57	58									
2022	80	70	81	65	60	74	89	71	59	76	58	70

### Calls for Service by type:

	EMS	MVA	Structure Fires	Grass Fires	Vehicle Fires	Fire Invest.	Fire Alarms	Gas Leak	Road Hazard	Lift Assist	Other
March 2023	16	11	4	5	1	2	4	2	2	2	9
Year-To-Date	62	32	12	15	3	7	10	4	3	7	13

### Call Locations

	City	County	Auto/Mutual Aid Given	Auto/Mutual Aid Received	Cancelled	Weather Watch
March 2023	30	22	6	0	1	1
Year-To-Date	68	65	15	6	5	0

Numbers above are approximate since the official numbers have not been finalized

### Membership

Current Members – 12		
#	Area	
2	City	
4	In District	
9	Out of District	
EMS Certification - 10		
8	EMT Basic	-
2	Paramedics	-

## **Membership**

- 4 new members have been added, currently in the on boarding process.

## **Events**

- Fill the Boot was conducted March 31 and April 1<sup>st</sup>.

## **Command Staff**

- Rene bates Auction on equipment is going well. As of April 3rd, we have almost \$6,000 bid towards all items listed. Auction will end on April 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Application has been sent to Helping Hands, this is a Texas A&M Forest Service assistance program for departments lacking the funds for a new engine. If someone has an older engine that is still in good condition to use for a few years they can donate it to another fire department in need.
- Application to the Federal Excess Personal Property (FEPP) Program has been sent to the Texas A&M Forestry Service. This is another program that will loan federal apparatus to departments in need of help. If awarded an engine it would be on loan to the department. All upkeep will be the departments responsibility. These are older but some are in good shape and can be used for a few years.
- 

## **Equipment**

- At this time Engine 217 and Engine 317 will not pass the annual pump test. We are looking into using the auction proceeds to start a process of repairing engine 317. It is imperative that we get one engine up to pump test standard. We are doing a study into how much the city has spent on trying to up keep both engines in service, as they are both several years pass their usage as an emergency vehicle for response.
- Large brush truck chassis has been ordered and we should be receiving it soon. After it is here, we will start adding the bed to complete it.
- Since we run Advanced Life Support Engine our 12 lead monitor is no longer working and is beyond repair. We must purchase a refurbished unit in order to keep our ALS status. This is very important due that sometimes response for Wise EMS can be delayed due to their call volume. Approximate cost will be between \$2,000 and \$4,000. We are getting bids currently.

## **Station**

- New sink deep sink has been installed in the bathroom; this is so we can wash dishes.
- Waiting on bid to repair and add motion sensors for all bay doors. Should be very soon.
- Lockers have been ordered for the station. This is so members do not have to take contaminated clothing home to their families.



# RHOME FIRE RESCUE

*Duty • Honor • Compassion • Service*

261 N. School Road - P.O. Box 228 - Rhome, Texas 76078  
817-636-2001 station17@rhomefirerescue.com

## **Training & Professional Development**

- 2 members are currently testing with the National Registry in order to be certified as EMT-B members.
- 1 member has scheduled the state test for instructor I.
- 1 member is currently in Fire Inspector class.
- 1 member is currently in college finishing a bachelors in Emergency Administration.
- Rhome hosted a forcible entry class for 9 members of Newark fire department.

## **Prevention/Community Risk Reduction**

### **Community Risk Reduction**

- Regular Testing
  - AEDs at City Facilities – scheduled in April
  - Storm Sirens – completed

### **Prevention**

- Fire Inspections – None in January
- Fire Pre-Plan Business – None in January
- Plans review – 1 plan review on Reunion Amenity Center

I will be available if you have any questions. (firechief@rhomefirerescue.com)

W Scott Estes

Fire Chief/EMC/Paramedic

Rhome Fire Rescue



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# AGENDA ITEM 1



**Agenda Commentary**  
**Meeting Date: April 13, 2023**

Department: Administration

Contact: Amanda DeGan, City Administrator

**Agenda Item: Recognition of March 2023 SHINE Award Recipient**

Type of Item: ☐ Ordinance ☐ Resolution ☐ Contract/Agreement ☐ Public Hearing  
☐ Plat ☐ Discussion & Direction ☒ Other

**Summary:**

- The SHINE award recognizes employees who exhibit the SHINE principles:
  - ✓ *Sincerity – commitment to public service*
  - ✓ *Honesty – builds trust*
  - ✓ *Integrity – holds to high standards*
  - ✓ *Neighborly – helpful, friendly, and kind*
  - ✓ *Excellence – high quality service and attitude*
- The award is given each quarter of the fiscal year.
- The staff member who has exhibited all those qualities, was nominated by Chief Debus, and is Officer James Hachtel.

Funding Expected: ☐ Revenue ☐ Expenditure ☒ N/A

Budgeted Item: ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A

GL Account: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Legal Review Required: ☐ Yes ☐ No Date Completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Engineering Review: ☐ FD Review: ☐ PD Review: ☐ PW Review: ☐

**History / Details / Recommendation:** Please see the SHINE Award submission for the details.



## SHINE Award



**Date:** 03/08/2023

**Nominee Name/Dept.:** Officer James Hachtel

**Submitted by:** Chief Eric Debus

**Narrative:** On March 7<sup>th</sup> Officer James Hachtel was made aware of a missing elderly man from Hurst Texas that was last known to be driving somewhere in Wise County. The man had been missing for about 24 hours. Officer Hachtel parked on the overpass of SH114 and US287 and continued to monitor the police radio for updates. Officer Hachtel recognized the vehicle driven by the 99-year-old man, as it approached from the north. Hachtel was able to complete a traffic stop on the missing gentleman and brought him to the police department for his safety. Medics were called to check the health of the man and his family was notified that he had been found. Several members of the missing man's family arrived, including his elderly wife, who took custody of the gentleman and took him home.

Officer Hachtel's work in this case demonstrates the SHINE principles. Hachtel's commitment to public service, especially in this case, builds trust with the community and was done so in a helpful, friendly, and kind manner. This high quality of service and attitude exemplifies the integrity of our police department and greatly represents all of the SHINE principles.



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## AGENDA ITEM 2



**Agenda Commentary**  
**Meeting Date: April 13, 2023**

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Department: Administration

Contact: Amanda DeGan, City Administrator

**Agenda Item: Resignation of Place 4 Council Member – Kathy Konegni**

---

Type of Item: ☐ Ordinance ☐ Resolution ☐ Contract/Agreement ☐ Public Hearing  
☐ Plat ☒ Discussion & Direction ☐ Other

---

**Summary:**

- Ms. Konegni, who currently serves in Place 4 as a Council Member, has resigned her seat.
- According to the Local Government Code, the Council should review applications to determine who would be appointed to fill the vacancy.
- The appointed person would serve the remainder of her term, which is until the next regular election in May of 2024.

---

Funding Expected: ☐ Revenue ☐ Expenditure ☒ N/A

Budgeted Item: ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A

GL Account: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Legal Review Required: ☐ Yes ☐ No Date Completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Engineering Review: ☐ FD Review: ☐ PD Review: ☐ PW Review: ☐

---

**History / Details / Recommendation:**





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---

## AGENDA ITEM 3



**Agenda Commentary**  
**Meeting Date: April 13, 2023**

---

Department: Administration

Contact: Amanda DeGan, City Administrator

**Agenda Item: Public Safety Event and Flag Poles at Old City Hall**

---

Type of Item: ☐ Ordinance ☐ Resolution ☐ Contract/Agreement ☐ Public Hearing  
☐ Plat ☒ Discussion & Direction ☐ Other

---

**Summary:**

- Staff have spoken to a new business owner in Rhome who would like to host an event and has also asked about, providing flags for and helping with, the operations at the Old City Hall location.
- Staff will discuss the matter and seek feedback from Council.

---

Funding Expected: ☐ Revenue ☐ Expenditure ☒ N/A

Budgeted Item: ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A

GL Account: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Legal Review Required: ☐ Yes ☐ No Date Completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Engineering Review: ☐ FD Review: ☐ PD Review: ☐ PW Review: ☐

---

**History / Details / Recommendation:**



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---

# AGENDA ITEM 4



**Agenda Commentary**  
**Meeting Date: April 13, 2023**

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Department: Administration

Contact: Amanda DeGan, City Administrator

**Agenda Item: Organizational Overview and Projects Update**

---

Type of Item: ☐ Ordinance ☐ Resolution ☐ Contract/Agreement ☐ Public Hearing  
☐ Plat ☒ Discussion & Direction ☐ Other

---

**Summary:**

- Overview of Administrator's analysis of the organization along with project discussion to prioritize Staff work load

---

Funding Expected: ☐ Revenue ☐ Expenditure ☒ N/A

Budgeted Item: ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A

GL Account: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Legal Review Required: ☐ Yes ☐ No Date Completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Engineering Review: ☐ FD Review: ☐ PD Review: ☐ PW Review: ☐

---

**History / Details / Recommendation:**

Per Council request, the City Administrator will provide an update on the major projects that Staff are currently working on for the municipality. This may include information on facilities, water/waste water projects, development, budgeting or other topics pertaining to service delivery.



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# AGENDA ITEM 5



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# AGENDA ITEM 6



**Agenda Commentary**  
**Meeting Date: April 13, 2023**

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Department: Administration

Contact: Elaine Priest, Council Member and Amanda DeGan, City Administrator

**Agenda Item: Special Event Fees**

---

Type of Item: ☐ Ordinance ☐ Resolution ☐ Contract/Agreement ☐ Public Hearing  
☐ Plat ☒ Discussion & Direction ☐ Other

---

**Summary:**

- Recently, questions have arisen as to the application of the special events fee for the community.
- Staff will provide an overview of our use, as well as how other cities apply this fee.
- The Staff are asking Council for direction on the need for any policy updates relative to this topic.

---

Funding Expected: ☐ Revenue ☐ Expenditure ☒ N/A

Budgeted Item: ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A

GL Account: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Legal Review Required: ☐ Yes ☐ No Date Completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Engineering Review: ☐ FD Review: ☐ PD Review: ☐ PW Review: ☐

---

**History / Details / Recommendation:**



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# AGENDA ITEM 7







## 2023 City of Rhyme Citizen Satisfaction Survey

The Rhyme City Council and Staff Teams ask that you take a few moments to complete this citizen satisfaction survey. The survey is only for residents or businesses located in the city limits.

Your input is very important to us and will help guide the budget preparations and strategic direction for our city. If you have questions, please contact us at City Hall's main number, 817-636-2462 or [info@cityofrhyme.com](mailto:info@cityofrhyme.com). Thank you!

1. **Service Delivery.** Please rate your overall satisfaction with each of the following using a scale of 0 to 5, where 5 means "Very Satisfied" and 1 means "Very Dissatisfied."

Broad Categories of Service Delivery		Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Don't Know
a.	Overall access to City Council Meetings (location and streaming)	5	4	3	2	1	0
b.	Overall notification of City Council Meetings	5	4	3	2	1	0
c.	Overall quality of the City's website	5	4	3	2	1	0
d.	Overall responsiveness from City employees	5	4	3	2	1	0
e.	Overall effectiveness of City communication with the public	5	4	3	2	1	0
f.	Overall quality and accessibility of Municipal Court Services (citations, collections, fines)	5	4	3	2	1	0
g.	Overall quality and accessibility of Utility and Permit Services (paying water bill, applying for permits)	5	4	3	2	1	0
h.	Overall efforts to preserve history of Rhyme	5	4	3	2	1	0
i.	Use of social media by the City (Facebook)	5	4	3	2	1	0
.		5	4	3	2	1	0
.		5	4	3	2	1	0

2. Which **THREE** of the items listed in Question 1 do you think should receive the **MOST EMPHASIS** over the next **TWO** years? *[Write in your answers below using the numbers from the list in Question 1.]*

1st: \_\_\_\_\_ 2nd: \_\_\_\_\_ 3rd: \_\_\_\_\_

3. **Facilities, Streets and Code Enforcement.** Please rate your overall satisfaction with the following using a scale of 0 to 5, where 5 means "Very Satisfied" and 1 means "Very Dissatisfied."

Major Categories of Public Facilities, Streets, and Code Enf.		Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Don't Know
a.	Overall maintenance of city streets	5	4	3	2	1	0
b.	Overall maintenance/usability of Police Department facility	5	4	3	2	1	0
c.	Overall maintenance/usability of Fire Department building	5	4	3	2	1	0
d.	Overall maintenance/usability of the Old School building	5	4	3	2	1	0
e.	Overall maintenance/usability of the Community Center	5	4	3	2	1	0
f.	Overall maintenance/usability of the Senior Center	5	4	3	2	1	0
g.	Overall maintenance/usability of the leased City Hall facility	5	4	3	2	1	0
h.	Overall maintenance/usability of the 'old' City Hall facility	5	4	3	2	1	0
i.	Overall enforcement of city codes and ordinances	5	4	3	2	1	0

4. Which **THREE** of the items listed in Question 1 do you think should receive the **MOST EMPHASIS** over the next **TWO** years? [Write in your answers below using the numbers from the list in Question 3.]

1st: \_\_\_\_ 2nd: \_\_\_\_ 3rd: \_\_\_\_

5. **Perceptions.** Please rate your satisfaction with each of the following items that influences your perception of Rhome using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 means "Very Satisfied" and 1 means "Very Dissatisfied."

Perceptions of the City		Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Don't Know
a.	Rhome as a place to live	5	4	3	2	1	0
b.	Rhome as a place to raise children	5	4	3	2	1	0
c.	Rhome as a place to work	5	4	3	2	1	0
d.	Overall appearance of Rhome	5	4	3	2	1	0
e.	Rhome as a place for business	5	4	3	2	1	0
f.	Overall trust level in the City Council to address community issues	5	4	3	2	1	0
g.	Overall level of satisfaction of the city's stewardship of financial resources	5	4	3	2	1	0

6. **Police, Fire, and Emergency Services.** Please rate your satisfaction with the following public safety services using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 means "Very Satisfied" and 1 means "Very Dissatisfied."

Public Safety Services		Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Don't Know
a.	Quality of police protection provided by Rhome Police Dept.	5	4	3	2	1	0
b.	Visibility of officers in neighborhood	5	4	3	2	1	0
c.	Enforcement of traffic laws	5	4	3	2	1	0
d.	Quality of Fire – Emergency Services by City	5	4	3	2	1	0

7. **Code Enforcement.** Please rate your satisfaction using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 means "Very Satisfied" and 1 means "Very Dissatisfied," with the following.

Enforcement of City Codes and Ordinances		Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Don't Know
a.	Overall responsiveness of city code enforcement	5	4	3	2	1	0
b.	Efforts to enforce noise violations	5	4	3	2	1	0
c.	Efforts to enforce trash and debris violations	5	4	3	2	1	0
d.	Efforts to enforce exterior maintenance and upkeep of residential property	5	4	3	2	1	0
e.	Efforts to enforce junk vehicle violations	5	4	3	2	1	0
f.	Efforts to enforce tall grass and weeds violations	5	4	3	2	1	0
g.	Efforts to address abandoned/dilapidated buildings	5	4	3	2	1	0

8. **Contracted Services.** Please rate your satisfaction using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 means "Very Satisfied" and 1 means "Very Dissatisfied," with the following.

Utility Services		Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Don't Know
a.	Quality of residential garbage collection (Waste Connections)	5	4	3	2	1	9
b.	Quality of yard waste and brush collection (Waste Connections)	5	4	3	2	1	9
c.	Bulk item pick-up/removal services (e.g. old furniture, appliances thru Waste Connections)	5	4	3	2	1	9
d.	Quality of animal control services from Wise County Animal Control (County Service)	5	4	3	2	1	9
e.	Response time of Wise County Animal Control (County Service)	5	4	3	2	1	9

9. Would you like to see "City Sponsored" events in the future? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

10. Which "City Sponsored" events would you attend?

Event		Would Likely Attend	Sometimes Attend	Would Never Attend	Don't Know
a.	Easter Egg Hunt	3	2	1	9
b.	Fall Festival (Trunk or Treat, Pioneer Days)	3	2	1	9
c.	Breakfast with Santa	3	2	1	9
d.	Holiday Lighting Contest	3	2	1	9
e.	Movies in the Park	3	2	1	9
f.	Independence Day Celebration	3	2	1	9
g.	Touch-a-Truck (Emergency Services Event)	3	2	1	9
h.	Splash Day (Fire Department Event)	3	2	1	9
i.	National Night Out (Police Department Event)	3	2	1	9
j.	Trunk or Treat (Fire Department Event)	3	2	1	9
k.	Santa Sightings (Fire and Police Dept. Event)	3	2	1	9
l.	Other _____	3	2	1	9

11. Which of the following are your **PRIMARY SOURCES** of information about city issues, services, and events? *[Check all that apply.]*

☐ (1) City website  
☐ (2) Wise County Messenger  
☐ (3) Social Media (Facebook)  
☐ (4) Word of mouth  
☐ (5) Other: \_\_\_\_\_

12. Which methods would you like to see the City use to communicate with you?

☐ (1) City website  
☐ (2) Wise County Messenger  
☐ (3) Social Media (Facebook)  
☐ (4) Quarterly Newsletter (Printed)  
☐ (5) Quarterly Newsletter (Emailed)  
☐ (6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**15. Please list the TOP THREE things you would like to recommend or suggest to the City for future consideration.**

1st: \_\_\_\_\_

2nd. \_\_\_\_\_

3rd: \_\_\_\_\_

**16. For upcoming projects that will allow us to reinvest in our community, which of the following would you support a tax rate increase? [Check all that apply.]**

\_\_\_\_ (1) to replace aging public infrastructure (water, sewer, streets, drainage)

\_\_\_\_ (2) to increase law enforcement protection

\_\_\_\_ (3) to increase fire protection

\_\_\_\_ (4) to improve city buildings and facilities

\_\_\_\_ (5) other: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ (6) I would NOT support a tax rate increase for anything

(6a) If you would NOT support a tax rate increase for any investment in the City, may we ask why?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**17. What area(s) should the Council focus on for the benefit of Rhome over the next two (2) years: Please choose your top three (3) areas of focus.**

\_\_\_\_ Road Maintenance

\_\_\_\_ Water and Sewer Replacement

\_\_\_\_ Facility Needs

\_\_\_\_ Building Community

\_\_\_\_ Communication Enhancements

\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**18. We would like to know your address if you are willing to share it. This is optional and not required. Your information will be shared with the City Council regardless. Thank you for your comments and assistance in making Rhome and better community.**

Home or Business address: \_\_\_\_\_



Physical Address: 501 South Main Street

Mailing Address: PO Box 228

Rhode, Texas 76078

Telephone: 817-636-2462 | Metro: 817-638-2758

[www.cityofrhode.com](http://www.cityofrhode.com) [cityadministrator@cityofrhode.com](mailto:cityadministrator@cityofrhode.com)

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# AGENDA ITEM 8



Physical Address: 501 South Main Street

Mailing Address: PO Box 228

Rhode, Texas 76078

Telephone: 817-636-2462 | Metro: 817-638-2758

[www.cityofrhode.com](http://www.cityofrhode.com) [cityadministrator@cityofrhode.com](mailto:cityadministrator@cityofrhode.com)

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## AGENDA ITEM 9



**Agenda Commentary**  
**Meeting Date: April 13, 2023**

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Department: Administration

Contact: Amanda DeGan, City Administrator

**Agenda Item: IRS Changes in Paying Part-time Firefighter Staff**

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Type of Item: ☐ Ordinance ☐ Resolution ☐ Contract/Agreement ☐ Public Hearing  
☐ Plat ☒ Discussion & Direction ☐ Other

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**Summary:**

- Due to recent changes in the IRS tax code, we are required to issue W-2's rather than 1099's to paid staff members who work in the Fire Department.
- This will require a change in our internal procedures and will have budgetary impacts for the Council to consider.
- The funds shown in the contract labor line to the wages line item.

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**Funding Expected:** ☐ Revenue ☐ Expenditure ☒ N/A

**Budgeted Item:** ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A

**GL Account:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Amount:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Legal Review Required:** ☐ Yes ☐ No **Date Completed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Engineering Review:** ☐ **FD Review:** ☐ **PD Review:** ☐ **PW Review:** ☐

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**History / Details / Recommendation:**

Please see the attached IRS Notices – Issues for Firefighters





# Issues for Firefighters

## Firefighters

This discussion addresses some of the common questions we receive from firefighters and their employing organizations.

## Compensation

Generally, tax laws apply to firefighters in the same manner as for other types of workers. It does not matter whether firefighters are termed “volunteers”, are considered employees, or are identified by any other name, if the work they do is subject to the will and control of the payer, under the common-law rules, they are employees for Federal tax purposes. The determination as to whether workers are common-law employees or independent contractors is made applying the same standards used for other workers. See IRS Publication 15, Employer’s Tax Guide [PDF](#), for more information on determining whether a worker is a common-law employee.

Similarly, it does not matter whether they are paid on a “call” basis, monthly, hourly, etc.; or whether the worker is full-time or part-time. These payments are wages that should be reported on Form W-2, subject to withholding for Federal income tax, social security, and Medicare purposes. Employers are responsible for withholding on these wages and filing Form 941.

If a worker is a common-law employee, any amounts received that are not exempt under a special provision, are reported on Form W-2 as wages. It does not matter what the payments are called.

## Income Tax

Generally, all amounts employees received are taxable for Federal income tax purposes. Some fringe benefits are excluded by specific provisions of law. Some common benefits that may qualify to be excluded include:

- Certain de minimis (minimal) fringe benefits
- Meals provided for the convenience of the employer
- Employee discounts
- Achievement awards
- Health insurance
- Educational benefits

For more information, see IRS Publication 15-B, Employer’s Tax Guide to Fringe Benefits [PDF](#).

Reimbursements for expenses may be excludable from wages if they meet the accountable plan rules, discussed below.

## Social Security Tax

After July 1, 1991, state and local government employees are generally subject to mandatory social security tax for wages paid unless they either (1) participate in a qualifying public retirement system, or (2) are covered by a voluntary ("Section 218") agreement between their state and the Social Security Administration. The requirements for a qualifying public retirement system are discussed in IRS Publication 963, Federal-State Reference Guide [PDF](#).

Your State Social Security Administrator can tell you whether a Section 218 agreement is in effect for a specific group of workers. See Roster of State Social Security Administrators [↗](#) for a list of state Social Security Administrators.

## Medicare Tax

With few exceptions, employees (including firefighters) hired after March 31, 1986, are covered by the Medicare tax. Employees hired before that date may be exempt if they have remained in continuous employment since then.

For more information on social security and Medicare coverage rules for government employees, see IRS Publication 963, Federal-State Reference Guide [PDF](#).

## Emergency Workers

The Internal Revenue Code provides an exception under IRC 3121(b)(6)(C) from social security and Medicare tax for a worker "serving on a temporary basis in case of fire, storm, snow, earthquake, flood, or other similar emergency." This exception applies only for temporary workers hired in response to an unforeseen emergency. It does not apply to firefighters who work on a recurring, routine or regular basis, even if their work involves situations that may be considered emergencies, including responding to fires.

## Expenses and Reimbursements

Firefighters may receive amounts that are designated as expenses for transportation, equipment, clothing, etc. In general, these are treated as taxable wages. However, if the amounts are paid under an accountable plan, they may be excluded from wages and no tax reporting is required. For payments to be considered made under an accountable plan, the employees must:

1. Incur the expenses in the performance of work;
2. Adequately account for the expenses within a reasonable period of time; and
3. Return any amounts in excess of expenses within a reasonable period of time.

Ordinary and necessary expenses firefighters incur in the course of performing their jobs are excludable from income if paid under an accountable plan. A fixed cash amount which does not require documentation of expenses, regardless of its purpose, is treated as ordinary wages. It is subject to income tax, social security and Medicare tax withholding.

For a detailed explanation of the accountable plan rules, see section 5 of Publication 15 [PDF](#).

## State or Local Tax Benefits

In some cases, volunteer firefighters receive benefits in the form of state or local tax credits or rebates. If these benefits are offered in return for services performed, their value represents income to the worker for Federal tax purposes and should be included in taxable wages.

*Page Last Reviewed or Updated: 06-Aug-2022*