



**City Council Meeting  
Minutes  
Regular Session  
July 8, 2010 - 7:00 p.m.**

Rhome City Hall  
105 W. First Street  
Rhome, TX

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**Council Present:** Mayor Evelyn L. Obenour; Mayor Pro Tem Chris Moore; Council Members: Jo Ann Wilson, Charles Pennington, David Wilson and Gerry McBride.

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

**Pastor Wendell Splawn gave the Invocation.**

**Mayor Obenour led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.**

**Citizen Presentations and Public Input for Future Agenda Items:**

Chris Graves spoke about code enforcement in the city. He referred to the rubbish, weeds, trash, etc. He said that code enforcement deters crime and discourages blight in the city. He said blight begets more blight. He said that it enforces people to conform to culture and maintains property value and tax bases. He said if code enforcement does not happen we will lose control of blight. He said it helps economic development, which is stagnant and non-existent in Rhome. He said we need to educate citizens. He said Code Enforcement officers have a difficult job and are rarely appreciated. He said the laws are the laws and the rules are the rules. He said the laws need to be enforced.

**Announcements from Mayor and Council Members**

Mayor Obenour said since the last City Council meeting there has been much progress in understanding how to further the City of Rhome. She said she believed that much can be accomplished this year. She said she continues to be amazed with the history that is preserved in our town. She said the chairs in the Mayor's office are from the Depot. She said our Annex Building was a one room storehouse and the safe in City Hall was from the bank. She said these are just a few of the things that are part of the history of Rhome. She thinks it would be really great if we could concentrate on the history of Rhome. She said it would help us move forward in the years to come. She would like any input that anyone has. She said she's in her office everyday and if you have any suggestions she's open to them.

Jo Ann Wilson said that the Community Center is almost complete. She thanked Bill Childress for his work and volunteering to make things. She thanked Elizabeth Hoff for making the curtains. She thanked Marie Moore for all of the work she does. She said the Community Center is 99% complete.

1. **Consent Agenda:** The items will be enacted with one motion. Any Council Member may remove any item from the Consent Agenda.

**A. Approval of Minutes:**

1. **June 10, 2010**

Charles Pennington made motion to accept consent agenda. Motion was seconded by Jo Ann Wilson seconded the motion.

Charles Pennington amended the motion to accept consent agenda with the exception of the Police Department. The amended motion was seconded by Jo Ann Wilson.

Motion carried unanimously.

**B. Acceptance of Report**

1. **Police Department**

Chief James Rose spoke. He said that they were working on code enforcement, but that you had to take into account the rain. He said that, through a summer program, he was able to hire an afternoon receptionist and a part-time custodian. He said he sometimes shares the custodian with City Hall. He said that there was a rumour floating around about the Rhome Police Department taking over Newark. He said he has had no dealings with the City of Newark. He said he's also heard concerns about too much training for the officers. He said that a certain number of hours are mandated by the state. He said that there's a lot of good training out there that is free. He said that the mandated training helps prevent lawsuits. He said that Officer Douglas had never had school-based law enforcement training. He said he sent him to a week long school-based law enforcement training in Fort Worth at no cost. He discussed future training on their schedules. He said he has a night officer scheduled for Family Violence Training. He said that most calls for Family Violence are at night. He said there is training in Dallas called Initial Law Enforcement for Suicide Bombing Attacks because there are so many schools in our area. He said especially because we have elementary and middle schools and they target those schools.

He said the officers go to training and come back and teach the other officers. He said there is a training put on by the Dallas Police Department called Street Officers Survival Course. There is also a Roadside, Active Shooters, Use of Force class. He said the training makes our officers better to serve our citizens better and reduces liability. Mayor Obenour asked the Chief if these trainings have already been scheduled. He said that they have, and that they are all free. The Mayor asked the Chief, when he sends an officer to training who picks up the slack? He said that right now, since school's out, he has the school resource officer. When school's in he picks up the slack. He said that there's never a time when someone is not working.

2. Fire
3. Public Works-
4. Administration
5. Parks and Recreation-

Discussion and necessary action concerning the following agenda items:

2. New Business

- A. Joint Public Hearing opened at 7:25 P.M. on proposed Ordinance of 2010-04, to allow Single Family Residential in Retail and Commercial Zones in Old Town Rhome.

Mayor Obenour asked if there is anyone for in opposition of the proposed Ordinance.

Ronnie Moore spoke for his mother. He said that where her house is there are two lots that sit beside her. He said that they were for it and that we need the tax revenues.

Bill Childress said that he was for it because we need revenue tax base in Rhome. He said the lots that are zoned commercial are not big enough for any real commercial buildings. He said; let's get something there where we can get some tax revenue on it. He said single-family dwellings will get us the tax revenue. He said that he is for it.

Clyde Warner said he is for it. He said that the lots are too small for commercial anyway.

The Public Hearing closed at 7:29 p.m.

- B. Motion was made by David Wilson to approve Ordinance 2010-04 with the amendment to add under 12.4, "No HUD Code manufactured homes or housing will be installed on any lot within this area no mobile homes." Motion seconded by Chris Moore.

Motion carried unanimously.

- C. Tarp for W/S Dump Truck in the amount of \$1,200.

Motion was made by David Wilson to have a tarp put on the W/S Dump Truck in the amount of \$1,200. Motion was seconded by Chris Moore.

Motion carried unanimously

- D. CDL for Preston Gilliam, Sidney Hines and Keith Hulsey.

Preston Gilliam, Public Works Director said they need a CDL to drive the city dump truck. The cost is \$300 each for a CDL A License.

David Wilson said if any employee leave within 6 months they will have to pay the cost back.

Motion was made by David Wilson to approve Preston Gilliam, Sidney Hines and Keith Hulsey to get a CDL. Motion was seconded by Chris Moore.

Motion carried unanimously.

- E. Budget Workshop dates for fiscal year October 1, 2010 and ending September 30, 2011.

A Workshop was set for July 20, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. for the current budget and July 28, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. for next years budget.

- F. Uniform Speed Limit Signage.

Mayor Obenour said in Crown Point there are no signs and in Old Town and By Well Estates. She said we need to look at speed limits around the Parks.

David Wilson said Ordinance 70-71 the Police Chief has the authority to come to the City Council with changes. We need to contact Ed Surrey about his trees on Hickory. This will be on the August 12<sup>th</sup> agenda. Police Chief James Rose will inspect all areas.

**G. Evacuation routes.**

Mayor Obenour said we need to be prepared in case of an emergency to evacuate.

David Wilson said the residents in Crown Point don't know the area.

The council said to put a map in the water bills.

**H. Curfew Ordinance 2008-05 that expires on September 13, 2010.**

Motion was made by Chris Moore to approve Ordinance 2010-05 renewing the city curfew ordinance. Motion was seconded by Charles Pennington.

Motion carried unanimously.

**5. Future Agenda Items:**

Speed limits

Oak Court

K-2 Ordinance

Ordinances for: Inventory, Powers of Mayor, Regular Council Meeting, Officers of the City, Personnel Manual, and Emergency expenditures.

**6. Adjourn.**

Motion was made by David Wilson to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. Chris Moore seconded the motion.

Motion Carried unanimously

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

**CERTIFICATION:**

Passed and approved on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2010.

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Evelyn L. Obenour  
Mayor

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Ramah Burns  
City Secretary