



**City Council Minutes  
Special Session  
May 16, 2014 – 7:00 pm**

Rhode City Hall  
105 First Street  
Rhode, TX 76078

**Council Present: Mayor Chris Moore; Mayor Pro Tem Jo Ann Wilson; Council Members: Michelle Pittman, Louis Godfrey, Charles Pennington and Ronnie Moore.**

**Staff Present: Ramah Burns, City Secretary and Preston Gilliam, Public Works Director**

- 1. Proposed Ordinance 2014-05 – Canvassing returns on the City Election held May 10, 2014 for the purpose of electing a Mayor and two (2) Council Members for a two (2) year term.**

**Mayor**

Louis Godfrey	117
Mark Lorange	88

**Council Members**

Michelle Pittman	90
Tim W. Robison	79
Jason M. Miller	38
Jo Ann Wilson	122
Shawn Holliman	48

**Motion was made by Jo Ann Wilson, seconded by Charles Pennington to adopt Ordinance 2014-05 canvassing returns on the City Election held May 10, 2014.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**Mayor Chris Moore administered the OATH OF OFFICE to Mayor Elect Louis Godfrey.**

**Mayor Godfrey presented a Certificate to Mayor Moore and said on behalf of the City Council, the residents we would like to thank you very much for servicing as Mayor of the City.**

**Mayor Moore said he turned the seat over to you Mr. Mayor.**

**Mayor Louis Godfrey administered the OATH OF OFFICE to Council Members Elect Jo Ann Wilson and Michelle Pittman.**

**1. Call to Order and Announce a Quorum at 7:05 p.m.**

**2. Appoint Mayor Pro Tem**

**Mayor Godfrey asked for motions.**

**Charles Pennington made a motion for Jo Ann Wilson. She has done a good job and for her to remain Mayor Pro Tem.**

**Ronnie Moore made a motion for Michelle Pittman.**

**Mayor Godfrey said they have a tie. He said a tie is never easy to break for anyone. He said Jo Ann Wilson has been the Mayor Pro Tem for the last two (2) years and she has done the job excellent. He said he also believes in diversity is important, too. With that being said his vote will be for Michelle Pittman as Mayor Pro Tem.**

**3. Bank Account signatures**

**Motion was made by Charles Pennington, seconded by Ronnie Moore to update bank signatures at Wells Fargo and Woodhaven National Bank.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**4. Accept Robert Pratt's resignation as Fire Chief**

**Jo Ann Wilson asked if they had a letter.**

**Acting Fire Chief he would get the minutes from the meeting.**

**Motion was made by Charles Pennington, and seconded by Ronnie Moore that they verbally accept Robert Pratt's resignation as Fire Chief.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**5. Approve Jason M. Miller as Fire Chief as voted by Fire Department Members on May 12, 2014.**

**Motion was made by Charles Pennington, seconded by Ronnie Moore to approve Jason M. Miller as Fire Chief, Chris Moore as Assistant Fire Chief, Michelle Pittman as Lieutenant and Katie Wacasey as Captain.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

## **6. Fire Department – fireworks**

**Chief Miller said the Brigade is going to sell fire works as a fund raiser this year. He said this has been a tradition of the Fire Department for a long time. The Brigade is going to start it up for them again. They are going to sell on the corner of B. C. Rhome across from the Big Z which is County property. It will not be inside the city limits. He said what they are asking are they wanted to have a safe place for people to shoot off their fireworks. They will have a certain list of what they can use. He said bottle rockets and martyr shells are on the list. They have the land owner's permission – Josh Davis property adjacent to the Fire Department. There will be adults out with them at all time. It will be a safe place for them.**

**Charles Pennington asked if there would be a fireman present.**

**Jason Miller said everyone plans on being at the station. They would be a designated person.**

**Jo Ann Wilson this will be in violation of our ordinance. What are they going to do about that? And what does this do to their International Fire Code? She said she is concerned about the noise factor because of the people that live nearby. What kind of hours are they thinking about?**

**Chief Miler said the exemptions the Fire and Police to sell. He**

**Dee Romine said Saturday, June 28th and Thursday and Friday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> from dusk to 10 pm. She said there will be different sections roped off for age groups.**

**Brandon Davis said he thinks it a great idea because they have no place to take kids to pop fireworks and who better to monitor a fireworks situation than fireman. They are going to do it whether you like it or not. So why not put it in a controlled environment.**

**Mayor Godfrey said every year you hear fireworks going off so why not have a controlled environment. He said we can issue a permit.**

**Michelle Pittman said Section 7 of the ordinance talks about the permit and it will be lawful if you have a permit.**

**Jo Ann Wilson asked if this would be an exception if there is a burn ban.**

**Chief Miller said he didn't see a problem with it if there is a burn ban. They are going to mow it.**

Motion was made by Charles Pennington, seconded by Ronnie Moore to allow the Fire Department to pop fireworks on the corner of B. C. Rhome and School Road until 10 p.m. on June 28<sup>th</sup>, July 3<sup>rd</sup> and July 4<sup>th</sup>.

Motion carried 4-1. Jo Ann Wilson abstained.

**7. Itemized budget for Fall Festival**

Deborah Be Craft said she would like to welcome the new Mayor and Council. She has given them an itemized budget for the Fall Festival. The budget is for \$7,250 but would like to ask for \$8,000 to cover any extra cost they haven't thought of at this time. The costs of the items were researched as much as possible. The event will be two (2) and they are advertising Motel 6 so we will be able to use Hotel/Motel Tax. They're having games and prizes this year. Any items not used during the Fall Festival can be saved and used at Christmas. They are working on getting a storage building either in trade for sponsorship or leaved very cheap to store decorations and supplies used for every event such as banners, yard signs etc. They have been given free listings on Calendar of Events in Texas Highways Magazine, Texas Travel Guide Magazine, Texas Electric Coop Magazine for the North District, all 3 has a viewing audience of close to 2 million people total. Tractor and car clubs are listing us on their calendar of events. There will be ads in the Wise County Messenger and the up-date along with the listing on the city page, the festivals Facebook page and other websites. They are waiting to hear if the VFD is going to do a BBQ themselves or if they are going to do a Fire Department BBQ cook-off with other fire departments. Our Fire Department can start Rhome's 1<sup>st</sup> annual Fire Dept BBQ cook-off. The festival team is really working hard this year and they have a wonderful group of people with great ideas. She asked the Mayor and Council to approve the budget.

Motion was made by Ronnie Moore, seconded by Charles Pennington to approve the budget of \$7,250.

Motion carried unanimously.

**8. NISD Contract on water**

This will be on the June 12<sup>th</sup> agenda as we didn't receive figures from NISD.

**9. Well #5**

The council said for Preston Gilliam to research to see if he can find a tank to replace Well #5 on Pecan Court.

**10. Filters at West Side Sewer Plant**

Motion was made by Charles Pennington, seconded by Ronnie Moore to approve purchasing the material for the filters at the West Side Sewer Plant in the amount of \$23,972.00.

Motion carried unanimously.

**11. Street repairs on Randall Street**

Preston Gilliam, Public Works Director said the water leak caused Randall Street and part of their parking lot to need repairing for approximately \$28,000.

Motion carried unanimously.


Motion was made by Charles Pennington, seconded by Michelle Pittman to adjourn at 7:55 pm.

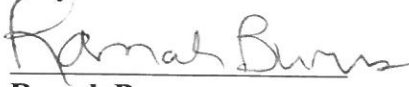
Motion carried unanimously

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

**CERTIFICATION:**

Passed and approved on this 16<sup>th</sup> day of June 2014.

  
Louis Godfrey  
Mayor

  
Ramah Burns  
City Secretary