



**City Council Meeting  
Minutes  
Special Session  
August 19, 2010 – 6:30 P.M.**

Rhome City Hall  
105 First Street  
Rhome, TX 76078

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

**City Staff Present:** City Secretary Ramah Burns, Police Chief James Rose,

1. Introduction and approval of Reserve Officers.

Chief James Rose said he has three (3) Reserve Officers that he would like confirmed. Kirby Lord was present. He is a Reserve Officer for the City of Denton for the last 10 years. He also has a Master Peace Officers license. Mike Conklin works with NISD. He was with the Trophy Club Police Department. Chance Garrett is a dispatcher with the Weatherford Police Department.

Motion was made by Jo Ann Wilson to approve Kirby Lord, Mike Conklin and Chance Garrett as Reserve Officers. Motion was seconded by Chris Moore.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

2. Speed Limits East of Railroad tracks.

Chief Rose said he recommends 25 mph. You can set it for 25 mph without a traffic study.

Motion was made by Chris Moore to put up speed limit signs of 25 mph per Chief Rose and Children at Play signs. The motion was seconded by Jo Ann Wilson.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

3. Proposed Ordinance 2010-06, adding Section 32.08, powers of the Mayor.

Motion was made by David Wilson to approve Ordinance 2010-06, adding Section 32.08, powers of the Mayor as written. Motion was seconded by Jo Ann Wilson.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

4. Proposed Ordinance 2010-07, amending Section 36, inventory of city property.

Motion was made by Jo Wilson to approve Ordinance 2010-07, amending Section 36, changing the month due from August to July. Motion was seconded by Chris Moore.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

5. Proposed Ordinance 2010-08, adding Section 32.24, scheduling regular council meetings.

Motion was made by Jo Ann Wilson to approve Ordinance 2010-08, adding Section 32.24, with the forth (4<sup>th</sup>) Tuesday being a regular council meeting date if needed. Motion was seconded by Charles Pennington.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

6. Proposed Ordinance 2010-09, adding Section 39.03, expenditures emergencies.

Motion was made by David Wilson to approve Ordinance 2010-09, adding Section 39.03 as written. Motion was seconded by Jo Ann Wilson.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

7. Proposed Ordinance 2010-10, adding Section 32.23, city council agendas.

Motion was made by Jo Ann Wilson to approve Ordinance 2010-10, adding Section 32.23 as written. Motion was seconded by Charles Pennington.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

8. Proposed Ordinance 2010-11, amending Section 39.01, Officers of the City.

Motion was made by Chris Moore to approve Ordinance 2010-11, amending Section 39.01, with Officers of the city shall include: City Secretary, City Attorney, City Administrator, Police Chief, Public Works Director and Municipal Court Clerk. Motion was seconded by Charles Pennington.

David Wilson said he would like to make an amendment on the last sentence under Section 1. He said he thinks Mayor should be stricken. It should read, “conditions established by the City Council of the City of Rhome”.

Gerry McBride said he disagreed.

Chris Moore said he liked it as written.

Walt Leonard said most of this is provided by State law. He said the terms would be established by the City Council and the Mayor is the presiding Officer when the council does it. The only way the Mayor would vote is if the vote were tied if somebody was out.

David Wilson said what he is saying is the terms and conditions couldn't be established by the Mayor alone. He wanted to make sure the Mayor could set the terms and conditions without the consent of the council.

Walt Leonard said it could read, "the terms and conditions established by the City of Rhome." This way the Mayor only operates as a referee and State law prevails.

Motion was amended by Chris Moore to approve Ordinance 2010-11 amending Section 39.01, relating to Officers of the City: City Secretary, City Attorney, City Administrator, Police Chief, Public Works Director and Municipal Court Clerk and removing Council and Mayor from the last sentence in Section 1. The motion was seconded by Charles Pennington.

**Motion carried voting in favor 4-1. Gerry McBride opposed.**

9. Status of Personnel Manual

Mayor Obenour called on David Wilson. He said he hasn't done anything to move forward on the Personnel Manual. He said he has some personal objections with the way they have it set up. He said the Personnel Manual should be entirely developed, all the procedures and all of the restrictions by the City Council. He thinks whatever workshops or whatever is necessary for the council to meet and do that.

Gerry McBride said personnel manuals have always been put together by the team of workers, not the executives. This would be a good opportunity to get some business people in the community to get them involved with the council. He said the council isn't the one that is promoting policy.

Mayor Obenour asked who did Westworth Village personnel manual.

Walt Leonard said a couple of council members, personnel and a couple of citizens. He said the committee sends it to the city council for approval.

Jo Ann Wilson said she thinks that no matter who does the personnel manual it will always come back to personnel to review it before it is voted on. She said she agrees with David that she thinks they would do a good job as the council in putting it together.

Mayor Obenour said it would come back to the council in the approval process.

Charles Pennington said he thinks they need to call a workshop and put it together and call everyone in to review it.

Mayor Obenour said she thinks it would be good for some residents in the city to be involved in it. She thinks we need to get city involvement.

10. Preliminary approval for John Martin, Southwest Securities, to move forward on the \$750,000 Tax Notes.

Mayor Obenour said right now in the General Fund there is \$32,716.33 and in the General Fund Savings there is \$540,691.69. She said we have the construction grant is \$340,000 and the Love's contribution is \$240,000. She said we know by November 1<sup>st</sup> the \$240,000 will have to be paid immediately out of savings.

Ramah Burns said on the Budget Justification of Retail Costs from Kimley Horn the Construction costs are \$526,000 and the Engineer/Arch is \$104,400 totaling \$630,400. When you subtract the \$350,000 grant the balance the city will owe is \$280,400. The Love's contribution is \$240,000 plus \$280,400 totals the amount due from the city of \$520,400.

David Wilson said we won't have to pay this until the grant application has been approved and all of the permits issued.

Charles Pennington said the \$350,000 is probably a year down the road.

Mayor Obenour said everything has been approved except for getting our permit.

Ramah Burns said a big part of the \$350,000 is the East Side Plant but part of it is over on Love's down the frontage road. They are amending the grant to include this and they already have approval to do that.

David Wilson said his question is why are we borrowing money now that we may have to pay nine (9) month or a year from now.

Ramah Burns said John Martin has a schedule and time table for us to go by. He said if it's not approved in this fiscal year and the bond people wouldn't get their first payment in September 2011 the interest rate will be higher.

Gerry McBride said some of the money will be wrapped around on Love's. He said there are less and less Government Grants given. He said there is infrastructure that should have been done a long time ago. Once we get the infrastructure done we have a chance to get some good growth in Rhome.

Jo Ann Wilson said what they are saying if we can't start tomorrow why are we borrowing the money today.

Mayor Obenour said there is also the \$275,000 grant that we pay 10% match that they approved at the last council meeting. This will enable us to correct a lot of in fracture in the size of the water lines and the old clay pipes.

David Wilson said we are borrowing money to live on. You will still have income coming in.

Mayor Obenour said they are going to have to take away from the savings account. They have until December 31<sup>st</sup> before they have any sizable amount of money coming back in. She said she doesn't believe that they want the city to use all of the savings. The city has an impeccable credit rating.

Gerry McBride said David makes a good point that we will have revenue coming in.

Mayor Obenour said she would talk with John Martin again and get some ideas from him and she will have answers on Monday at the Budget Workshop.

10. Family Park – Grass

Mayor Obenour said the Park Board has an estimate for \$4,000 to have the Family Park hydro mulched. Joe Smith said he can do it for \$2,500.

Charles Pennington said you can probably do the same thing for about \$500 with Rye and Bermuda.

Chris Moore said he thinks we need to do Bermuda seed. They have water hose bids at the park and they can put a hose out. He said if we are going to do that we need to do it quickly.

11. Motion was made by Gerry McBride to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. The motion was seconded by Chris Moore.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**CERTIFICATION:**

Passed and approved on this 9th day of September, 2010.

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Evelyn L. Obenour  
Mayor

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Ramah Burns  
City Secretary