



**City Council Meeting
Minutes
Regular Session
May 13, 2010 – 7:00 P.M.**

**RHOMÉ CITY HALL
105 FIRST STREET
RHOMÉ, TX 76078**

Council Present: Mayor Mark Lorange; Mayor Pro Tem David E. Wilson; Council Members: Chris Moore, Jo Ann Wilson, Shannon Jones and Charles Pennington.

Staff Present: Walt Leonard, City Attorney; Ramah Burns, City Secretary; Preston Gilliam, Public Works Director; Robert Pratt Fire Chief; James Rose Police Chief.

David Wilson gave the Invocation.

Mayor Lorange led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Citizen Presentations and Public Input for Future Agenda Items:

Mark York, Democratic Chairman – He said visiting all of the city councils. He wished Mayor Lorange well and welcomed the incoming Mayor Evelyn Obenour. He looks forward to seeing everyone on June 14th at the court house.

Tod Ramirez – Ellis Homestead said the truck stop has environmental and social issues. He wants to make sure those issues are addressed.

Mr. Graves – Ellis Homestead said he has been here for four (4) weeks. He said he doesn't know if it's a done deal or not. He moved from Colleyville here. He said a city as beautiful as Rhome would want a truck stop. Rhome has so much potential. He said he knows what comes along with a truck stop.

Announcements from Mayor and Council Members:

Shannon Jones said he has something that needs to be addressed. It may be a little unpopular. He said when he was growing up in Rhome he knew a wonderful man, Pat Logan, a WW II veteran. He said his dad sat him down and told him you always treat that man with respect. He said he is a little up set when he read the article because it looks like one person is responsible for the Veterans Park. He wants to make sure that everybody had a piece of that. We all worked hard. He wants to thank the people whose names are on the bricks. That's why the Veterans Park is there.

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Mayor Lorange said he would like to announce the Entrance Way Monuments are complete. They look great. It has been a topic of discuss around here for several years.

1. Consent Agenda:

A. Approval of Minutes:

1. April 8, 2010 – Regular Session

B. Acceptance of Report

C. Approval of Check Registers: April 6, 2010 through May 10, 2010.

D. Staff Reports

1. Police Department

2. Fire Department

3. Public Works

4. Administration

5. Parks & Recreation

Motion was made by David Wilson to accept the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Chris Moore.

Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion and necessary action concerning the following agenda items:

1. New Business

A. Public Hearing opened at 7:09 p.m. in regard to the submission of a grant application in the Texas Department of Agriculture for the Texas Capital Fund.

It is a grant for infracture improvements as long as it is tied to job creation. It is submitted to widen SH 114 and put water and sewer lines to the Love's location. We have been preliminary approved for \$449,500.

David Vilbig, Engineer for Love's said they would create 30 jobs from \$18,000 to \$50,000. The length is for 2 years.

Public Hearing closed at 7:11 p.m.

- B. Proposed Resolution 2010-05R approving an application for funding through the Texas Department of Agriculture Texas Capital Fund.**

Motion by Chris Moore to approve Resolution 2010-05R approving the application for funding through the Texas Department of Agriculture Texas Capital Fund. The motion was seconded by Shannon Jones.

Motion carried unanimously.

- C. Sewer line placement for new construction near Hwy. 114/287.**

Mayor Lorange there has been discussion on the sewer line placement and the best route for that. It will come down SH 114 and then 287 service road. Using TX Dot right of way doesn't require the easements. There is enough right of way on 287. This will require a lift station which will require maintenance on our part.

Motion was made by David Wilson to proceed with the sewer alignment on SH 114 and 287. The motion was seconded by Chris Moore.

Motion carried unanimously.

- D. Building Permit and construction plans for a new home at 245 W. Second Street in Old Town Rhome.**

Motion by Chris Moore to approve the plans for a new home at 245 W. Second Street in Old Town Rhome. The motion was seconded by Charles Pennington.

Motion carried unanimously

- E. Public Hearing opened at 7:21 p.m. on a variance request from Richard Young, Vicki Miles and Tribe Trust properties west of Rhome to allow three (3) billboard signs in the ETJ of Rhome.**

Janice Wilson asked where on 114 are they going to go.

David Wilson said when he requested it there is no location. They need to be pinpointed.

Charles Pennington said there is also no size.

Richard Young said one (1) would down on Business 114. He said Vicki Miles has 10 acres. One would be below the hill.

Mark Lorance said he would like to speak as a resident on the bill boards and where we have come from. He said when Benny Gray was on the Council someone approached us about putting 7 billboards in town and they were going to pay us \$250,000 for inspection of those billboards over a 50 year period. The council at that time just turned down a \$250,000 check because they didn't want bill boards on the highways. After that the council passed an ordinance saying no billboards in town. Then we got the billboard out by City Concrete. Then we got into an extended law suit with the owner of that billboard and he almost had it taken down. After that billboard two (2) more billboards showed up east bound 114 in the ETJ. Then we figured we had a loop hole in the ordinance because it didn't cover the ETJ. So the council before this council closed that loop hole to not allow billboards in our ETJ. The long standing councils up to this point for a 10 year period have been to try and not allow any billboards. If we allow a variance we need to do away with the ordinance. The variance is supposed to be for a hard ship. Not a finance hardship bur a true hardship. If we allow the billboards then we need to seriously question why we have the ordinance not allowing billboards.

David Wilson said that is what they told Richard Young. The way the ordinance is written now. They told him it may or may not be approved.

Sandra McBride asked what kind of billboards are they and it will clutter up the landscape.

Richard Young said they are regulated to be about 1,500 feet apart. They have 240 acres.

Public Hearing closed at 7:27 p.m.

- F. Action on the variance request from Richard Young, Vicki Miles and Tribe Trust properties west of Rhome to allow three (3) billboard signs in the ETJ of Rhome.**

Chris Moore said he thinks they need more information on the billboards.

Charles Pennington said that is what he was thinking.

Jo Ann Wilson said she doesn't know why we would allow billboards when we have fought forever to keep billboards out.

Mayor Lorance said if the council wanted to allow billboards then they need to get rid of the billboard ordinance. This is in direction opposition to the ordinance.

David Wilson said before it could be considered we will need to know the size, the locations and specifications. Without knowing that he doesn't see how they can make a decision. This is an open ending thing.

Motion was made by David Wilson to table this until the next meeting if we can get further information whether or not if it actually meets the requirements of a variance or if it has no merit. And they can look at specs and locations and determine if it has merit. Motion was seconded by Chris Moore.

Motion carried unanimously.

- G. Interlocal Agreement for road repairs & maintenance and construction projects between City of Rhome and Wise County.**

Motion was made by Jo Ann Wilson to approve the Interlocal Agreement for road repairs & maintenance and construction projects between City of Rhome and Wise County

Motion carried unanimously.

- H. Begin the process to amend Zoning Ordinance 99-210 to allow Residential homes in property zoned Commercial and Retail in Old Town Rhome.**

Motion was made by Chris Moore to ask the Planning & Zoning Commission to review this and bring it to the council before the Public Hearings. Motion was seconded by Charles Pennington.

Motion carried unanimously.

H. Proposed Ordinance 2010-04 to canvass votes form the City Election held on May 9, 2010.

Mayor

Evelyn L. Obenour	110
David E. Wilson	68

City Council

Patti Mitchell	10
Ronnie Moore	60
Gerry McBride	83
Jo Ann Wilson	112
Jim Richardson	52

Motion was made by Chris Moore to approve Ordinance 2010-04, canvassing the votes for the May 8, 2010 election.

Motion carried unanimously.

5. Future Agenda Items:

Love's environment

There being no further business Mayor Lorance adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

CERTIFICATION:

Passed and approved on this 10th day of June, 2010.

Mark Lorance
Mayor

Ramah Burns
City Secretary