



**City Council Meeting  
Minutes  
Regular Session  
October 14, 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:** David E. Wilson, Jo Ann Wilson, Charles Pennington 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.

Mayor Obenour led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Citizen Presentations and Public Input for Future Agenda Items:**  
None

**Announcement from Mayor and Council Members**

Mayor Obenour said you went to Chisholm Trail Middle School and signed a Proclamation with the Student Council against bullying. She was presented with a book signed by the Student Council. Mayor Obenour said Elizabeth Hoff attended a meeting at Chisholm Trail Middle School on Mentoring students. Elizabeth Hoff said the program is set up for one (1) hour a week during school hours or one (1) hour at lunch to work with the same child during the school year. You have to go through an orientation. There are rules in place where you don't contact the child on weekends, no gifts, and no cell phone calls. She said they need someone that will be there every week.

Jo Ann Wilson said the Fall Festival is going to be on Saturday, the Fire Department is going to have their Halloween festival from 6 to 10 on October 30<sup>th</sup>, the Seniors are having their Thanksgiving meal on November 12<sup>th</sup> and the city wide Thanksgiving is going to be on November 20<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Obenour said the Rhome Library is having their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on November 14<sup>th</sup> from 2 to 4 at their new location 265 B. C. Rhome.

1. **Consent Agenda:** The items will be enacted with one motion. Any Council

Members may remove any item form the Consent Agenda.

**Motion was made by Charles Pennington to pull Parks and Recreation and Fire Department off the consent agenda. Jo Ann Wilson seconded the motion.**

**Motion carried unanimously**

**A. Approval of Minutes:**

- 1. September 9, 2010 Regular Session**
- 2. September 28, 2010 Regular Session**

**B. Acceptance of Report**

- 1. Police Department**
- 2. Fire Department – The consent was moved under New Business**
- 3. Public Works**
- 4. Administration**
- 5. Parks and Recreation – Park Board Chairman Ronnie Moore said they are putting together a Veterans Association. They are taking bids on irrigation. Park Board Co Chair Person Rebecca Williams said they have 14 vendors, bounce house, and food for the Fall Festival. All expenses have been covered with the vendors. It will be from 10 to 4 on Saturday.**

**C. Approval of Check Registers**

- 1. September 4, 2010 through October 11, 2010**

**Motion was made by Chris Moore to accept the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Charles Pennington.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**Discussion and necessary action concerning the following agenda items:**

**2. New Business**

**A. Award bid on 2010 West Side Sewer Line and Lift Station.**

**Mike Shelton, Engineer Kimley Horn said they received 11 bids. He said he received several negative comments on TNT'S Pipeline. Cor.**

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Total Bid</u>
TNT'S Pipeline Corp.	\$385,798.70
Wilson Contractors Services	446,211.50
Scmoltd Construction	473,573.00
Walker Utilities, Inc.	494,628.00
Gin-Spen, Inc.	503,586.50
Jackson Construction, Ltd.	536,996.70
Cleburne Utility Construction, Inc.	573,155.70
McMahon Contracting, LP	602,888.70
Tri Dal, Ltd	610,115.70
Atkins Bros, Equipment Co, Inc.	1,200,520.70

Motion was made by Chris Moore to award the contract to Wilson Contractor, Inc. for the 2010 West Side Sewer Line and Lift Station. Charles Pennington seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously

**B. Animal Control Ordinance**

Motion was made by Jo Ann Wilson to Table this at this time because so many people are struggling to force them to do any extra at time. Charles Pennington seconded the motion.

Motion carried 3-2. Gerry McBride and Chris Moore opposed.

**C. Community Center Rental/Rates**

Motion was made by Chris Moore to approve the rates for the Community Center at Rhome Resident's \$100 deposit and a flat fee of \$35 dollars non resident's \$200 deposit and a flat fee of \$35 dollars for 6 hours. Gerry McBride seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously

**D. Municipal Court Judge**

Walt Leonard, City Attorney said he going to meet with Judge William Burdock next week to confirm the appointment as our Municipal Court Judge.

**E. Fall Clean up**

**This will be on November 6 and November 13 from 9 to 2.**

**F. Fire Department**

**Sarah Newbaker signed up to speak. She said she wanted to make a general statement on some things that have been going on. She said she wanted to speak in support of our Fire Department. She said there have been a lot of questions and concerns about the Fire Department this year and it has reached a ridicules level. She said enough with nit picking, enough with the fine tooth comb investigations because it seems it is only intended to hassle the department. She said it seems that some on the city council are bent on driving out all of the excellent men and women that do volunteer. There has been gripping about taking fire trucks to lunch, demanding inventory, questioning the boot drive money, fuel bills. You are acting like the fire department is a leisurely committee with an underhanded scheme rather than a vital service to community and to each of you individually. There's no gratitude or support from the council minus the one person on the council who is a fireman. She thinks there needs to be discussion on how to convert to a paid department. As the town grows and the fire department runs more calls there is a lack of understanding newcomers that they operation on a volunteer system. It takes more effort from all of them that do know to keep the community involved with support. How is that going to happen when the city council keeps stripping away support and picking on everything that is going on. You're not doing the public any favors by trying to keep tabs on every more the fire department makes and instead you are making it to where no one wants to be a volunteer department and no one wants to be in charge of the department because no one wants to work with the city. She said she is here to let them know the complaints and accusations needs to stop and its not going unnoticed by the public and that if you value your council seat then we need to play nice. It's time to realize that what you do have is a good volunteer fire department and you need to find a way to show appreciations. Thank you.**

**Mayor Obenour asked the council to look over the bid from Evan Electric and the electrical work that needs to be done at the fire department. She said this would answer the problem when they come in at night. There would be a switch at the door where they can turn on the lights. The switch is now in the back right now. She said on the bid is also repair work that needs to be done at the Community Center.**

Charles Pennington said he would like to add to this. There has been some talk about adding a 220 plug in. This will change the bid. Mayor Obenour said she would call him.

Motion was made by David Wilson to do all of the electrical work and add the 220 plug. Charles Pennington seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously

Jo Ann Wilson asked about the insurance. Do they cover all of the active members? Robert Pratt Fire Chief said yes they have an active roster

David Wilson said they are going to have to revisit some of the items in the fire department constitution and propose some checks and balances so when something comes up they have some say. Some of the things were left out of the new one that was in the old one. The only control they have is paying the bills.

Jo Ann Wilson said Ms. New baker's concerns that she doesn't believe are valid. What they have tried to do is give direction and assistance. In no way are they trying to deflate the fire department. They are pleased with the fire department. She mentioned a paid department which would be wonderful. She believes they have 3, 4 or 5 years out before we will have a paid department if we get enough economic growth. Their responsibility to the tax payers is to see how their dollars are spent properly.

Mayor Obenour had asked Robert Pratt not to take the fire trucks to lunch on a trial basis. Robert has given them a couple of reports saying that the response time is effected if they are at lunch and they have to come back here. They have had a medical call two (2) times that they had to rush back here. She said she would still like for them to do the month and follow through on that. Maybe then they will have some answers on the constitution and by laws and do it all at the same time. In respect of the city council she believes they need to go on what they have asked. She said it is them showing respect to the fire department and them showing respect the council.

Gerry McBride said he is a firm believer in respect it is a 2 way street. He asked when is this month up because he wants it revisited it in a month.

**Jo Ann Wilson said they in no way said don't go the fire station. She said they realize they have a need to be there. Somewhere that got twisted.**

**Chris Moore asked do they want this to be rehashed on October 28<sup>th</sup> if they don't have anything else or can it wait until next month's meeting.**

**Mayor Obenour said if nothing is on the October 28<sup>th</sup> agenda they can wait until next month's meeting.**

**There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.**

**CERTIFICATION:**

**Passed and approved on this 11<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2010.**

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**Evelyn L. Obenour**  
**Mayor**

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**Ramah Burns**  
**City Secretary**