



**City Council Minutes
Regular Session
January 8, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.**

Rhome City Hall
105 First Street
Rhome, TX 76078

Mayor Pro Tem Charles Pennington called the meeting to order at 7:00pm, and announced a quorum. Council members present were Ronnie Moore, Joann Wilson, David Wilson, and Michelle Pittman.
Mayor Pro Tem Charles

Staff Present: Walt Leonard, City Attorney; Thomas Pennington, Police Sergeant; Sam Dorsett, Public Works Director; Darrell Fitch, Volunteer Fire Department; and Angie Young, City Secretary.

Mayor Pro Tem Pennington led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements from Mayor and Council Members

Council member Michelle Pittman advised that one of the Volunteer Firemen, Kelly Greenlee, lost his father and members of the Volunteer Fire Department would be traveling to Oklahoma to attend his funeral in a show of support to Mr. Greenlee and his family.

Mayor Pre Tem Pennington advised that the city received a pretty good check from the county today.

Citizen Presentation and Public Input:

Jimmy Johnson advised that he would like to give input regarding agenda item “E” at the time it is being discussed.

Bob Robertson addressed council regarding his concerns about the traffic coming out of the Dollar general Parking lot. Mr. Robertson feels there should be a stop sign placed at the exit of the parking lot in order to slow down traffic exiting the parking lot. Mayor Pro Tem Pennington advised Mr. Robertson that he would have Public Works Director Sam Dorsett look into the situation.

Consent Agenda

Councilmember Joann Wilson inquired about the totals and deposits on the boot drive. Fireman Fitch advised that he would get this information to City Hall. Council member Joann Wilson also inquired about the amount needed for the Motorola radios. Fireman Fitch advised that the cost is approximately \$3500.00 for the style that will enable the best communications. He explained some of the issues with radio reception in certain areas which will be alleviate4d with the new style radios. He also addressed the new for more gear and equipment for the new volunteers. Mayor Pre Tem Pennington visited with Fire Chief Jason Miller this week and they are waiting to get the funds together to order. Fireman Fitch advised that they would need three or four radios. Council member Moore made a motion to authorize the purchase of the radios and Council member Joann Wilson seconded the motion. All voted aye, the motion carried.

There being no further discussion of the Department Head Reports, Council member David Wilson made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda. Council member Moore seconded the motion. All voted aye, the motion carried.

Regular Agenda

A. Bill Norman handed out copies of documentation and addressed council regarding the property lines on the property near Well No. 5 belonging to his son, Greg Norman. Mr. Norman gave a history of the events leading up to the agreement for the city to purchase the property from the Norman's to put a well on. Mr. Norman provided letters sent that outline the dimensions of the property. He stated there were negotiations over money but the dimensions never changed. He stated that last fall the city put up a fence, without calling him first, that was 6'4" east of the location outlined in the original agreement. He is asking the council to have the fence moved. Mayor Pro Tem Pennington noted that the property had been surveyed three times and it came up the same. Council member Moore asked where the original starting point of the survey was. Mr. Norman feels that the starting point may have been wrong and the recent surveys have only repeated the error. Mayor Pro Tem Pennington advised that he would contact the original surveyor to look into it. Council member Joann Wilson asked what it would take to remedy the situation. Mr. Norman advised that both sides would have to be moved. No action was taken pending further review.

B. Police Sergeant Thomas Pennington addressed council regarding the replacement of police vehicle Unit #112 and Unit#114. He gave the history on the vehicles, noting the poor condition they are in and the potential for danger. Council member Moore also noted the dangerous situation these cars pose. Council member Joann Wilson asked what type of replacement they were looking at. Sergeant Pennington stated it is a 2015 Chevy Silverado 4WD pickup truck. He advised that the quote includes a \$2500.00 trade in for both vehicles and a municipal discount worth \$9000.00, leaving the final price at \$29,857.00. Sergeant Pennington also advised that the Chief would be the one driving the vehicle and his cruiser would be put into service. Council member Pittman inquired about the need for other bids as a requirement. Councilmember Joann Wilson stated that it is required for purchases over \$50,000.00. Mayor Pro Tem advised that the city has spent a substantial amount of money repairing these vehicles, almost as much as monthly payments. Council member Pittman advised that the funds will come from the General Funds savings account. City Attorney, Walt Leonard advised that they consider putting \$10,000.00 and making the first payment after October 1st so that it can stretch into the next fiscal year budget. Mayor Pro Tem Pennington advised that he and city staff will contact Government Capital to see about financing. Council member Ronnie Moore made a motion to approve the use of budgeted funds for this purchase and authorize the Mayor Pro Tem to contact Government Capital concerning financing. David Wilson seconded the motion. All voted aye, the motion carried.

C. Council member Pittman addressed the parking issue on Redbud Street. She noted that there had been an ordinance passed prohibiting it, although residents on that street have always parked on the street due to the fact that most of the homes are single car space driveways and garages. She mentioned that recently someone was cited for parking on the street. Council member Joann Wilson noted that this was a concern when passing the ordinance. City Attorney Walt Leonard suggested amending the ordinance and refrain from writing citations until then, and suggested addressing exceptions for certain structures depending on size and type. Council member Joann Wilson made a motion to direct city staff to prepare an ordinance amending the previous ordinance. Council member David Wilson seconded the motion. All voted aye, the motion carried.

D. Mayor Pro Tem gave explanation on the upgrade to a radio read meter system. . Public Works Director Sam Dorsett went into detail on how these meters work and some of the additional services provided with the system. He stated that they have a 20 year life/warranty. He advised the cost of this system is Council member Pittman asked whether there was any grant funding for this type of thing. Mayor Pro Tem Pennington said he would as his contact. Besides the meters there is an issue that requires immediate action with the filter at the sewer plant according to Mr. Dorsett. He gave a history

of the repairs made as they relate to the existing problem. He gave details as to the cost difference between putting a “band-aid” on the problem and actually completely reworking the filter. He advised that the problem will result in TCEQ fines if unaddressed. He also stated that the band-aid fix will last until next budget year. Mr. Dorsett advised that the estimated costs for this repair is for approximately \$6000.00, if the media is okay then it will be around \$24,000.00. Councilmember Joann Wilson asked about looking into grants for this as well. Council member Joann Wilson made a motion to approve the repairs to the filter at the sewer plant and Ronnie Moore seconded the motion. All voted aye, the motion carried.

E. Mayor Pro Tem gave background on the request to construct a carport at 117 Troxell. Mr. Nathan Robertson handed out photos of what the carport will look like. Mr. Robertson advised that he has obtained all the necessary paperwork from the city. City Attorney Walt Leonard recommended that per ordinance that it must be compatible with house and with neighborhood and that it will not obstruct any views. Mr. Robertson confirmed that the paint and trim will match the house but that there is not one like on his street, his will be the first. Council member Pittman inquired as to whether it had been passed by the Planning & Zoning Board, to which Council member Moore advised that it had. Council member Moore made a motion to approve Mr. Robertson’s request to construct a carport at 117 Troxell. Council member David Wilson seconded the motion. All voted aye, the motion carried.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

CERTIFICATION:

Passed and approved on this the 22nd day of January, 2015.

Charles Pennington
Mayor Pro Tem

Angie Young
City Secretary