



Rhome Record

December – 2023

Merry Christmas Rhome Friends!

As we close out the calendar year, we wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas filled with joy and time with your loved ones. City Staff have enjoyed being a part of the community and look forward to all that 2024 has to bring for our region and Rhome!

Quik Trip Delayed Opening - In recent conversations with QT, Staff learned the store opening will be delayed until after the first of the year. We had hoped for an earlier date; however, there are final items to wrap up and training of the new staff team.

You may have noticed that our QT looks a little different than others you have visited. We have been working with them to reduce the water needs on the site. The company has installed the trees and shrubbery according to the concept plan; however, they have also installed rock coverage instead of grass in the open areas. This will lower the water consumption and help us manage our water supply. QT will manage the site to make sure it is maintained and doesn't end up with weed growth.

We also worked with QT to have a new rock wall installed along the property line between their site and our Fire/EMS and Public Works buildings. As part of our partnership with them, the wall was installed at no cost to the city. This will help us ensure our site is more secure and the new wall should last for many years.

ELECTION DATE TO ROLLBACK TAX RATE

As we brought to you in our last newsletter, Council voted to keep the tax rate the same for the 23-24 budget year as our previous year. They further directed staff to restrict the approximate \$200,000 in funds for infrastructure/roadway projects. This option was based on feedback received from the resident survey and the need for improvements in the city.

As a petition to protest this option was submitted, the residents will now have the opportunity to vote on the tax rate on Saturday, the 4th of May, 2024.



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Regional Water Meeting

You may have read that Wise County recently hosted a county wide water meeting to discuss our future water needs and opportunities. This was a good first step in identifying and addressing water consumption and access for the next several decades.

What you may not have heard is that many of the cities in southern Wise County have also been meeting for several months to discuss how we can partner with each other in a variety of ways to provide services. The partnership with Boyd and New Fairview for court and police services was one result of these discussions. Mayors and Council Members from Boyd, Aurora, New Fairview, Rhome, and Paradise met in New Fairview last week to learn from the Upper Trinity Groundwater Conservation District representative. Stay tuned for progress!

Important Dates to Remember:

- ✓ Santa Sighting, Monday, December 4th
- ✓ Bulk Trash Pick-up, Tuesday, December 5th
- ✓ City Hall Closing at Noon, Friday, December 8th for Staff Development
- ✓ Santa Sighting, Monday, December 11th and 18th
- ✓ City Hall Closed – Monday, December 25th and Tuesday, December 26th to observe the Christmas Holiday

Meetings at the Marie Moore Educational Center (Community Center next to the Fire Dept.)

- ✓ Planning & Zoning – Cancelled for December
 - ✓ Council Meeting(s) – December 14th at 6:00 p.m.
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Surrounding Celebrations/Events/Information:

- ✓ City of Boyd, Christmas in Boyd, Dec. 11th, 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., Boyd Community Center and Community Christmas Party, Dec. 12th, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., Boyd Community Center
- * Please check each organization/event's website for any changes.
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Electronic Newsletter Option:

If you would prefer an electronic version of the newsletter, please email us at cityadministrator@cityofhome.com with the email address you would like us to send it to each time we publish.