

Ransom Canyon City Council Meeting Minutes  
Regular Meeting – December 10, 2013  
Ransom Canyon City Hall, 24 Lee Kitchens Drive

1. Call to Order/Silent Meditation

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Robert Englund. Council members present were Jana Trew, John Schmersey, Billy Williams, Lyle Way, and Donna Clarke. A moment of silent meditation followed.

2. Minutes of Meeting

The minutes of the Regular November 12, 2013 meeting were approved on a motion made by Billy Williams, seconded by Lyle Way; motion carried unanimously.

3. The Financials

The financial reports and the November 2013 claims and demands were approved on a motion made by Donna Clarke, seconded by John Schmersey; motion carried unanimously.

4. Presentation of 2012-2013 Audited Financial Statements

David Hettler presented the Audited Financial Statements to the Council. Highlights include a net position increase of \$210,968 and the donation of two assets; the park and the Ransom Canyon Center Water Line from the City of Lubbock. Mr. Hettler stated that “everything looks good.” The Audited Financials will be placed on the January 2014 City Council meeting agenda for approval.

5. Water Usage Rate Adjustment – Hoffman, 3 Stirrup Lane

The Council considered relief for the Hoffman’s \$8,920.31 water bill that resulted from a leak that went undetected for a long time. After hearing arguments from Mrs. Hoffman and city staff, the following motion was made by Donna Clarke: to bill the Hoffman’s for 110,000 gallons (double their previous usage) at the regular city block rates and then to bill them the remainder of the usage at the city cost. That motion was seconded by Lyle Way. The motion passed 3 to 2 with Donna Clarke, Lyle Way, and Jana Trew voting for the motion and John Schmensey and Billy Williams voting against the motion.

6. Discussion of new water rates for Ransom Canyon

The council discussed water rate increase options for January. Options include not increasing the rates, increasing them 3%, 5%, or the full pass through of 7.8%. Ordinances will be prepared for January’s meeting where the council will vote on a rate.

7. Building Review Committee

The BRC met on November 25, 2013 to consider plans for new construction at 8 West Lake Shore Drive. Those plans were pending approval and have since been approved.

## 8. Department Reports

**Administration:** Murvat Musa reported the following:

- ❖ The election process will begin very soon and there are many changes to the election laws this year. Murvat will be attending the Election Law Seminar in Dallas next month as well as a meeting at the County Elections Office later this week and will report back how any of the new laws will affect us. Those whose seats expire in May 2014 include Lyle Way, Jana Trew, and Billy Williams.

**Court Report:** Gary Bellair reported the following:

- ❖ The Court had no activity.

**Operations:** Cory Needham reported the following (Harold Needham was unable to attend the meeting):

- ❖ The roads were well salted and sanded during the most recent ice storm, and the city is prepared for another should that occur.

**Police:** Wayne Rawls reported the following:

- ❖ There were three accidents: one of a fire hydrant that was damaged and which resulted in a water line main break, and two car accidents from the ice storm.
- ❖ On Saturday night the back hill had to be closed because guests leaving a party from the Ranch House could not get up the road and their cars were sliding down sideways. It was re-opened on Sunday morning.
- ❖ The annual Chapel Tour of Homes is this Thursday and the police and fire departments will be there to assist.
- ❖ Wayne reported that he received his Master Peace Officers license.

**Fire:** Rand McPherson reported the following:

- ❖ There were no fire or medical calls this month.
- ❖ Rob Keinast was able to get 10 sets of bunker gear for our fire department through a program with the city of Lubbock and the Texas Forrest Service.
- ❖ The annual fire department Christmas party is December 21<sup>st</sup> at 6 pm at the Ranch House; the Mayor, City Council, and staff are invited.

**Library:** Kim Copeland reported the following:

- ❖ The Library Christmas Card funds raiser just ended with 125 people donating almost \$4,000.
- ❖ The annual Library Christmas Party will be December 17<sup>th</sup> at the Library and everyone is invited.
- ❖ The Slatonite has been covering the Library for its newspaper a lot lately and there have been many articles about all the programs the library has to offer.
- ❖ The annual grant money for the Library has been received.

9. POA Report and Citizen Comments:

- ❖ Linda Williams reported that the Chapel Tour of Homes will be this Thursday and encourages everyone to attend. There will be a contest between local charities that decorated trees for the event. People will vote for their favorite tree and the charity that wins will receive 10% of the proceeds. Also, this year's ornament, which is the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, is available for \$12.

10. Adjourn

- ❖ A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 p.m. was made by Billy Williams, seconded by Jana Trew; motion carried unanimously.

These minutes were approved on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of January 2014

APPROVED:

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Robert Englund, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Murvat Musa, City Secretary