

**City Council Meeting  
Minutes  
Regular Session  
July 14, 2011 - 7:00 p.m.**

Rhyme City Hall  
105 W. First Street  
Rhyme, TX

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

**Absent: Mayor Evelyn L. Obenour**

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

**Mayor Pro Tem McBride led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.**

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

**None**

**Announcement from Mayor and Council Members**

**Jo Ann Wilson said July 23<sup>rd</sup> was Splash Days followed by a Brisket Dinner. She said McDonald's Grand Opening would be July 26<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm and Love's Grand Opening would be August 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 am.**

**Walt Leonard read the following letter from Mayor Obenour:  
TO THE MEMBERS OF THE RHOME CITY COUNCIL, ATTORNEY WALT LEONARD AND  
STAFF:**

**IN 2010 IT WAS MY PLEASURE AND PRIVILEGE TO SEEK THE OFFICE OF MAYOR OF  
THE CITY OF RHOME. I SUCCESSFULLY RAN AND WAS ELECTED BY THE CITIZENS OF  
THE CITY OF RHOME.**

**IT AS MY GREAT PRIVILEGE TO SERVE AS CHAIRMAN OF THE PARK BOARD FOR  
TWO (2) YEARS AND DURING THAT TIME THE VETERAN'S MEMORIAL PARK WAS  
BUILT AND DEDICATED. THE RHOME FAMILY PARK ALSO WAS STARTED AND  
COMPLETED WHILE I SERVED.**

**AS MAYOR WE HAVE SEEN THE OPENING OF LOVE'S TRAVEL STOPS AND  
COUNTRY STORES, THE START OF ORDINANCE CODIFICATION, AND MANY  
UPGRADES IN THE WATER AND SEWER FACILITIES.  
SOON THE NEW EAST SIDE SEWER PLANT WILL BE STARTED, WHICH WILL BE A GREAT  
IMPROVEMENT TO OUR INFRASTRUCTURE, ALSO IMPROVEMENTS TO CITY OWNED  
STRUCTURES.**

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WITH ALL OF THESE ACCOMPLISHMENTS, THE CITY IS IN EXCELLENT FINANCIAL STANDING. NONE OF THESE COULD HAVE BEEN DONE WITHOUT THE COOPERATION OF ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL.

THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT THROUGH MY YEAR AS MAYOR AND PARK BOARD CHAIRMAN. THANK YOU RAMAH BURNS, PRESTON GILLIAM, ROBERT PRATT, SHERRY TAYLOR AND JAMES ROSE.

AS YOU ALL KNOW, NOVEMBER 21, 2010 I BECAME MRS. EVELYN OBENOUR MOSLEY. THIS HAS CHANGED BY LIFE, MY OUTLOOK ON LIFE, AND MY PLANS FOR THE FUTURE. I AM NOW FACED WITH PHYSICAL PROBLEMS, WHICH HAS BEEN ONGOING FOR MANY YEARS. BUT RECENTLY HAS CAUSED ME TO BE UNABLE TO BE MOBILE AT TIMES. IT IS WITH GREAT TRPIDATION THAT I FEEL IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CITIZENS OF RHOME THAT I TENDER MY RESIGNATION AS MAYOR OF RHOME EFFECTIVE AUGUST 5, 2011.

GOD HAS BEEN GOOD TO US THIS PAST YEAR AND WISHING THE CITY OF RHOME, ITS COUNCIL MEMBERS AND STAFF GOD'S PROTECTION OVER EACH STEP OF YOUR WAY AND THE CITY CONTINUES TO GROW.

THE HONORABLE MAYOR EVELYN L. OBENOUR

**A. Approval of Minutes:**

1. June 9, 2011 – Regular Session
2. June 23, 2011 – Special Session

**B. Acceptance of Report**

1. Police Department: Chief Rose said TX Dot is in the process of moving the mobile home that was abandon on US 287.
2. Fire Department
3. Public Works
4. Administration
5. Parks and Recreation

**C. Approval of Check Registers**

1. June 7, 2011 through July 11, 2011

Motion was made by Chris Moore and seconded by Jo Ann Wilson to approve the consent agenda.

Motion carried unanimously

Discussion and necessary action concerning the following agenda items:

2. Old Business

A. Wise County Animal Control

Mayor Pro Tem McBride introduces Lt. John Thompson from Wise County Animal Control was present. He said he would tell them what is going on and answer any questions.

Chris Moore said the reason they didn't use them before is they didn't come out. Now he sees animal control trucks out now.

Lt. Thompson said they try to keep the costs down for the city. He said the cost is \$50 if they pick the animal up or \$25 if we bring the animal to them.

Jo Ann Wilson asked what their adoption rate was and how do they promote it.

Lt. Thompson said approximately 55 dogs and 20 cats a month that are adopted. He said they take in 100 plus a month. He said he doesn't have a percentage.

Chris Graves asked if it was up to city personnel to call.

Lt. Thompson said yes the city needs to call. They try and charge an individual if they bring in an animal.

Chris Moore asked if they had a skunk problem would they handle that.

Lt. Thompson said would handle them. They try to get rid of the skunks.

Chris Graves said he had question on this matter with NTACA. He said they gave notice the 1<sup>st</sup> of June and they requested a 30 day sit down which has now expired. He asked have they had that sit down.

Gerry McBride said no.

Jo Ann Wilson asked have we lost our right to terminate the contract.

Walt Leonard said no.

Jo Ann Wilson said even though they didn't have a sit down.

Gerry McBride said he has been given the reigns and set up a meeting with him.

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Jo Ann Wilson asked how long do they keep an animal before they euthanize it and do they scan the chips.

Lt. Thompson said they have 44 cages and try to keep the animal as long as they can. He said they bring in about six (6) a day. He said they try and keep them 20 – 30 days. There is no set time. If they have room they keep them. They do scan the animals for chips. They have them at the shelter and their trucks.

Gerry McBride said he can take it back to Sheriff Walker made a decision to go forth with the changes.

Jo Ann Wilson said she didn't think they had. She said as a matter of convenience they would terminate NTACA contract. Kerry has come back in and ask for a show cause. She doesn't think they can make a decision until they work through that. She said she has some additional information she wouldn't discuss the revenue NTACA is bringing into the city that Wise County Animal Control wouldn't bring in. She said she appreciates Lt. Thompson taking the time to come and share information with them.

Gerry McBride said the council wants to talk with someone besides Kerry.

**B. Proposed Ordinance 2011-11 Charitable Solicitations.**

Walt Leonard said they had a draft ordinance on this. They can make changes. He said he didn't know what the council wanted to do with fees.

Chris Graves said they can put it together now and add in the application fee.

Jo Ann Wilson said the hours are not in there. What about 9 pm is that too late.

Chris Moore said their hours could keep them up collecting until 10 pm in the summer.

David Wilson said you can have door to door solicitation separate from the boot drives for Fire Department.

Walt Leonard said they could put in 9 am to 7 pm unless unless other wise authorized by the Mayor or his designee

Chris Graves asked about a \$100 application fees. It would be good for a year.

Chris Moore there will be an approval or denial on the application.

Jo Ann Wilson said on Pg 1 A-01, can they say the Rhome Fire Department is exempt. You could say, "Group organizations that is not a city entity".

Walt Leonard said no we want them to get a permit.

Chris Moore said he thinks this needs to be evaluated. They need more time.

Gerry McBride said they are trying to protect the city or leave anybody out.

Motion was made by Chris Moore to Table this. Chris Graves seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

**C. Impact Fee Study**

Gerry McBride said they need a lot of talent to help with this. He would like to look at future water and waste water needs.

Chris Moore said he would like to establish a Development Board/Committee. He said they have talked Impact Fees for years.

Preston Gilliam said Walnut Creek Water Development District doesn't see a plant expansion for at least 4 years.

Gerry McBride said he doesn't think we are using what we have asked for. His concern is our need could change over in a second.

Preston Gilliam said they have a 6 million gallon a day plant. The highest they have ever produced is 3.7 million a day. We are contracted over 1 million gallons a day. We get 200,000 gallons a day from them what we could draw. He thinks Trent Petty should be invited to any workshop we have.

Workshop date was set for July 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

**D. Asbestos testing proposal on Old Rhome School – total 4 buildings.**

**Chris Moore said proposal is do have four (4) buildings tested at the Old Rhome School location. He said they need to check them all at some time. Then they will have their paperwork in hand.**

**Jo Ann Wilson said she thinks the walls at Morris and Old Mill needs to be tested, also.**

**Motion was made by Jo Ann Wilson to have the 4 buildings at the Old Rhome School and the structure at Morris and Old Mill Road.**

**Motion was amended by Jo Ann Wilson a study of the 4 building at the Old Rhome School, the structure at Morris and Old Mill Road and the Police Department. Amended motion was seconded by Cole Blanche.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**E. Future Water needs**

**This was moved to Impact Fee Study.**

**F. Zero Tolerance Signs**

**Chief Rose showed the Council one (1) of the Zero Tolerance Signs. The council approved him to go forward and purchase a total of six (6) signs to be placed at the entrance to each sub-division. The cost is \$20 a sign.**

**Chris Graves asked does it benefit us by putting these signs up.**

**Chief Rose said everyone knows we have Zero Tolerance. He said it makes some people feel more secure. It is a matter of perception.**

**Motion was made by Chris Graves to order the Zero Tolerance signs with a limit of six (6) signs. Jo Ann Wilson seconded the motion.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**G. New Development Board/Committee.**

**This was moved to Impact Fee Study.**

**H. Survey on property at Morris and Old Mill Road.**

**Ramah Burns said the field work has been done and Edwards Surveying is completed the paper work to complete survey by the end of this week.**

**I. Proposed amended Ordinance 2011-09 – City Council Agenda’s.**

**Gerry McBride said when Council Members wishes to put something on the agenda he wants them to notify the Mayor and City Secretary. He said it makes sense to change the word from or to and.**

**Chris Graves said he thinks it needs to be either or. He said it does no good to report it to two (2) people. Right now we can give it to the Mayor or City Secretary to request agenda items. If they have to request it to both people we is to say one doesn’t get it. He doesn’t see that it needs to have to notify both.**

**Walt Leonard said if one he on vacation or if one is not available.**

**Jo Ann Wilson said she likes the and instead of or. If you are going to email items it doesn’t take that long.**

**Chris Graves said he hand delivers items. So he has to go to the Mayor’s house and come to city hall.**

**Chris Moore said he emails to both people. He said that’s the way he has always done it.**

**Gerry McBride asked Ramah Burns if she and the Mayor talked if it just goes to the Mayor.**

**Ramah Burns said if it just goes to the Mayor, I would have no way to know if she received it. Just recently Chris Moore wanted on the agenda. Chris Moore called me and asked me about it and I didn’t know anything about it. If the Mayor is out of town or doesn’t check the emails I have no way of knowing she was sent it. She said she appreciates receiving it.**

**Motion was made by Chris Moore to adopt Ordinance 2011-09 amending it with agenda requests will be given to the Mayor and City Secretary. Jo Ann Wilson seconded.**

**Motion carried 3-2. Chris Graves and Cole Blanche opposed.**

Mayor Pro Tem McBride said he wanted to make sure for the record that he allowed any body before the meeting started from the audience if they had something to say they will have the opportunity to do that.

3. New Business

- A. Public Hearing opened at 8:16 pm on re-zoning request from Eric Jones to re-zone approximately 15.22 acres in Jones from Light Industrial to Heavy Industrial – Smith County School Land Survey A-743, Vol 1672, Pg 728 off S. H. 114 East and Iron Horse Ct.

David Wilson said in light of what they decided to do with Impact Fees he suggested they Table this until the study is completed.

Public Hearing was closed at 8:20 p.m.

- B. Action on re-zoning request at 8:20 pm from Eric Jones to re-zone approximately 15.22 acres in Jones from Light Industrial to Heavy Industrial – Smith County School Land Survey A-743, Vol 1672, Pg 728 off S. H. 114 East and Iron Horse Ct.

Motion was made by Chris Graves to accept the Planning and Zoning Commission recommendation to deny the request to rezone the property from Light Industrial to Heavy Industrial.

Mayor Pro Tem said they received several letters in opposition to the rezoning request. Requests from Gary Griffin, Maxine Griffin, Don Griffin, Jimmy Burch, Sheila Melen, and Sharon Bass.

Motion carried unanimously

- C. 2010 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

No comments.

- D. Open Government – (Brief summary of all reports so individuals in attendance will be informed.)

Chris Moore said they did this in the past. This sometimes turned into 2 hours. That's why this is on the consent agenda. To make the meeting flow they need to keep it to the consent agenda.

Mayor Pro Tem McBride asked if the Department Heads could make a one (1) page outline that would be available to the public.



Motion was made by Chris Moore for generalized summary by each department to have a brief summary of their reports. Jo Ann Wilson seconded the motion.

Motion was amended by Chris Moore for all departments to make a brief summary with what they are already turning in. Chief Rose can do a summary of all the calls for that month. To do one month sample run to see if any needs to be changed. Amended motion was seconded by Cole Blanche.

Motion carried unanimously.

**E. Economic Development – Plan of action.**

This was moved to Impact Fee Study.

**F. Overnight truck parking along truck routes and truck parking on access roads. What does the council want to do?**

Jo Ann Wilson said Chief Rose has gotten some calls for a truck parking on a truck route. She said Chief Rose said with Love's coming in he has seen trucks parking on access roads. How do we address it or do we want to.

Chief Rose said he would like to see it where there is no parking except at a truck stop. He said he that some driver's don't want to park in a truck stop and will park on the frontage road on the shoulders. He said he has talked with TX Dot. If we have an ordinance that they can't park there, they will enforce it. We have to put the signs and they will put them up. He said there is three (3) different places for them to park now.

Steve Cole, Chairman of the P & Z said they would look at this. The Council would like them to look at this.

**G. Enforcement of ordinances to clean up our city.**

Jo Ann Wilson said she keeps getting calls that grass needs to be mowed, junk cars to be moved. She thinks the P& Z needs to run with this. She thinks we will see good ordinances. Then they will work with the Police Chief to make sure they are enforced.

**Jo Ann Wilson said she thinks the Planning & Zoning**

**Cole Blanche asked who was able to enforce ordinances on the police force currently.**

**Chief Rose said any officer.**

**Mayor Pro Tem McBride said they maybe looking for a Code Enforcement Officer. This is going to have to be addressed even it means in place of. He said we have a budget workshop coming up. He said budgeting is going to be as lean as a cotton field in a drought. He said we are going to loose a lot of tax dollars with what's going on with the economy.**

**Jo Ann Wilson said she can discuss with Gerry later. But there are a lot of cities addressing this much more efficient.**

#### **H. Use of City Buildings.**

**Chris Graves said his concern is that the city doesn't have control over all their buildings. He has concerns that of citizens in town that have keys that access building that they have condemned at previous meetings and have been told they can't go in or out of them. There are still keys floating around and locks on doors that can access other than city personnel. He said it's a city liability. They need to have unauthorized access to our buildings stopped unless there is an event going on. He said people should be able to rent out our community center since it is a city building. He said there should no one controlling that building other than the city itself. He hears complaints about other people telling other people no or it's under construction or they can't use it.**

**Jo Ann Wilson said they have been renting it out for at least three (3) times.**

**Chris Graves said rules needs to be established and held to stone that it's a city building and they don't need to be occupied other than with city approval. He said if keys need to be issued out for events then keys need to be turned back in when the events are finished. If there are pantries that can't be accessed then why can't room not be accessed and used to their fullest extent on a rental basis without there being some big hoe down with who ever. It should be fair game for anyone that wants to rent it.**

They should have full access to the building. There should no issues with anybody having in the city government having keys to that building like the fire chief or police chief.

Jo Ann Wilson said she didn't know of any problems like that. She said the pantry has been stocked strictly by donations from the seniors. Its paper goods that they don't want to provide when the community center is rented. They have rented out several times lately. They pick up keys and turn them in according to the contract. There are rules and regulations.

Chris Graves asked what the stuff in the pantry being donated to.

Jo Ann Wilson said it's not being donated. It's being utilized by the seniors on Friday.

Mayor Pro Tem McBride asked if things are being donated should they be for everyone.

Chris Graves said so we are providing storage in every city building. He said he would like the city to take control of the city buildings.

Ramah Burns said when someone calls and wants to rent it. They are sent a three (3) page document. They send it back in. We review it for what they want to rent it for. We check the seating to make sure they have the required seating and number of people in the building. Then we contact them. If there is nothing on the day they want it for they rent it. She said she does notify Marie Moore or Jo Ann Wilson that it's going to be rented on a certain day. The key is issued the Friday before and they bring it back on Monday.

Chris Graves asked if anyone has keys to the building on a permanent basis.

Chris Moore said the Fire Department has a key that's locked in the safe. If needed they can get into the building.

Jo Ann Wilson said she has a key and she will be glad to turn her key in if they don't want her to have it. She said she purchases supplies and put them in the pantry.

Bill Childress said he and Marie Moore has a key. He said they have a luncheon on Friday's.

Chris Moore said maybe they need to figure out who has keys and come back and make a decision on how they are going to work with these keys. If they are going to allow the seniors to use the building free or whatever. How are they going to do the keys? Are they going to be allowed to keep them and are they going to have to come up every time to get one. He said they need to get a count on who all has one and why do they have them then come back.

Chris Graves said if we have it in place there nothing to work on. His concern is who all has keys, who can access the buildings. If something happens to them when they are in that building is the city liable. That's his concern.

Mayor Pro Tem McBride said the first thing is to find out who all has a key and see what rules they want to sit down and make sure everyone understands the rules. They aren't trying to step on anyone's toes. We are just trying to get accountability here.

Rodney Taylor said in the military they had sign in and out sheets. The biggest problem is sees right now is they don't know who has access to the building and who doesn't which put in not only in a liability position because if anything comes up missing or stolen you knows who has a key. He said you need to pull the keys in from everybody – change the locks if necessary get news keys and sign the keys back out.

Mayor Pro Tem McBride said the problem is this is city property and the city doesn't have control at the present time.

David Wilson said what he said is a good idea. Once you establish that then you've got no problem. He said a bigger concern that this is the access to that old school building. He said a key has absolutely nothing to do with it. He said as long as the back door is standing wide open you've got that liability he is talking about. He said if they don't get that thing secured and keep people out all the keys control in the world isn't going to matter.

Mayor Pro Tem McBride asked if he wasn't a party to a meeting they had that said to board that place up.

Chris Moore said he didn't think they assigned anybody. It was after Bill's garage sale.

Mayor Pro Tem McBride asked how can they get this secured.

Preston Gilliam said there is all kinds of stuff that needs to be cleaned out of it. He said there are all kinds of chemicals without labels.

Chris Moore asked Ramah when she can get them a dumpster.

Ramah Burns said Monday.

Chris Moore said they have the fire hose out of there. It's been really hot. There still stuff in that room that needs to gone through.

Jo Ann Wilson said it's a lot of work but she likes what Rodney said about the rosters.

Rodney Taylor said he has forms he can modify.

Mayor Pro Tem McBride said madam secretary said there are two (2) people, Chris Moore and Rodney Taylor that will come back with a recommendation on what to do with keys and changing the locks. He said this is a start.

Chris Moore asked do we have any idea how many keys there are.

Cole Blanche said to just change the locks and be done with it.

Mayor Pro Tem McBride said he appreciates them taking this on and to please come back to the next council meeting with a recommendation.

Chris Moore asked if they would authorize him to go get new locks. It's a standard lock. He can go to Munn's and buy one. He said he would get a lock and put it on there.

Mayor Pro Tem McBride they have the ball.

I. Filling City Employment Vacancies.

Chris Graves said he has concerns we don't open up job postings for anybody that might be interested in them. They could be opened up for a 72 hours period and on posted on the city web site.

Jo Ann Wilson said the Mayor will announce vacancies. It doesn't say how you do it or for how long.

Mayor Pro Tem McBride said they just want any openings to be posted on this web site.

Jo Ann Wilson asked Chief Rose if he has ever announced any vacancies. He said he usually has resumes.

Chief Rose said they promote from the reserves. He asked if it would be fair if they posted it when they are planning to move someone up.

David Wilson said it says, "the Mayor shall publicly announce by appropriate means all vacancies to be filled in the City service by other than administrative transfer, temporary promotion, or reinstatement and shall maintain a list of announced vacancies for public inspection. Each announcement, insofar as practicable, shall specify the title, salary, and nature of the job; the required qualifications; whether competition is open to the general public or restricted to City employees; the type of selection procedure to be utilized; and the deadline for an method of application. Each announcement shall contain a statement affirming City commitment to a policy of equal employment opportunity.

Chris Graves said we are getting close to the EEOC regulations that starts at 15 employees.

Jo Ann Wilson said she would like to see Chief Rose to hire and fire. She said he should have that authority.

Chris Graves said the personnel manual needs to be followed.

**J. Residential requirement of Governing Body.**

Chris Graves said with people calling him daily about the issues of the Mayor. He said this has resolved itself with the letter from the Mayor Walt Leonard read.

**K. Pioneer Days**

Mayor Pro Tem McBride said he had a lengthy conversation with the Mayor about Pioneer Days.

Bill Childress said he sent the Mayor about what was going on and he never got a call back. They believe the race it self will bring a lot of people. They want people to see what's here. They also want the city cleaned up.

Dee Romine said Pioneer Days has a web site. They are trying to get maps to figure out parking.

Mayor Pro Tem McBride there one questions. Who is putting on the event? Is it a private organization or is it the city.

Dee Romine said the Senior Citizens of Rhome.

Chris Graves said Bill Childress was appointed to head a committee by a previous council. He said there was nothing stated that the Rhome Senior Citizens as a 501 C3 would take control of it.

Bill Childress said the only reason they did that was because last year the funds from garage sale he put in his checking account. He said because of his health he wanted them in a separate account.

Chris Graves said this has been a city run event that benefited the city and now it's not. An outside source has taken control of it and assumed ownership of all funds coming in and expects the city to provide all services.

Mayor Pro Tem McBride said with the Senior Citizens being a 501 C3 it changes the rules. He said it's not a city function.

David Wilson asked if the city wanted to take on the responsibility for putting on Pioneer Days. Do you want to do it or not? If they dissolve their non-profit status what would happen. He said it can be called off as quickly as it was called on.

Walt Leonard said it would change their relationship with the IRS. It would change how the money is handled but it wouldn't change the fundamental problem of is it city or is it someone else. He said if it's not city then we can't give them anything. He said the city is in a place where they can't.

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Jo Ann Wilson asked if they were no longer a 501 C3 and they were a Senior Group that meets under the umbrella of the city would that allow them to go forward.

Walt Leonard said they would have to create a Department of Senior Services.

Chris Graves said for 23 years this has been a city event run by the Rhome Volunteer Fire Department.

Chris Moore said this has been a Fire Department function with the means they had. When the Parks came in there was money for Parks. They saw they could raise money for the Parks by doing fund raisers. The Parks wanted to help do the boot drive. Most people would think they were giving to the Fire Department.

Pioneer Days was here and they didn't want to do it. He said the Fire Department didn't want to be involved any more.

Dee Romine said they have already put down deposits on things. She was asked to be involved for her talent.

Mayor Pro Tem McBride asked why the group assumed city responsible for doing this.

Chris Graves said they were asked to form a committee. How did it go from a city event to a Senior Citizen Event?

David Wilson said there was absolutely no guidance from the Mayor. He said the City Council organized Pioneer Days. He said there has been a total breakdown between the Mayor and the Committee that was appointed. She made absolutely no attempt to contact them to find out what they were doing. They were out there doing what they thought they were supposed to do. The creation of this 501 C3 was not the thing to do. Can the city council take on the responsibility of giving them guidance as a city entity? The council is going to have to give them some guidance. It could be a real nice deal if everyone will get behind them.

Bill Childress said any funds would go to a building fund for a new community center.



Jo Ann Wilson said in the minutes in March 2010 or 2011. The question was last year was who wants to do this. The minute's states: "Charles Pennington said Bill Childress and Marie Moore would like to organize it. Charles Pennington said he would get with Bill Childress and put the committee together".

Rodney Taylor said it's the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Rhome Pioneer Days. He has heard comments that more stuff is needed. They have vendors coming in, a race, cook off, tractor clubs, etc.

Chris Graves said he doesn't think the city ever gave it up. It's still a city event. It still needs to happen and they have all done an outstanding job. He said the Pioneer Days Committee has done an outstanding job. He said he loves the presentation. He said no checks needs to be issued to Rhome Senior Citizens. He said the city is going to designate where the money goes.

They may choose to put the month back into the community center that they might benefit from and he has no issues with that.

You are doing this not as the senior entity but as the Rhome Pioneer Days Committee that the council appointed. The Mayor dropped the ball. He said a lot of things need to be fixed. The Senior Citizens needs to be removed from the advertising.

Chris Moore said that's the problem they never sat down and they never set up a budget. He doesn't know how they are going to go with it now.

Walt Leonard said if the council wants to turn this into a city event they could. The question that would have to be answered is who is responsible. Is the city giving their blessing and the seniors are putting it on if so what if the actor's shots and it's a real bullet who gets sued. If it should rain all day whose check book is on the line.

Cole Blanche ask if they an accounting on how much have they raised and how much more is needed.

Dee Romine said she needs volunteers. Michelle Pittman is handling the 1K and 5K race. The only thing they have put down is \$1,000 for the race.

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They have received two donations for \$1,000 each for the petting zoo. Sheriff Walker said someone from his patrol is going to contact the Police Chief to see how they can help.

Mayor Pro Tem McBride asked for a report on expenses and revenues you have and what you expect.

Bill Childress said he can have it by Monday.

Walt Leonard the tax free status isn't going to change anything. He would leave it alone for now. He said right now this is a private project.

Jo Ann Wilson said if they can leave it under the city TML would cover it.

Mayor Pro Tem McBride said they would try and schedule a meeting.

Jo Ann Wilson said they need to address Chief Pratt's email.

Chris Moore said that can be addressed and it is a concern about how many people are going to be around the fire hall.

Mayor Pro Tem McBride asked if anyone else had anything to say.

**L. Status of city relationship with non-profit organizations.**

This one was discussed with Pioneer Days.

**M. Budget Workshop date.**

Budget Workshop date was set for July 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

**N. Proposed Resolution 2011-05R – Community Development Block Grant Program.**

Motion was made by Chris Moore to adopt Resolution 2011-05R – Community Development Block Grant Program. Jo Ann Wilson seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

**O. City Administrator**

**Cole Blanche said he thinks we need someone here during office hours. We are operating okay. We are going to need more from our city as businesses come in. Getting a City Administrator here can help take care of a whole lot of situations. He pasted out a job description. He would like to open it up and take a look at some resumes. He wants to get more structure in the city.**

**Jo Ann Wilson asked what he thought it would cost for a city administrator.**

**Chris Moore said they have a City Administrator job description and the position has been created. He said the big deal is the budget is coming up and they will need to work this in the budget. Money wise from interviewing with the last people - \$50,000 will not get you anything. They bumped it to \$65,000. They left it around \$65,000 range and the consensus was they probably needed more. He said that is something they are going to have to sit down in the budget and look at.**

**Cole Blanche said our Mayor is a volunteer position. They are not required to be here. He thinks we need someone that can step up into that role to get some responsibilities done and actually be in the office.**

**Chris Graves said the City Administrator's position is to help the Mayor perform the duties when the Mayor is not here. He said we are already paying someone to do that – she is sitting right over there. He said Ramah is already doing that position.**

**Walt Leonard said the City Administrator is nothing really but the Mayor's assistant. It makes the Mayor's job more flexible. They don't have any independent power.**

**4. Recess to Executive Session at 10:25 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 – Police Chief**
- b. Section 551.072 – Real Property - Park**

**5. No action was taken at 11:45 p.m. on Item 4.**

6. **Future agenda items:**
  1. **Pioneer Days**
  2. **Solicitation Ordinance**
  3. **Survey on Old Mill Road and Morris Street.**
  
7. **Motion was made by Chris Moore and seconded by Jo Ann Wilson to adjourn at 11:45 p.m.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

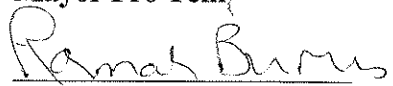
**There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:45p.m.**

**CERTIFICATION:**

**Passed and approved on this 11th day of August, 2011**



**Gerry McBride**  
**Mayor Pro Tem**



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