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MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING OF THE RHOME CITY COUNCIL

Meeting Date: Thursday, February 8, 2018

Location: Rhome Community Center, 261 North School Road

Meeting Start Time: 7:00 pm

Call to Order and Establish a Quorum

Mayor Pittman Di Credico called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm., announced a quorum and stated that Council Member Pennington is absent.

Council Members Present:

Mayor Michelle Pittman Di Credico
Mayor Pro Tem Sam Eason
Council Member Elaine Priest

Council Member Kenny Crenshaw
Council Member LEEANNE MACKOWSKI

Council Members Absent:

Council Member Charles Pennington

City Staff Present:

City Attorney Carvan Adkins
Fire Chief Fitch
Police Chief Sam Love

Public Works Director Lance Petty
City Secretary Shannon Montgomery

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Council Member Crenshaw gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Citizen Presentations and Public Input for Future Agenda Items.

Resident David Gilbert, 430 Old Mill Road, addressed Council, stating the new City Hall sign is too bright at night and asked Council to comply with the lighting ordinance. Gilbert also asked Council to look at other options and not to be in a rush when considering action to renovate the Municipal Courtroom and Council chambers at 105 West First Street.

Announcements from Mayor and Council Members

Mayor Pittman Di Credico thanked American Towing for donating 60 cases of water to the Rhome Fire Department.

Mayor Pittman Di Credico also stated that the Council Meetings are open; residents have an opportunity to speak at the Citizen Presentations portion at the beginning of the meeting and asked that the residents fill out a Citizen Participation Form if they wanted to speak, as outbursts will not be tolerated. Mayor Pittman Di Credico asked that the Council Members allow others to speak and not to talk over each other.

Consent Agenda

A. Minutes of January 23, 2018

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 Priest, to approve the Consent Agenda Items as presented. Motion carried unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda.

Regular Agenda – Old Business

D. Discussion and any necessary action regarding the City's Financial Audit for Fiscal Year 2016-2017

Auditor William Spore explained the City's accounting practices, presented the findings of the audit and addressed questions from Council.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Eason, seconded by Council Member Mackowski, to accept the audit for Fiscal Year 2016-2017. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Discussion and any necessary action regarding Request for Proposals for Outdoor Warning Sirens and authorizing the Mayor to expend funds for the project

Mayor Pittman Di Credico listed the bids received:

- Storm Sirens, Inc. proposed three bids - \$50,000, \$46,000, and \$42,000
- Safety Com, Inc. proposed two bids of \$51,131.20 and \$68,689.60

Motion made by Council Member Crenshaw, seconded by Council Member Mackowski, to postpone this agenda item to the March 8, 2018 meeting to allow Council time to review the bids. Motion carried unanimously.

F. Discussion and any necessary action regarding Request for Proposals for upgrading the City's Financial and Utility Billing Software and authorizing the Mayor to expend funds for the project

Mayor Pittman Di Credico listed the bids received:

- Able Software – Bid 1 \$23,791 and Bid 2 \$26,582
- Prithibi Consulting Services – \$400,000
- CSA Software Solutions and Diversified Technology – \$19,394
- STW – \$78,830, plus \$5,296 for hardware
- Fund Accounting Solutions – \$27, 875

Council discussed the bids, bid specifications, and addressed Staff needs:

- Able Software – Did not meet criteria, only presented Utility Billing
- Prithibi Consulting Services – over budget
- CSA Software Solutions and Diversified Technology – concerned about AMR compatibility
- STW – \$78,830, plus \$5,296 for hardware
- Fund Accounting Solutions – \$27, 875 – does not have payroll module

Motion made by Council Member Mackowski, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Eason, to award the contract to STW and authorized the Mayor to expend funds for the project.

G. Discussion and any necessary action regarding an Ordinance freezing property taxes for persons over the age of 65 and/or disabled

Motion made by Council Member Mackowski, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Eason, to approve an Ordinance freezing property tax rates for persons age 65 and over and/or the disabled, with revisions. Motion to approve the Ordinance passed unanimously.

H. Discussion and any necessary action regarding creating part-time position for recreation center

Council Member Crenshaw stated that Council does not need to get involved in this situation.

Mayor Pittman Di Credico stated that she has received positive feedback from the article about Marie Moore and that some options may be coming forward.

Motion made by Council Member Mackowski, seconded by Council Member Priest, to continue this agenda item to the March 8, 2018 Council meeting. Motion carried 3-1-0, with Mayor Pro Tem Eason, Council Member Mackowski, and Council Member Priest voting for the continuation and Council Member Crenshaw voting against the continuation.

I. Discussion and any necessary action regarding adopting 2018 proposed revisions to the City of Rhome Personnel Manual and Employee Handbook adopted July 11, 2013 revised September 12, 2013

Mayor Pittman Di Credico asked that this item be postponed until the March 8, 2018 Council Meeting.

Motion made by Council Member Mackowski, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Eason to postpone this agenda item to the March 8, 2018 Council meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Regular Agenda – New Business

Mayor Pittman Di Credico stated pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code, the Council may convene into executive session at any time during the meeting if a need rises for the City Council to seek advice from the City Attorney concerning any item on this agenda, to discuss pending and contemplated litigation, or a settlement offer, or to discuss a matter in which the duty of the attorney to the City Council under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Board of Texas clearly conflicts with Chapter 551.

Mayor Pittman Di Credico convened the Council into Executive Session at 8:34 pm.

Mayor Pittman Di Credico reconvened the Council into Regular Session at 8:57 pm.

J. Discussion and any necessary action regarding the permitting and design phase of the Eastside Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion project

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Eason, seconded by Council Member Crenshaw, to give the City Attorney until 5:00 pm Monday, February 12, 2018 to obtain an executed contract with Wasteline Engineering and if no executed contract then move to the next in line. Motion carried unanimously.

K. Discussion and any necessary action regarding the building renovation of the municipal court room/council chambers located at 105 W. First Street

Mayor Pittman Di Credico briefly updated the Council on the cost projections for the proposed design for the municipal courtroom / council chambers located at 105 West First Street to be approximately \$450,000. The Mayor then gave the Council two options: first, do not do anything with the buildings at this point, second, updated the current community center for municipal court and city meetings.

Consensus of the Council was to have Staff bring recommendations to the March 8, 2018 meeting.

Motion made by Council Member Crenshaw, seconded by Council Member Mackowski, to postpone this agenda item to the March 8, 2018 Council meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

L. Discussion and any necessary action regarding asbestos protocol for main Old School Building located at 261 N. School Road and authorizing the mayor to solicit bids regarding the same

Motion made by Council Member Mackowski, seconded by Council Member Crenshaw, to proceed with the asbestos protocol for the Old School Building, located at 261 North School Road, and authorizes the mayor to solicit bids. Motion carried unanimously.

M. Discussion and any necessary action regarding proposed amendments to Constitution and By-Laws of the Rhome Volunteer Fire Department adopted September 29, 2008

Mayor Pittman Di Credico and Fire Chief Fitch stated the amendments made to the Constitution and By-Laws consisted of removing duplication of information and removing procedural/protocol items, which will be added to the Standard Operating Guidelines.

Motion made by Council Member Crenshaw, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Eason, to adopt the changes to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Rhome Volunteer Fire Department as written. Motion carried unanimously.

N. Discussion and any necessary action regarding a Resolution naming the Official Newspaper of the City for the 2018 calendar year

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Eason, seconded by Council Member Mackowski, to adopt a Resolution naming Wise County Messenger as the official newspaper for the City of Rhome. Motion carried unanimously.

O. Discussion and any necessary action regarding an Ordinance revising Section 1.02.010 rules of order for meetings of city council, commissions and committees

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Eason, seconded by Council Member Crenshaw, to accept an Ordinance revising Section 1.02.010 rules of order for meetings of city council, commissions and committees as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

P. Discussion and any necessary action regarding an Ordinance revising Section 1.10.001 official depository; persons authorized to sign checks

Motion made by Council Member Mackowski, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Eason, accepting an Ordinance revising Section 1.10.001 official depository as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Q. Discussion and any necessary action regarding an Ordinance defining the powers of the mayor

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Eason, seconded by Council Member Mackowski, to postpone this agenda item to the March 8, 2018 Council Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Future Agenda Items

Mayor Pro Tem Eason asked for a review of the City Engineer contract.

Adjourn

Motion made by Council Member Crenshaw, seconded by Council Member Mackowski, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Minutes approved the 8th day of March 2018.

Michelle Pittman Di Credico

Michelle Pittman Di Credico,
Mayor



Shannon Montgomery

Shannon Montgomery, TRMC
City Secretary