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MINUTES OF RHOME CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Meeting Date: Thursday, December 14, 2017

Meeting Time: 7:00 pm

Call to Order and Establish a Quorum

Mayor Pittman Di Credico called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. and stated that Council Member Crenshaw is absent and that there is one vacant position.

Council Members Present:

Mayor Michelle Pittman Di Credico
Mayor Pro Tem Sam Eason

Council Member LeeAnne Mackowski
Council Member Charles Pennington

Council Members Absent:

Council Member Kenny Crenshaw

City Staff Present:

City Attorney Carvan Adkins
Police Chief Sam Love
Fire Chief Darrell Fitch

Public Works Director Lance Petty
City Secretary Shannon Montgomery

Invocation

Council Member Pennington gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Citizen Presentations and Public Input for Future Agenda Items

Ms. Robin Holmes, 504 Stirling Road, Rhome, Texas stated that the Council needs to accept all businesses into Rhome and be welcoming to them and also stated that there is no need for two Council meetings a month.

Mr. Terry Priest, 216 Cheyenne Trail North, Rhome, Texas requested a street light at the entrance of the Chisholm Creek Subdivision. Public Works Director Petty stated that Oncor has already been contacted and Oncor is trying to determine where to bring in the electricity for the light.

Mr. Rusty McCabe, 1229 Alliance Boulevard, Rhome, Texas, addressed the Council about the noise from the concrete plant and shared the level of noise that he recorded and added that the backup alarms on the trucks is a nuisance as well. Mr. McCabe also thanked Code Compliance Officer Douglas for his help with the junk vehicles in the area.

Announcements from Mayor and Council Members

Mayor Pittman Di Credico shared that the Administration Offices and Municipal Court has moved into their new location at 501 South Main and stated that the city meetings and Municipal Court will continue to hold their meetings at the Community Center.

Mayor Pittman Di Credico also stated that there will be no Council meeting on December 26, 2017.

Consent Agenda

A. Minutes of November 28, 2017

B. Department Reports: Police, Fire, Public Works, Municipal Court, and Administration

C. Board Minutes: Parks & Recreation and Planning & Zoning Commission

Motion made by Council Member Mackowski, seconded by Council Member Pennington, to accept the Consent Agenda Items as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

First Public Hearing

D. City Council to conduct the first Public Hearing to consider a request for Annexation being a tract of land out of the W.W. Fain Survey, Abstract No. 316 and the Benjamin Lewallen Survey, Abstract No. 507 and situation in Wise County, Texas, said tract being the same tract of land described in the deed to Grady Morris Estate containing 48.752 acres of land

Mayor Pittman Di Credico opened the First Public Hearing at 7:10 pm.

Bryan Klein, Ion Design Group, LLC, and Marshal Baker, Anthem Advisors, presented their request for Annexation and addressed questions from Council and members of the audience.

Mayor Pittman Di Credico closed the first public hearing at 7:13 pm.

E. City Council to conduct a Public Hearing to consider a request for a Special Exception to allow cumulative zoning in the Commercial Districts in the Old Town Rhome area to the extent that it will be possible to place residential uses within such Districts of any sort within the boundaries of Old Town Rhome. The applicant is requesting the Special Exception, within Old Town Rhome, for property being 0000 Old Mill Road, Rhome, Texas and being Lots 1 through 4, Block 8 of the Original Town of Rhome, Wise County, Texas, according to the plat thereof recorded in Volume 5, Page 640, Deed Records, Wise County, Texas

Mayor Pittman Di Credico opened the Public Hearing at 7:13 pm.

Mr. Randy Genzel, property owner, stated his request for a Special Exception to allow cumulative zoning for property being Lots 1 through 4, Block 8 of the Original Town of Rhome, Wise County, Texas, according to the plat thereof recorded in Volume 5, Page 640, Deed Records, Wise County, Texas and addressed questions from the Council and members of the audience.

Mayor Pittman Di Credico closed the public hearing at 7:17 pm.

Regular Agenda – Old Business

F. Discussion and any necessary action regarding a request for a Special Exception to allow cumulative zoning in the Commercial Districts in the Old Town Rhome area to the extent that it will be possible to place residential uses within such Districts of any sort within the boundaries of Old Town Rhome. The applicant is requesting the Special Exception, within Old Town Rhome, for property being 0000 Old Mill Road, Rhome, Texas and being Lots 1 through 4, Block 8 of the Original Town of Rhome, Wise County, Texas, according to the plat thereof recorded in Volume 5, Page 640, Deed Records, Wise County, Texas

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Eason, seconded by Council Member Mackowski, to grant the Special Exception to allow cumulative zoning for property being Lots 1 through 4, Block 8 of the Original Town of Rhome, Wise County, Texas, according to the plat thereof recorded in Volume 5, Page 640, Deed Records, Wise County, Texas. Motion carried unanimously.

G. Discussion and any necessary action regarding communications software/services and authorizing the mayor to expend funds for the project

Ms. Robin Holmes, 504 Stirling Road, Rhome, Texas asked where the funds are coming from for this project. Mayor Pittman Di Credico stated that the funds were coming from the technology account in the FY2018 Budget that was passed in September 2017.

Mayor Pittman Di Credico stated the specifics and costs for Code Red and Blackboard and stated that both were for a three year agreement.

Motion made by Council Member Mackowski, seconded by Council Member Pennington, to utilize Code Red for \$1400 a year and to authorize the mayor to expend funds for the project.

Motion amended by Council Member Mackowski, seconded by Council Member Pennington, to utilize Code Red for \$1900 a year and to authorize the mayor to expend funds for the project.

Motion to expend \$1900 a year and to authorize the mayor to expend funds for the project carried unanimously.

H. Presentation, discussion and any necessary action regarding Outdoor Warning Sirens and authorizing the mayor to expend funds for the project

Ms. Robin Holmes, 504 Stirling Road, Rhome, Texas stated that Council promised the residents an outdoor warning system with the bond awarded in September 2017 and asked Council to give the residents what they promised.

Council heard proposals from two companies – American Communications and Storm Sirens, Inc. Each company explained their systems and addressed questions from the Council.

Motion made by Council Member Mackowski, seconded by Council Member Pennington, to have both companies re-quote for coverage for all of the City and revisit at the January 11, 2018 Council meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

I. Discussion and any necessary action regarding an Ordinance amending Section 13.04.004, "Installation and Maintenance of Service Line" of the City of Rhome Code of Ordinances

Motion made by Council Member Mackowski, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Eason, to approve an Ordinance amending Section 13.04.004, "Installation and Maintenance of Service Line" of the City of Rhome Code of Ordinances. Motion carried unanimously.

Regular Agenda – New Business

J. Discussion and any necessary action regarding the resignation of Council Member Colton Lorange and filling the vacancy left on Council

Motion made by Council Member Mackowski, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Eason, to accept the resignation of Colton Lorange. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Robin Holmes, 504 Stirling Road, Rhome, Texas asked that Council appoint a person who is diverse and transparent.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Eason, seconded by Council Member Mackowski to postpone this agenda item until January 11, 2018 to allow all Council members be present to appoint its next member. Motion carried 2-1-0 with Mayor Pro Tem Eason and Council Member Mackowski voting for and Council Member Pennington voting against.

K. Discussion and any necessary action regarding the creation of a Beautification Fund to be placed on the City's utility bill

Ms. Robin Holmes, 504 Stirling Road, Rhome, Texas asked how the Beautification Fund would be funded and what projects would be completed out of this fund.

Parks and Recreation Board Chair Tommie Eason explained that the Parks and Recreation Board would like to create a Beautification Fund to build sidewalks, curbs and install street lights along Main Street. The Beautification Fund would be placed on the Water Bill and it could either be a mandatory or voluntary contribution. Eason stated that Council has two options to either make this mandatory or a voluntary:

1. Mandatory Contribution - place a Proposition on the Ballot and allow the residents to vote; or
2. Voluntary Contribution – please a line on the water bill, giving residents an option to donate to the Beautification Fund.

Ms. Elaine Priest, 216 Cheyenne Trail North, Rhome, Texas, stated that there are grants that the City could apply for that would help this project.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Eason, seconded by Council Member Pennington, to add the \$1 voluntary option to the water bill with an explanation of the Beautification Fund. Motion carried 2-1-0 with Mayor Pro Tem Eason and Council Member Pennington voting for and Council Member Mackowski voting against.

L. Discussion and any necessary action regarding the creation of a city administrator position

Mayor Pittman Di Credico stated that she had not received qualified applications for the Building Official position and asked Council if they were not opposed to the idea of reallocating the funds set for a Building Official to fund a City Administrator Position. Consensus of the Council was to move forward and bring back a City Administrator Position Job Description to the January 11, 2018 meeting for review.

Second Public Hearing

M. City Council to conduct the second Public Hearing to consider a request for Annexation being a tract of land out of the W.W. Fain Survey, Abstract No. 316 and the Benjamin Lewallen Survey, Abstract No. 507 and situation in Wise County, Texas, said tract being the same tract of land described in the deed to Grady Morris Estate containing 48.752 acres of land

Mayor Pittman Di Credico opened the Second Public Hearing at 9:26 pm.

Bryan Klein, Ion Design Group, LLC, and Marshal Baker, Anthem Advisors, presented their request for Annexation and addressed questions from Council and members of the audience.

Mayor Pittman Di Credico closed the first public hearing at 9:32 pm.

Future Agenda Items

Council Member Mackowski asked for an agenda item to review the Citizen Presentation Parameters.

Council Member Pennington asked for an agenda item to review the need of having two Council meetings a month.

Mayor Pro Tem Eason asked for an agenda item to review all ordinances for all City Officers.

Adjourn

Motion made by Council Member Mackowski, seconded by Council Member Pennington, to adjourn. The motion to adjourn carried unanimously. Mayor Pittman Di Credico adjourned the meeting at 9:35 pm.

Minutes approved the 11th day of January 2018.

Michelle Pittman Di Credico

Michelle Pittman Di Credico,
Mayor

Shannon Montgomery

Shannon Montgomery, TRMC
City Secretary

