



**City Council Meeting
Minutes
Regular Session
December 8, 2011 - 7:00 p.m.**

Rhome City Hall
105 W. First Street
Rhome, TX

Council Present: Mayor Mark Lorange; Mayor Pro Tem Gerry McBride;
Council Members: Chris Moore, Jo Ann Wilson, Chris Graves, and Cole L. Blanche.

Staff Present: Walt Leonard, City Attorney; Ramah Burns, City Secretary;
James Rose, Police Chief.

Absent: Preston Gilliam, Public Works Director; Robert Pratt, Fire Chief

Mayor Lorange led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Citizen Presentations and Public Input for Future Agenda Items:

Shannon Jones said we lost James Whitehead a former a WWII veteran who had a Purple Heart

Announcement from Mayor and Council Members

Jo Ann Wilson said she would like to thank Chris Peek for all of his years of service on the Rhome Fire Department. She also thanked the Personnel in the Water Department for the awning they built over the picnic tables in the Family Park.

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

Gerry McBride asked to remove Water Sewer. Chris Graves asked to remove Parks & Recreation. Jo Ann Wilson asked to remove the Police Department.

A. Approval of Minutes:

1. November 10, 2011 – Regular Session

B. Acceptance of Report

1. Police Department:
2. Fire Department
3. Public Works

- 4. Administration
- 5. Parks and Recreation

C. Approval of Check Registers

1. November 8, 2011 through December 5, 2011

Motion was made by Chris Moore and seconded by Gerry McBride to approve the consent agenda.

Motion carried unanimously

Discussion and necessary action concerning the following agenda items:

Police Department Report – Jo Ann Wilson asked to put Auto World Collision on the next agenda.

Gerry McBride asked if the city has given any building permits out. On the East Side he has a 10 x 20 slab poured which is concerning to him because he didn't get a permit. He said we have a commercial facility and he is going to add on that commercial facility. He said he doesn't know why we didn't get a CO from this person. They are conducting business there without a CO. He said we need someone to investigate this.

Cole Blanche said he knows Jason Cottongame was working on it one time. He doesn't remember the outcome. He said he didn't know anything about Jason Miller on the Fire Department going to do anything.

Chief Rose said he would get with both Jason and Chief Pratt to find out what to do with it.

Mayor Lorange said he didn't think this had to wait until the next council meeting.

2. Old Business

A. Pioneer Days Report

Mayor Lorange said he and Cole Blanche met with William (Bill) Childress to get a report and update. He said on the financial side they don't have a detail report.

They received information that it was break even – maybe made \$100 – \$200. They do have a race credit from the 5K race in the amount of \$1,000 if we won't to have a race next year. He said he inquired about the 501 C3 status. Bill Childress said all they did was get a tax number so they could get a bank account that wasn't his personal bank account.

Chris Graves said they did or didn't form their 501 C3 how does that affect the city allowing city services. He asked aren't we continuing to pay the electric and water on the community center.

Mayor Lorange said we need to know the status of the 501 C3 because it changes the relationship of that group. It's not the seniors group the city has put together – if they are their own group then we have a different relationship. He said he did request what the expenses were. He said Bill Childress said he turned all of that in a real thick binder.

Chris Moore said they did get a thing of expenses but it wasn't complete.

Jo Ann Wilson asked if it really made any difference now.

Chris Graves said if they are a non-profit and they move forward with the use of city infrastructure – we are going to have to handle this differently. We can't provide free services – electric and water based on tax payers money.

Walt Leonard said if they do have money or assets and dissolve the 501 C3 they are going to have to account for those assets.

Mayor Lorange said he did offer to help next year.

Cole Blanche said if we are going to have Pioneer Days next year we are going to need to start planning right now.

Cole Blanche said the saving on employee insurance is \$7,800 for the year. He was going to propose that they go ahead and make a budget line item for it.

Mayor Lorange said they are going to have a budget workshop.

3. New Business

- A. Contract for Assessment and Collection Services between Wise County Appraisal District and City of Rhome for period January 1, 2012 through December 31 2012.**

Motion was made by Jo Ann Wilson and seconded by Gerry McBride to approve the Contract for Assessment and Collection Services between Wise County Appraisal District and City of Rhome for period January 1, 2012 through December 31 2012.

Motion carried unanimously.

- B. Consider Bids and Authorize Execution of a Contract for the East Side Wastewater Treatment Plant for the City of Rhome, Texas. The project is funded through the Texas Community Development Block Grant Project 710611.**

Contractor	Total Bid
MELA Contracting, Inc.	\$1,070,738.00
Gracon Construction, Inc.	1,079,278.00
Red River Construction, Inc.	1,079,333.00
ACP Ltd	1,292,105.00

Motion was made by Cole Blanche, seconded by Chris Moore to award the Contract for the East Side Wastewater Treatment Plant to MELA Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$1,070,738.00.

Motion carried unanimously.

- C. Contract between City of Rhome and Wise County, Texas for Animal Control.**

Motion was made by Chris Graves, seconded by Chris Moore to authorize Mayor Lorance to enter into a contract with Wise County Animal Control and to move forward contingent on the 90 day notice with North Texas Animal Control and for the Mayor and staff to move forward on that date.

Motion carried unanimously.

D. Veterans Park – Mayor Lorance said Jo Ann Wilson asked for Veterans Park to be on the agenda. Jo Ann Wilson said she refers to Chris Graves because he was more specific. She said she received calls as to why the city didn't do anything for Veterans Day.

E. Veterans Committee/Representative on Parks Board.

Chris Graves said he has had concerns why we don't use our Veterans Park for Memorial Day and Veterans Day. He received a call from Ms. Troxell about this and he said if she wanted to step forward and be on the Parks Board and represent the Veterans in our City. She could coordinate with the Parks. He said if there is something we can do with the Wise County Veterans to get our local Veterans more in tune on what's going on? We could put this on the city web site and mailers to make sure the Veterans are aware of what's going on.

Mayor Lorance said we had a beautiful park.

Ramah Burns said Louis is a life time member of the Wise County Veterans Group. She said they have sent the application out in the water bills. In the lobby of city hall there is information encouraging our Veterans to join the Wise County Veterans Group. She said she went to a breakfast with Walter Estes and his wife at the Decatur Civic Center about three (3) months ago. There were 49 Veterans there. It was wonderful. She said if you join you get a vest and name badge. There were Veterans there from Bridgeport, Runaway Bay, and Boyd. There already have a web site. Carl Wear has joined. If our Veterans could get involved with the Wise County Veterans then they could plan

down here. On Memorial Day we did plan a program with the Wise County Veterans. They did their program at 10 and we did ours after lunch. It was hot and a lot of people didn't like waiting until the afternoon. They have said they would do anything to help us. Our Veterans need to meet with them. It would be hard for someone who is not a Veteran to plan this. She said she talked with Terri also. She said after the holidays her and I will go up there and have breakfast with the Veterans.

F. Amending City Sign Ordinance. Chris Graves said he was looking with the sign ordinance. There were sign in the city right of way. He wanted to clarify this before they get to this years election. He likes the way it's written up. It needs to be on private property.

He thinks the signs need to be on private property no public right of way. He just wanted to clarify where we were on it.

Walt Leonard said as far as State Right of Way – TX Dot has their own set of rules. He said you always run into the questions with “Garage Sales”. He said there are some things you can regulate that you can look at. He said the political stuff right now is a hot potato.

Chris Graves said the only thing they can’t regulate is the political signs everything else is up to them. As far billboards he considers the Ellis Homestead sign to be a billboard.

Mayor Lorance said he asked Ramah before we can in here and she gave him some good news. She called Allen Arnold and asked him if they could take that sign down. Allen Arnold said sure. He said we need to get that in writing.

Cole Blanche asked about the temporary signs with letters that move. They are behind Wells Fargo and Mobil.

Chris Graves said behind Wells Fargo it falls within TX Dot right of way.

Mayor Lorance said right now the entrance to Ellis, Crown Point, By Well, and Chisholm are off limits for political signs.

4. Recess to Executive Session at 7:46 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/Appointment – Judge
 - b. Section 551.071 – Potential litigation - NTACA
5. Action was taken at 8:26 p.m. on Item 4.a.

Motion was made by Chris Graves, seconded by Chris Moore to appoint Judge Jim Minter and the Municipal Court Judge effective immediately and to put Municipal Court Judge on the June 2012 agenda. They will serve on the Mayor’s term.

Motion carried unanimously.

6. Future agenda items:
 1. Collision World
 2. Pioneer Days
 3. Community Center parking
 4. Budget Workshop

7. Motion was made by Gerry McBride and seconded by Chris Moore to adjourn at 8:26 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

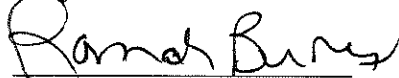
CERTIFICATION:

Passed and approved on this 12th day of January, 2012.



Mark Lorance

Mayor



Ramah Burns

City Secretary