



**City Council Meeting  
Minutes  
Regular Session  
July 12, 2012 - 7:00 p.m.**

Rhome City Hall  
105 W. First Street  
Rhome, TX

**Council Present:** Mayor Chris Moore; Mayor Pro Tem Jo Ann Wilson;  
**Council Members:** Chris Graves, Cole L. Blanche, Michelle Pittman and Louis Godfrey.

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

Mayor Moore led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

**Announcements from Mayor and Council Members.**

Mayor Pro Tem Wilson said Music in the Park was a success. There were approximately 350 – 400 people. She thanked Chief Rose for security, Ronnie Moore for the music, Roger and Lisa Lewis for cook the hot dogs, Marie Moore for organizing the preparation of the food, Tamme Byers did facing Painting, Giant Burger donated 240 + hot dogs and buns and the Dunn's Produce brought the Chilly Penguin Snow Cone stand who sold 163. She thanked the council member's that helped out, Louis, Michelle and Cole. Mayor Chris Moore put the water slide up and monitored kids on it all night long. Merchant's came through with raffle prizes. Everything was free with the exception of the snow cones. The Dairy Queen did cotton candy. It was a success and thank you to everybody. She said cost wise we came in \$400 - \$450.

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

Mayor Moore asked to remove Public Works

Michelle Pittman asked to remove: Police, Fire and Check registers

Preston Gilliam, Public Works Director said the New East Side Wastewater Plant came in \$200,000 more than budgeted. One reason was the bar screen. The pumps in the new lift station rev up slow then get to a higher rpm. With them revving up slow they are going to suck in a lot of trash and they will be pulling the pumps all the time. Every time someone comes out that's going to be \$1,000. He said he had Mela give him a price to install an inline bar screen before it gets to the lift station, 6' deep with a 4' tall bar screen with 2' of free base over the top.

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If for some reason the bar screen gets stopped up the liquid will still flow back into the lift station and not on the ground. Preston said he has talked with TCEQ and don't have a problem with at all. He said the only down fall is price. But it will be easier to do it now before they go on line the middle of August. The price is \$21,900.

Louis Godfrey said it would not be cost effective not to have this.

Mayor Pro Tem Wilson asked if this was in his budget.

Preston Gilliam said no but he didn't build the building that was approved. He said he could move funds around.

Chris Graves asked if he could get a lower price.

Preston Gilliam said when he talked with Jeff at Mela Contraction he asked him to get him a price. It could be low or high. It going to consist of two (2) bar screens – one the main bar screen the other will be you can take either side down and swap the gates and go the opposite direction.

Louis Godfrey asked how soon he needed to know.

Preston Gilliam said they have it set July 26<sup>th</sup> to do a final walk through. The week after that they are going to be ready to make the tie in the sewer. He said Mela already has all the equipment on site.

Preston said the other issue. He said the road going to the sewer plant is a gravel road. There is a place that is washed out on both sides. It takes all the water coming off the railroad track and all the water that comes out of Crown Point. They have already replaced the culvert in this one area twice. There is a wash out with a drop off of 4 ½ feet on one side. He had Jeff with Mela give him another price two come in and put two (2) 18" tin horns in the ground and a concrete crossing in that area where the water runs off. The price is \$10,100.

Louis Godfrey said it's probably costing us more in the long run than if we would do it right.

Preston said if it rains a lot they are going to sink.

Motion was made by Louis Godfrey, seconded by Jo Ann Wilson to allow Preston to get these two (2) things fixed.

Preston said they still need to write a check to Decatur for the drying box for \$20,000. This was approved well over a year ago. They are within a few weeks of needing it here to install it.

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Preston said the only other thing he wanted to ask for tonight is have they seen the cover Chris Hulsey built over the table. Since they have a new waste water plant he would like covers built over the motors and generator to keep the sun off of them. And possibly depending on the sound of the blowers some sort of a muffle for Crown Point. He said he would recommend that even though the Eastside Plant has been there for 10 years to put cover that plant also for approximately \$600 more. The total cost would be \$2,000 for supplies and all the labor in house.

Preston said concerning the fence in the Family Park he needed to know how they want it. He only likes to do things once. He said they can knock out both waste water plants and the Family Park.

Mayor Moore said he has seen cars pull up so closed the front of the car is over the sidewalk and even driven upon the basketball court.

Mayor Pro Tem Wilson said why they don't look at the pipe fence in the front right now. She said she was against putting up a fence at all.

Amended motion was made by Louis Godfrey and seconded by Cole Blanche to approve a pipe fence in front of the Family Park

Mayor Pro Tem Wilson said she wasn't going to approve the amended motion because she was thought she was just voting for the sewer stuff.

Motion carried 4-1. Jo Ann Wilson opposed.

Mayor Moore asked if Michelle Pittman had anything. She asked if we have the money for all of these projects.

Mayor Moore said the fence at the Family Park can come out of the park budget.

Preston Gilliam said the \$10,000 for the culvert can also be done at a later time.

Louis Godfrey said the council has approved the projects and when fund become available he can do them.

Preston Gilliam said a former council approved \$15,000 for a building at the West Side Wastewater Plant. He has put that off because of other projects.

Michelle Pittman said she wanted to say was a comment about Ordinance violation laws. She said she likes this law and she thinks the way he follows up is a good job.

Jo Ann Wilson said she would like to ask about the electronic speed sign that that belongs to the County the Chief was going to put on Virginia Lane.

Sheriff Walker said it is broken but Decatur and Bridgeport has one and he would check on it.

Michelle Pittman said she got the fire report that Chief Pratt emailed concerning the five (5) no responses which included three (3) medical calls and what did that really mean?

Mayor Moore said that with the No Responses everyone works during the day. They just have the man power. What's going to happen is if everything works right within 3 minutes we get a second tone then another 3 minutes they are third tones then the county will tone the closest department. On medical calls Wise County EMS is toned on the first call. They are going to be there no matter what. On medicals they will be there and they will take care of it.

Mayor Pro Tem Wilson asked if they received any applications.

Mayor Moore said the last one they had they didn't meet the background requirements. He said they have talked with a couple people that work at the Speedway.

Chris Graves concern was if they are turning down qualified people. He thinks we shouldn't be turning down anyone that's certified. He said we could always use their help.

Chris Graves said the second letter on code enforcement should be a citation. He said he didn't think there should be a second letter.

Chief Rose said usually the warning letter takes care of the violation. He said if they don't comply he has to write a second letter.

Mayor Pro Tem Wilson said he could do away with the post card. She said the person that owns the lot at the corner of Aurora and Randall hasn't cleaned up the lot. Chief Rose said he keeps it mowed if he keeps after him. She said yes but he's not cleaning it up. He said he needs to go talk with him. He knows where he works and he will go over and talk with him. She said she thinks it should go straight to a citation. Because they have been told then a month later they do the same offense.

Chris Graves said it's taking too long. He said we can change the ordinance that repeat offenders get a citation.

Michelle Pittman said she asked Ramah Burns to run the P & L just for the month to see if we took in more or spent more. She said she was going to look at that every month what we are spending.

Motion was made by Cole Blanche and seconded by Louis Godfrey to approve the consent agenda.

Motion carried unanimously

**A. Approval of Minutes:**

1. June 14, 2012 – 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. June 12, 2012 through July 9, 2012

Discussion and necessary action concerning the following agenda items:

**2. Old Business**

**A. Aerial Map**

Karen Smith from Aerial Map said the cost will be approximately \$3,700 for 200 maps. She said we can put out zoning map on them and high light the major freeways. All of this can be used for Economic Development. You can show where Industrial is going to go. It is a way to promote your city.

Mayor Moore said we have 4 sponsors right now to share in the cost.

Motion was made by Cole Blanche seconded by Louis Godfrey to go forward and put this in the Mayor's hands.

Motion carried unanimously.

**B. Two (2) opening on Planning & Zoning Commission.**

Motion was made by Jo Ann Wilson, seconded by Louis Godfrey to re-appoint Nell Fernandez and Jimmy Johnson.

Motion carried unanimously.

**C. Two (2) opening on the Parks Board.**

Motion was made by Jo Ann Wilson, seconded by Louis Godfrey to appoint Robin Holmes and Deborah Becraft.

Motion carried unanimously.

**D. Pioneer Days**

Louis Godfrey said he thinks it too late to have Pioneer Days. He said it's going to take 5 or 6 months to plan. He said it should have started being planned back in January. He said it will take 10 to 12 dedicated people to put this together.

Mayor Pro Tem Wilson said they have planned it for September 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Mayor Moore said last year they had cars parked everywhere. Someone said let's do it in the Family Park. He said the big issue is parking. He said people were parking in people's front yards last year. He said they could do it in April.

Louis Godfrey said they have plenty of time to do an October Fest or Holiday in the Park.

Chris Graves said they need to see who is going to coordinate. He said he thought the Parks should do it. They could coordinate it every year and plan for it a year in advance. That can be the responsible for the Park Board every year.

Louis Godfrey said Pioneer Days didn't have anything to do with Parks & Recreation. It's the celebration of the history of Rhome and it's forming. They can do this for a fund – raiser for the Parks.

Ronnie Moore said they have sent \$50 to the BBQ Association. They are trying to come up with ideas to raise money to put do a water park for next summer.

Mayor Moore said for them to have their meeting and come back next month with their ideas.

Chris Graves said they are going to be in the same boat next year as they are this year. The Parks can be in charge of it on a yearly basis and they can put it in the hands of the Parks and be done with it.

Motion was made by Chris Graves and seconded by Cole Blanche to put the Parks Board in charge of Pioneer Days and let us know the plans at the August 9<sup>th</sup> council meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

3. New Business

A. 2011 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

No comments were made.

Motion was made by Louis Godfrey, seconded by Cole Blanche to accept the 2011 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report.

Motion carried unanimously.

B. Sheriff's Department – Antenna on Water Tower

Sheriff David Walker thanked the council for allowing him to come.

He told Chief Rose if he would call Randy Singleton in Bridgeport the electronic speed trailer was ready.

Sheriff Walker said they are switching to a new radio system at the County. Theirs was built in 1972 and they have out grown it. They are using \$500,000 of grant money and 1 million in County money. They are going from using one (1) tower to using five (5) or six (6) towers and they can expand as the county grows. They are going to have some digital channels and talk on some antilog channels so everybody won't have to buy all of this new radio equipment. They are looking for tower space for antennas. He said our water tower is the best that would fit for everyone. Not just the county but Highway Patrol, Rhome PD, Fire Department and everybody. They were coming into to ask the city if we would look at a contract that the commissioner's court attorney drew up.

They will be shooting a micro wave link to Decatur to the tower located on Rose Avenue behind the EMS Station. It will turn and shoot a micro wave link to Walnut Creek water tower off of CR 2048. Then that one will shoot over to Bridgeport and hit there and the other one shoot up to self radio which is in Montague County. It will be a receive only tower. There are no transmitters on the Rhome water tower. They have talked with the RF Engineers with the company they are working with that has the County contract and there could be some potential interference. So they put filters and moved some money around in their own budget so they were able to put filters on the Rhome water tower to keep from interfering with anything the RFD has or RPD or Public Works.

Mayor Moore said the only other thing is they need to move the wires off the ladder.

Sheriff Walker said he asked Commissioner's Court to go out for bid on tower work. He asked if the inside of the water tower air-conditioned/heated. A concrete building can be built outside and trench the conduit inside. The contract is for 10 years with two (2) additional 10 years.

Mayor Moore said Walt Leonard has the contract.

Walt Leonard said the only thing he wanted to see in there is that they will not interfere with anything we are currently doing. He said that is pretty normal.

Sheriff Walker said with the new system they have 98% - 99% even past Five Points from a mobile radio a car not from handle helds. He said later they may get the FCC to license them with a repeater. Their grant deadline is October 31<sup>st</sup>. They have to have the equipment installed by October 31<sup>st</sup>.

Motion was made by Louis Godfrey and seconded by Michelle Pittman to approve the installation of the Sheriff's Department antenna on the Water Tower.

Motion carried unanimously.

Sheriff Walker said they can't talk about this but he heard Ms. Burns talk about Code Red. They have a new system at the Sheriff's Office can be county wide that they pay about \$17,000 a year. They are just getting it up and running. To save the city some money he will send the information to us. They are going to go out to the surrounding cities about this. They can send out information about Pioneer Day's – don't drink the water whatever they want to use it for.

**C. Bar Screen prior to the Lift Station at the New East Side Wastewater Plant.**

This was already discussed.

**D. Mowing easements and bar ditches.**

Preston Gilliam said they spend a lot of time on the bar ditches. He wanted to see what the property owner is responsible for.

This was sent to the Planning & Zoning Commission look at that ordinance.

**E. Codification of Ordinances – Memorandum of Understanding.**

**F. Budget Work Shop date.**

Budget work shop date was set for July 26, 2012 at 6:30 pm.

**G. June Code Compliance List**

Walt Leonard said the  
This was talked about during Committee Reports.

**H. Signs posted inside City Limits.**

Preston Gilliam, Public Works Director will get with Bill Nelson, TX Dot on the removal of signs.

**I. Vehicle Barrier around Family Park.**

This was discussed in Committee Reports.

4. Recess to Executive Session at 8:24 pm at 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 551.071 – Pending and threatened litigation – McMahon Contracting, L.P.
  - b. Section 551.071 – Aurora Water Contract
5. No Action was taken in Open Session at 8:45 pm- Executive Session Item 4.a. – 4.b.
6. Future agenda items:
  1. Court of Record
  2. Codification of Ordinances
7. Motion was made by Chris Moore and seconded by Chris Graves to adjourn at 8:38 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

CERTIFICATION:

Passed and approved on this 9<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2012.

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Chris Moore  
Mayor

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Ramah Burns  
City Secretary