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Mayor
Patricia Mitchell

City Council

Place 1
Jimmy Johnson

Mayor Pro-Tem,
Place 2
Michelle Tye

Place 3
Randall Loftis

Place 4
Kristi King

Place 5
Kasey Shumake

City
Administrator
Amanda DeGan

City Attorney
Carvan Adkins

City Secretary
Shaina Odom

Fire Chief
Scott Estes

Police Chief
Eric Debus

Public Works
Director
Jesus Dominguez

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE RHOME CITY COUNCIL

Meeting Date: Thursday, October 12, 2023

Regular Session: 6 p.m.

Amended for Executive Session Items

Regular Session: 6 p.m.

Call to Order and Establish a Quorum

Invocation

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag

Honor the Texas Flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, One state under God, One and indivisible

Public Comments

1. *The Council is not permitted to take action on or discuss any comments made to the Council at this time concerning an item not listed on the agenda. However, a Council Member or Mayor may make a statement of fact regarding the item, make a statement concerning the policy regarding the item and/or may propose that the item be placed on a future agenda or direct the City Administrator to contact the individual to address. If you are attending the meeting via Live Streaming, and you would like to make a Public Comment, you must email the City Secretary at citysecretary@cityofrhome.com prior to 4 pm on the day of meeting and must identify each subject you plan to present to be recognized.*
2. *If the writer of a Public Comment is unable to read their own comment, it should be given to a friend, family member, or associate, that is able to attend in person and read the statement in their stead.*
3. *Public Comments made in person require the speaker to submit the sign-up form to the City Secretary prior to the meeting, and the form must identify each subject the speaker plans to present.*
4. *A statement of no more than 3 minutes may be made. There will be no yielding of time to another person. Comments should be directed to the entire Council, not individual members. Engaging in verbal attacks, or comments intended to insult, abuse, malign, or slander any individuals shall be cause for termination of time privileges and removal from Council Chambers.*

- Deborah BeCraft

Announcements from Mayor and Council Members

- City Hall Closed on October 20, 2023, from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. for Staff Training/Development
- City Council Meeting October 26, 2023 @ 6 p.m.

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.

1. Minutes from Council Meeting held on September 28, 2023 **(City Secretary)**

Minutes from September 28, 2023 were tabled until the next meeting. Mayor Mitchell requested to move items 2 and 3 to regular session.

2. Approval of Interlocal Agreement with Wise County **(Fire Chief)**

Council member Loftis made a motion to accept the Wise County Interlocal Agreement, Council Member Shumake seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Approval of Mutual Aid Agreement with Tarrant County **(Fire Chief)**

Council Member Loftis made a motion to accept the Mutual Aid Agreement with Tarrant County, Council Member Shumake seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Monthly Staff Reports and Board Minutes

All items under this section are for informational purposes only; no action will be taken by Council.

1. Departments: Administration, Building & Development, Fire Rescue, Municipal Court, Police and Public Works (Department Heads).

Regular Agenda

Discussion and any necessary action for the following:

1. Organizational Update **(City Administrator)**

City Administrator, DeGan, went over a power point, attached, explaining a majority of the projects being handled by staff over the last month, including the Newsletter, upcoming development, and the budget. She also spoke with the council members regarding water and wastewater needs. No action was taken. Discussion only.

2. Public Speaking Verbiage on Agenda **(Mayor Mitchell)**

Mayor Mitchell requested the verbiage on the agenda be removed from the agenda or condensed. Council Member King made a motion to place it on the public comment sign up form, and condense it on the agenda. Council Member Shumake seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

3. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds Review **(City Administrator)**

Council discussed the use of the remaining ARPA funds. Approved expenditures include, \$16,000 on technology set up for Cyber Security, \$13,700 to move to a cloud-based environment versus in house servers, and \$30,000 for the Senior Center. Council Member King made the motion to approve, Council Member Shumake seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously. Council requested the list be updated and brought back to the next meeting for further allocations.

4. Wise County Appraisal District Nominations (**City Administrator**)

No action was taken. Deadline passed.

5. Additional Water Source(s), Grants, and Financing Options Update (**Council Member Loftis and City Administrator**)

City Administrator, DeGan, went over a PowerPoint, attached, regarding Water Funding Programs. She explained each loan program available and the expectations of each process. No action was taken.

6. Public Works Trucks (**City Administrator**)

Council received an update on the public works trucks that were originally ordered in March of 2022. The trucks were never built, and the city could not get an answer from the dealership about when the trucks would make it to the line. Staff was consistently unable to reach anyone at the dealership, they got to the point of not answering calls or emails. Shaina Odom, City Secretary, was able to cancel the contract with the dealership for non-performance. A few dealerships were contacted and they either did not have the stock or did not participate with Buy board. After many hours of searching for dealerships to fill the order, Shaina located a dealership in East Texas with the ability to provide. Jesus Dominguez, Public Works Director, has been working with the dealerships with quotes, he received 3 quotes from different dealerships. Council Member King made a motion to move forward with the purchase of 3 diesel trucks with an additional cost of \$60,000. Council Member Shumake seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session

Pursuant to the following designated section of the Texas Government Code, Annotated, Chapter 551 (Texas Open Meetings Act), the Council may convene into executive session to discuss the following:

1. Section 551.071 Consultation with Attorney - pending or contemplated litigation, settlement offer or to seek advice from attorney.
 - Truck Purchase Contracts for Public Works – **Removed- Placed in Regular Session**
2. Section 551.072 Deliberation regarding Real Property - purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property if deliberation in an open meeting would have detrimental effect on position of the governmental body in negotiations with a third person.
3. Section 551.074 Personnel – discuss appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of a public officer or employee, or hear complaint or charge against officer or employee in executive session unless officer or employee requests a public hearing.
4. Section 551.087 – Deliberations regarding Economic Development Negotiations – to discuss or deliberate regarding commercial or financial information that the City has received from a business prospect that the City seeks to locate, stay, or expand in or near the City and with which the City is conducting economic development negotiations.
 - Hickory Street Development Project

Council entered into executive session at 7:20 pm.

Council reentered regular session at 7:51 pm

Regular Agenda (Resume)

1. Action to be taken from Executive Session discussions

No action was taken from executive session

Future Agenda Items

(Agenda items are due by 5 p.m. on the Wednesday of the week prior to the Council meeting)

Adjourn

Council Member Johnson made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Shumake seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm

Patricia Mitchell

Patricia Mitchell,
Mayor

ATTEST:

Shaina Odom

Shaina Odom
City Secretary

