



**City Council Meeting
Minutes
Regular Session
March 24, 2011 - 7:00 p.m.**

Rhome City Hall
105 W. First Street
Rhome, TX

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;
Robert Pratt, Fire Chief, James Rose, Police Chief.

Mayor Obenour led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements from Mayor and City Council

Jo Ann Wilson presented Chief Pratt a petition signed by several hundred citizens for their tireless efforts and time fighting the fire on March 11th. She said Shelly Madden who is Marshall Madden's daughter wrote a poem dedicated to the Rhome Fire Department. She said it was in the March 20th Wise County Messenger and she would read excerpts from it. – Pray for the Firefighter – The mighty hawk raced down from the heavens, soaring high above the Texas plain, his keen eye overlooking the vast prairie. Gusting southern winds tossed him upward; he was thrown off course and came crashing toward the hardened earth in a downward spiral. A moment before certain doom, he righted himself and alit on a nearby mesquite, waiting in silence for the whipping winds to subside. He had come to watch, and wait. On a path of destruction, the raging wildfire was soon on course with nearby home as they cradled their unsuspecting broods. Fueled by the relentless winds, it was now a force intimidated by none. It stretched as far as the eye could see; trees in its path were quickly consumed, left behind silenced ashes of their former majesty. Nothing would stop it. A gust of wind whipped him upward into the clouds again, from where he had come. The Heavens parted, the gates of pearl opened to welcome his majestic re-entry. He was a bird no more. He sat on His throne in Heaven, smiling down in everlasting glory at the firefighters below.

Mayor Obenour said her only other comment to that is the city council's jester of appreciation to our Fire Fighters that we should make it in the records they are allowed to drive their trucks when they go for lunch. Applause.

1. Ordinance – Drug Free Zones – Signs

Jo Ann Wilson said her recommendation in talking with Walt Leonard and one of the Pastors here is a program called Zero Tolerance Policy. She said if they adopted that instead of this ordinance for Churches it would take in the whole city limits. It would say the City of Rhome will prosecute any drug offenses to the fullest extend possible. This way you don't have to measure from churches. She would like to see the city going to Zero Tolerance Policy.

Walt Leonard said it is policy that would be implemented by the Police Department. He said if there is a case where there is a drug crime that the cities position will be to seek the maximum possible penalty. This will be something that we do rather than the city having to do some involve some ordinance or resolution. As far as the city is concerned they is no tolerance for the manufacturer or sale of drugs in the city.

Mayor Pro Tem Moore asked if we needed to post signs.

Walt Leonard said signs could be posted at the entrances to the city, schools, parks, etc. whatever they felt appropriate.

Jo Ann Wilson said she thinks we need zero tolerance signs.

Motion was made by Jo Ann Wilson for the city to implement a police for Zero Tolerance for a drug offenses in the city and if necessary signs can be posted. The motion was seconded by Charles Pennington.

Gerry McBride asked if this includes alcohol.

Walt Leonard said alcohol may not be illegal under certain laws – in excess or in possession of a minor.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Repairs to City Hall

Motion was made by Gerry McBride to approve the repairs to City Hall in the amount of \$2,200. Motion was seconded by Jo Ann Wilson.

Motion carried unanimously.

3. Repairs to Fire Department

Motion was made by Charles Pennington to spend \$6,000 for Polyurethane Foam Roof Coating, 10 yr warranty, South End of Bldg. and \$6,700 for metal work to replace all windows in top of station, fascia around all bay doors. Motion was seconded by Jo Ann Wilson.

Motion carried unanimously.

4. Cleaning Water Tanks

Motion was made by Chris Moore to approve IDS dba/Texas Tank Services to inspect and clean the tanks only. Motion was seconded by Gerry McBride.

David Wilson said they will go in and inspect and clean the tanks. If there are any repairs they will come back and tell you.

Motion carried unanimously.

5. Allow seniors to have their sale in the front hall of the Old Rhome School.

Mayor Pro Tem Moore said they talked about this last time. He said they were going to try and find another place to do this. He said the building is getting old, it's not safe, there is no electricity, no A/C. His concern and others is the safety issue if someone got hurt or there was a fire? He said they did good last year. There was a lot of stuff in there. He said that his only concern is having it in there and people shopping and someone drops a cigarette.

Jo Ann Wilson asked if they needed to block off part of the hallway. Would those help?

Mayor Obenour said last year when she went with Marie, it was full of used things that there wasn't anyway that the front hall was sufficient enough space. She didn't think that you can limit them to just the front hall. She asked what would they do if they had this same problem next year?

Bill Childress said he didn't know.

Charles Pennington said this came up on short notice and they stopped it at the last meeting. He said they have been looking and they don't have enough time.

Jo Ann Wilson asked Chris Moore if they have had time to get their stuff out.

Mayor Pro Tem Moore said they got everything out of the front. He said it hasn't been cleaned.

Charles Pennington asked if they used the front hall way and the one (1) room they used last year would that be enough room?

Bill Childress said it worked for them last year.

Chris Moore said he was just worried about someone getting hurt.

David Wilson said one thing they would probably need to put some sort of a barricade that couldn't be breached on both sides. He said to go in before hand and put up some temporary lighting rather than having extension cords. It would probably cost a couple hundred dollars.

Motion was made by David Wilson to allow the senior to use the front hall and the first room to the right for their sale in May and for the Fire Department or City will put up some temporary lighting not to use the Fire Department tri-pod lighting. Secure halls so you can only go to a certain point and not beyond that. Once the sale is over everything needs to be removed within 30 days then the school can be secured. Motion was seconded by Jo Ann Wilson.

Motion carried 4-1. Chris Moore opposed because of safety.

9. Recess to Executive Session at 7:40 p.m.: The Rhome City Council will Convene Into Executive Session In Compliance With Chapter 551 Of The Texas Government Code (Open Meeting Act) Vernon's Texas Code Annotated, As Follows:
 - a. Section 551.074 – Personnel – City Attorney – parallel employment
 - b. Section 551.071 – Potential Litigation – City TCEQ - CNN
10. Discuss, Consider, and Act Regarding Taking Any Appropriate Action – Executive Session Item 4a or 4b.

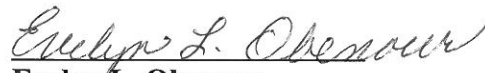
No Action was taken at 8:25 p.m.

11. Motion was made by David Wilson to adjourn at 8:25 p.m. Gerry McBride seconded the motion.


Motion carried unanimously.

CERTIFICATION:

Passed and approved on this 14th day of April 2011.



Evelyn L. Obenour
Mayor



Ramah Burns
City Secretary