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**Mayor**  
Michelle Pittman  
Di Credico

**City Council**

**Mayor Pro-Tem,**  
**Place 3**  
Elaine Priest

**Place 1**  
Josh McCabe

**Place 2**  
Kenny Crenshaw

**Place 4**  
Sam Eason

**Place 5**  
Leeanne  
Mackowski

**City**  
**Administrator**  
Cynthia Northrop

**City Attorney**  
Carvan Adkins

**City Secretary**  
Shannon  
Montgomery

**Fire Chief**  
Darrell Fitch

**Police Chief**  
Sam Love

**Public Works**  
**Director**  
Sean Densmore

## MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION OF THE RHOME CITY COUNCIL

**Meeting Date: Thursday, June 25, 2020**

**Location: VIA TELEPHONE CONFERENCE**

**MEETING START TIME: 6:30 PM**

### Call to Order and Establish a Quorum

Mayor Pittman Di Credico called the meeting to order at 6:30pm and announced a quorum of Council Members present.

#### ***Council Members Present:***

Mayor Michelle Pittman Di Credico  
Mayor Pro Tem Elaine Priest  
Council Member Josh McCabe

Council Member Kenny Crenshaw  
Council Member Sam Eason  
Council Member Leeanne Mackowski

#### ***City Staff Present:***

City Administrator Cynthia Northrop  
City Attorney Carvan Adkins  
City Secretary Shannon Montgomery

Court Clerk Kristi Adams  
Police Chief Sam Love

### Public Presentations and Input

City Secretary Montgomery read a presentation by Deborah BeCraft, 360 West Second, Rhome, Texas, into the record:

*"I am asking that the council approve waiving fees for city limit based non-profits and charities. There are not that many in the city limits of Rhome and the publicity of a non-profit holding an event here is great PR for the city and for the pavilion. The city makes money from our events even though we have never been charged any fees. They make money because the public that comes to our events spends money at the gas stations, convenience stores and restaurants and the city gets sales tax dollars from that. People that have come to our events have liked it and ask about having their own event here. It is advertising Rhome in a positive light, and that is never a bad thing and always needed. We have had people at our event ask about housing here and ask about business opportunities here. Even if the city never gets one dime from our events what they get in advertising, good will and positive PR could not be paid for.*

*I understand that the city needs to recover and/or make some money on the rental of the pavilion. But I think that they could waive the fees for the non-profits that are based in the city limits only. This would be along the same lines as the difference in pricing for residents and non-residents. We have a wonderful park and great pavilion but it has been grossly under promoted. The city needs to promote the pavilion rental to host weddings, family reunions, company picnics, and other such events. There could even be outdoor corporate seminars. It needs to be aggressively promoted in order to make money for the park and rec dept, not just on the city website. Reach out to local and area businesses, corporations and manufactures. Find websites, Facebook pages and other social media to promote the rental of the pavilion.*

*I will again ask that the council consider waiving fees for non-profits that are based in the city limits of Rhome."*

### **Announcements from Mayor and Council Members**

Mayor Pittman Di Credico made the following announcements:

- Wise Recovers Economic Relief Fund kicks off on Monday, June 29, 2020, Staff has shared with local businesses affected and has posted information on both Facebook and the website
- The voluntary Rhome Beautification Fund is on this month's utility bills
- July 9<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting will be virtual
- The deadline to apply for the annual Boards and Commissions appointments is 5pm, Thursday, July 2, 2020

### **Consent Agenda**

*All items under this section are recommended for approval for the Consent Agenda. These items are of a routine nature and require only brief deliberation by Council. Council reserves the right to remove any item on the Consent Agenda for further deliberation.*

#### **A. Minutes of City Council Regular Session dated June 11, 2020**

Motion made by Council Member Crenshaw, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Priest, to approve the June 11, 2020 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes as presented.

Mayor Pittman Di Credico asked for a roll-call vote:

Council Member McCabe:	Aye
Council Member Crenshaw:	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Priest:	Aye
Council Member Eason:	Aye
Council Member Mackowski:	Aye

Motion carried unanimously.

### **Public Input**

#### **B. Receive Public Input regarding proposed fiscal year 2020-2021 budget**

Shirly Mize, 170 Russell Street, Rhome, Texas, made comments and asked questions of the proposed fiscal year 2020-2021 budget:

- Concerned that the budgeted amount for General Fund Hiring/Testing Expenses is too low.
- Does not understand where the marketing analysis is coming from for payroll and wages budget items; feels residents should see the breakdown
- Does not understand why the City is budgeting for Rolling V platting and permitting. Mayor Pittman Di Credico stated that platting and permitting is part of the contract with Rolling V
- Questioned the street repair budget
- Questioned passing credit card fees to residents versus Staff working harder if more residents pay by check or cash
- Questioned whether or not there was funds for emergency repairs in the budget

**Regular Agenda – Old Business**

**C. Discussion regarding proposed fiscal year 2020-2021 budget**

Council Member Eason asked, in regards to the budgeted Police Overtime wages, if it was time to hire another officer.

**D. Discussion and update on Revised Budget Schedule for the Fiscal Year 2020-2021**

Mayor Pittman Di Credico highlighted the budget schedule changes:

- July 9 Meeting – budget and inventory
- July 23 Meeting – budget
- July 25 – City will receive certified property values
- July 30 – Special Council Meeting – review budget with certified property values
- August 27 – Possible Public Hearing on Budget
- September 3 – Special Council Meeting for Public Hearing on Budget
- September 10 – Adopt Budget and Tax Rate

**E. Update, discussion and any necessary action regarding Municipal Complex Renovation Project**

Council discussed the basic design service fees for the Municipal Complex Renovation Project, including the Fire Station façade upgrade and the Community Center renovations as requested at the June 11, 2020 Council Meeting. The additional projects would cost an additional \$48,000 in addition to the \$150,000 design service fees of the Municipal Complex and exterior rendering.

Council discussed piecing the projects and seeking alternative funding.

Mayor Pittman Di Credico stated that the \$150,000 has been covered, there is no source for the additional \$48,000 in the current year's budget. Di Credico questioned if Council wanted the additional \$48,000 to come out of the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 budget. Discussion ensued regarding adding the additional projects or moving forward with just the Municipal Complex.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Priest, seconded by Council Member Crenshaw, to approve the amendment of adding the Fire Station Façade upgrade and Community Center renovations design fees, fund from the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 budget, while focusing on obtaining alternative funding.

Mayor Pittman Di Credico asked for a roll-call vote:

Council Member McCabe:	Aye
Council Member Crenshaw:	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Priest:	Aye
Council Member Eason:	Aye
Council Member Mackowski:	Aye

Motion carried unanimously.

## **Regular Agenda – New Business**

### **F. Discussion and any necessary action regarding changing temporary vendor fees to exclude non-profit organizations**

Mayor Pittman Di Credico stated this agenda item was brought before Council to clarify Council's position on vendor fees. Di Credico stated not all fees would be excluded, but in regards to the pavilion and whether Council wants to consider as a whole, non-profits, having that exemption for the sum of the rental fees. This would not exclude the health permits as this is a public safety concern for all events that requires a health inspection.

Council consensus was to keep the fees as is; no action taken.

### **G. Discussion and any necessary action regarding Telephone and Internet Services**

City Administrator Northrop provided a provider cost comparison showing an approximate \$10,000 savings moving to CenturyLink for both telephone and internet services, including fiber and new voice over internet phones. Northrop recommended moving to CenturyLink for both telephone and internet services and cancel NextLink altogether.

Motion made by Council Member Crenshaw, seconded by Council Member McCabe, to switch to CenturyLink for both telephone and internet services and to terminate NextLink contingent upon getting CenturyLink setup and working.

Mayor Pittman Di Credico asked for a roll-call vote:

Council Member McCabe:	Aye
Council Member Crenshaw:	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Priest:	Aye
Council Member Eason:	Aye
Council Member Mackowski:	Aye

Motion carried unanimously.

### **H. Discussion and any necessary action regarding Website Updates**

City Administrator Northrop stated that Staff has received five proposals from various providers ranging from \$2,000 to \$9,000. Northrop asked Staff to rank the different vendors; and the recommendation is to proceed with Revize. The down payment is \$500 and the new site could be up and running within 60-90 days.

Motion made by Council Member Eason, seconded by Council Member Crenshaw, to accept Staff's recommendation and authorize Staff to negotiate with Revize and bring back a contract to Council.

Mayor Pittman Di Credico asked for a roll-call vote:

Council Member McCabe:	Aye
Council Member Crenshaw:	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Priest:	Aye
Council Member Eason:	Aye
Council Member Mackowski:	Aye

Motion carried unanimously.

### **I. Discussion and any necessary action regarding Interlocal Agreement with Tarrant County for Cooperative Purchasing Program**

Motion made by Council Member Eason, seconded by Council Member McCabe, to approve the Interlocal Agreement with Tarrant County for Cooperative Purchasing Program.



Mayor Pittman Di Credico asked for a roll-call vote:

Council Member McCabe:	Aye
Council Member Crenshaw:	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Priest:	Aye
Council Member Eason:	Aye
Council Member Mackowski:	Aye

Motion carried unanimously.

**J. Discussion and any necessary action regarding proposed sale of older model out of service fire engines**

Mayor Pittman Di Credico stated that the City has received an offer for two out of service fire engines, one quint and one 1994 engine, both out of service, not being used. Di Credico continued stating that five years ago, Council approved putting the engines up for sale; there have been no offers until now. The Mayor is requesting Council to approve the cash offer.

City Attorney Adkins stated that the engines are considered salvage/surplus property and the sale is legal.

Motion made by Council Member Crenshaw, seconded by Council Member Mackowski, to move forward and accept the cash offer.

Mayor Pittman Di Credico asked for a roll-call vote:

Council Member McCabe:	Aye
Council Member Crenshaw:	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Priest:	Aye
Council Member Eason:	Aye
Council Member Mackowski:	Aye

Motion carried unanimously.

**K. Discussion and any necessary action regarding proposed use of Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) and authorizing the Mayor to expend funds for the City's remaining allotment on eligible expenses**

Mayor Pittman Di Credico reminded Council of the City's \$106,315 allotment from the Coronavirus Relief Fund. Twenty percent of the allotment was for the economic relief of the city's businesses affected by COVID-19. The remaining funds, \$85,052 can be mitigated to use for COVID-19 related expenses the City has incurred. Di Credico needs authorization from Council to spend these funds on backup uniforms for both Fire and Police, an extractor for the Fire Department, washer/dryer for the Police Department, AEDs for the Community Center, Fire and Police, cleaners, masks, thermometers, hand sanitizer, etc.

Motion made by Council Member Eason, seconded by Council Member Mackowski, authorizing the Mayor to expend funds from the Coronavirus Relief Fund on eligible expenses.

Mayor Pittman Di Credico asked for a roll-call vote:

Council Member McCabe:	Aye
Council Member Crenshaw:	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Priest:	Aye
Council Member Eason:	Aye
Council Member Mackowski:	Aye

Motion carried unanimously.

## **Adjourn**

Motion made by Council Member Mackowski, seconded by Council Member McCabe, to adjourn.

Mayor Pittman Di Credico called for a roll-call vote:

Council Member McCabe:	Aye
Council Member Crenshaw:	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Priest:	Aye
Council Member Eason	Aye
Council Member Mackowski:	Aye

Motion carried unanimously; meeting adjourned at 8:09pm.

**Minutes approved the 9th day of July 2020.**

*Michelle Pittman Di Credico*

Michelle Pittman Di Credico,  
Mayor



*Shannon Montgomery*

Shannon Montgomery, TRMC  
City Secretary