



**Rhome City Council Meeting  
Minutes  
Regular Session  
September 8, 2011 – 7:00 p.m.**

Rhome City Hall

105 First Street  
Rhome, TX 76078

---

**Council Present: Mayor Mark Lorance, Council Members: Chris Moore, Chris Graves, Jo Ann Wilson**

**Absent: Council Member, Cole Blanche; Mayor Pro Tem, Gerry McBride; City Secretary, Ramah Burns (Council Member Blanche arrived at 7:15)**

**Staff Present: Walt Leonard, City Attorney; Preston Gilliam, Public Works Director; James Rose, Police Chief; Angie Kasinger, Administrative Assistant**

**Mayor Lorance announced a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.**

**Mayor Lorance led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.**

**Announcements:**

**Mayor Lorance announced that Pioneer Days was coming up this Saturday. He also wanted to everyone know that his company, Dannenbaum Engineering in the process of wrapping up work on a couple of projects for the city, the fire hydrant map and the a proposal for the master plan. He is has filled out a conflict of interest and will file that with the city and will "shy away" from any future projects.**

- A. Approval of Minutes**
  - 1. August 11, 2011**
  - 2. August 29, 2011**
  
- B. Acceptance of Reports**
  - 1. Police Department Report**
  - 2. Fire Department Report**
  - 3. Public Works Report**
  - 4. Administration Report**
  - 5. Parks & Recreation**
  
- C. Approval of Check Registers:**
  - August 10, 2011 through September 5, 2011**

**Mayor Lorance would like to pull the Police Report, Jo Ann Wilson would like to pull the Fire Department Report, and Preston Gilliam would like to pull his report. Motion was made by Chris Moore to approve the consent agenda. Motion was seconded by Chris Graves.**

**Motion carried 3-0.**

1. Consent Agenda

Mayor Lorance wanted to pull the Police report because of the equipment request in it and wanted to make sure everyone is aware of it. Chris says if he has got it he should be able to spend it. He said it will be a "wash" with the salary

Chief Rose said he would not be over budget. He also noted that Office Garrett caught two car burglars.

Jo Ann Wilson asked would was doing the evidence room now. Chief Rose said Robin Adair is doing it. Alisa Scheps was doing it but she is gone. Once someone is trained he will have the lady they talked about come out. Jo Ann Wilson said we may or may not want to, she costs about \$3000.00.

Chris Graves said the report looks good. He wanted to know how long Officer Brody Brown has been with us. How long has he been certified? Chief Rose said for more than a year.

Jo Ann Wilson wants to know how we can do an active recruiting campaign. Chris said we have to show some kind of incentives. Most of the people we have gotten in the last year have come from other departments. They do not like to take people away from other areas so they ask them to check with the area they are in first. They do get paid some something per call. It depends in whether they are certified or not, and they can't go over a certain numbers an hour. Chris Moore said they have sent out recruitment flyers in the past and also ran it in the paper.

Jo Ann Wilson said it bothered her that Robert Pratt was the only one responding to the calls on his report. Chris Moore said that is the problem during the day when everybody works. Chris Moore said he and Robert Pratt communicate who is going to cover when. He also said it is more than matter of fighting fires they also need people who are qualified to drive a truck. Jo Ann Wilson asked if a CDL is required to drive the trucks. Chris Moore said that depends, some of the have it and some of them don't. It is not required to drive one during an emergency but driving it back is a different story.

Jo Ann Wilson asked Chris Moore where we should start, should we recommend to look at paying or not paying. Chris Moore is going to bring it up in the workshop, one thing is how to raise the money to do it. They have tried paying an incentive before but it was not properly administered. Chris said they look at every application that comes in.

Jo Ann Wilson asked what are they area in which we can recruit from. We have some from Newark, Boyd, Aurora; it just depends on what district they are in. He encourages them to go to their own district first.

Jo Ann Wilson said Chief Rose made a suggestion of \$50 per call. Chris Moore said we have to look into making sure we are following the rules, he will have to check with other departments. Joann would like to put this in the Workshop to look into.

Preston Gilliam said we are closer to getting a route to take power to the new eastside plant. He has a meeting next Tuesday with Kimley Horn and Oncor about running the power. He is getting bids and would like to talk to Rollin V and get their thoughts on it. He would like to put this in a future workshop. If we receive any large amounts of rain over the next two months we will more than likely need a belt press unit in at the new plant to remove excess sludge from having to waste so much to help remove high ammonia/nitrogen levels @ \$5,000.00. We need to start revisiting some way to remove sludge for the new eastside plant @ 1 year out when its built (Decatur belt press (etc) drying beds are still in question but not very efficient.

Walt Leonard said he had heard that Newark was considering this. It might be good to get everybody together on this.

## 2. Old Business

### A. Report on cleaning up old school.

Mayor Lorange asked what the progress is on the old school. Jo Ann Wilson stated that the seniors have everything out. Chris Moore said they have cleaned out their stuff and ran out of room to dump stuff, everything left in there can stay accepts the weights. Preston Gilliam said they could store them in the water tower. He said his chemicals are all out. Chris Moore said the dumpster is full. They had to clean the fire department so they put stuff in the school but there is more than there enough room for in the dumpsters.

Cole Blanche stated that in the bid for asbestos removal they charge extra for anything left inside that has to be hauled off.

Mayor Lorange asked if there is date we have targeted to seal it.

Chris Moore suggested a wet demolition. Cole Blanche said that he asked about that and it is a lot more because you are charged for the whole building hauled off.

Walt Leonard asked about the runoff. Chris Moore said they had booms all around and the dumpsters are lined with bags.

Chris Graves confirmed that Preston's chemicals out and Chris Moore will get the weights so tomorrow it is ready to be shut up.

Jo Ann Wilson asked who is going to be the go-to guy to button it up. Chris Graves said it needs to be done before Pioneer Days. Chris Moore said they will make sure the back gate is locked and the front door is already locked and the gate is locked. We may need to put some boards up over the windows. Jo Ann Wilson asked about signs that say "Caution, Do Not Enter" signs. Chris Moore said as long as the back door is locked and the gate is locked then we should be okay for Pioneer Days.

**B. Structure at Old Mill Rd and Morris Street**

Jo Ann Wilson said she talked to Ramah Burns and that the building inspector Jason Cottongame said "go for it". Everything in that wall belongs to the City of Rhome nothing is attached to the neighbors. It is free to be taken down. Chris asked about their building being on our property line. Jo Ann Wilson said according to Jason Cottongame there is nothing of the neighbors physically on our property. Chris Graves asked about set backs. Jo Ann Wilson said apparently there were no set-backs in place at the time the structure was built. Chris asked when it was built. Chris said the house is the problem and he questioned when it was built. Walt Leonard said it depends on when it went in and that the tax records might show it. There may be permanent records. Mayor Lorange said it was about six years ago when we did the set-backs.

Chris Graves said we need to move forward with the wall. Chris Moore asked are we going to call someone about tearing it down. Jo Ann Wilson said it needs to be torn down and we need to go out for bids. Walt Leonard said we can ask for proposals instead of going out for bids. Cole Blanche said there is a demolition company that advertises in the Wise County messenger. Mayor Lorange said we could call 4-5 people to get pricing, he asked Preston to do that. Mayor Lorange asked what the price range is, do we want to come back to this next month after we get pricing. Chris Graves said we should come back next meeting. Mayor Lorange agreed.

**C. & D. Structure behind the cabinet shop on Old Mill Road and Mobile Home at 339 North Main Street.**

Mayor Lorange said next is the structure behind the cabinet shop on Old Mill Road. Jo Ann Wilson asked Chief Rose if he had any action on that. He said he would look into it and send a letter and follow up with a citation if necessary. Mayor Lorange asked if that is the same with 339. Jo Ann Wilson said she understands that they are talking to someone with a bulldozer about cleaning it up. Someone has physically cleaned up some of it. Mayor Lorange asked Preston Gilliam to have something on both of those structures by the next meeting.

3. New Business

A. Norm Bulaich – IESI

Norm Bulaich requested rate adjustments. The last time they had a rate increase was 2008. The proposed rate would increase the cost from \$12.27 to \$12.65 and it would take effect October 1, 2011. Mark complimented IESI on their service and said he understands the rate increase.

Chris Graves asked about recycling service. He said they offer it, but for an additional price. What we have now is a "take all" service. Jo Ann Wilson said there would be a lot that might not want it and asked about the cost. Norm said he could come up with a number. Chris Moore said he is okay with the increase, some may have an issue with recycling because they put out a lot of trash. Jo Ann Wilson said we are getting a good deal. Norm Bulaich said this does include commercial businesses. Chris Moore asked if they pick up bulk. He said they do on the second pick up for the week. Chris Moore said we may want to put that on the Review or on the bill. Norm Bulaich said Friday is the lighter day and better for picking up bulk.

Motion to accept increase was made by Chris Moore and seconded by Jo Ann Wilson.

Motion carried unanimously.

B. Workshop date to establish city goals.

Mayor Lorange said we need to set a workshop date either the 20th or the 21st. Chris Graves said Wednesdays are better for him. Preston Gilliam asked is this for department heads and council or just council. Mayor Lorange said just council. Jo Ann Wilson asked what time, everyone agreed on 6:30 on the 21st of September.

4. Future Agenda Items

Preston said sludge disposal, entry way signs - they are dead and look bad. Preston Gilliam said he can take up what is there, put in some weed stop, and maybe some solar panels. Joann said it can come out of the hotel tax.

Chris Graves said the Planning and Zoning Committee wants to know why their items are not on this agenda. Mark said he did not know. Chris Graves said he thinks if Steve Cole turns something in it should get put on the agenda immediately. Mayor Lorange will look into it.

September 8, 2011

Preston Gilliam said he would like to see a new building at the new sewer plant, one that is larger, with a sink with running water. The one that is there is wood, the new one would be metal. If the city can buy the material one of Preston's guys can build it.

Chris Moore made a Motion to adjourn, motion was seconded by Chris Graves.

Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:58pm

**CERTIFICATION:**

Passed and approved on this the 13<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2011

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark Lorance, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Angie Kasinger  
Administrative Assistant