

Ransom Canyon City Council Meeting Minutes
Regular Meeting – September 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 August 13, 2013 meeting and budget work session were approved on a motion made by Jana Trew, seconded by Billy Williams; motion carried unanimously.

3. The Financials

The financial reports and the August 2013 claims and demands were approved on a motion made by Donna Clarke, seconded by Lyle Way; motion carried unanimously.

4. Resolution No. R13-001001 Designating an Official Newspaper

Resolution No. R13-001001 designating the Slatonite as the official newspaper was approved on a motion made by Donna Clarke, seconded by Jana Trew; motion carried unanimously.

5. Public Hearing on the Proposed 2013-2014 Budget

The public hearing to receive comments on the proposed 2013-2014 fiscal year budget was opened at 7:03 pm. Having no one to speak on the budget, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 7:05 pm.

6. Ordinance No. 13-00200, 2013-2014 Fiscal Year Budget

Ordinance No. 13-00200 adopting the 2013-2014 fiscal year budget was approved on a motion made by Donna Clarke, seconded by Jana Trew; motion carried unanimously.

7. Ordinance No. 13-00210, fixing the 2013 Tax Levy/Rate

Ordinance No. 13-00210 fixing the 2013 tax levy/rate was approved.

- a. A motion to approve the Maintenance and Operations rate of \$.56390 per \$100 valuation was made by Lyle Way, seconded by John Schmersey; motion carried unanimously.
- b. A motion to approve the Debt rate of \$.09539 per \$100 valuation was made by Jana Trew, seconded by Billy Williams; motion carried unanimously.

8. Independent Contractor Agreement for Librarian Services
The council authorized the Mayor to execute the Independent Contractor Agreement for Librarian Services for fiscal year 2013-2014. The motion was made by Donna Clarke, seconded by John Schmersey; motion carried unanimously.
9. Ordinance No. 13-00910 Revising Boat Length
Ordinance No. 13-00910 revising Article 1.08, Division 2, boats and personal watercraft, Section 1.08.032 (2), size limit and other restrictions, of the code of ordinances to allow boats up to 24 feet in length was approved on a motion made by Billy Williams, seconded by John Schmersey; motion carried unanimously.
10. Ordinance No. 13-00911 Permit Fees and Water Meter Fees
Ordinance No. 13-00911 revising Article 3.02, permit fees, Section 3.02.001, fee schedule; plan review, Subsection (a) (1) permit fees and Subsection (g), water meter fees, of the code of ordinances was approved on a motion made by Billy Williams, seconded by Lyle Way; motion carried 4 to 1. John Schmersey voted against the motion.
11. Ordinance No. 13-00912 TMRS Match Increase
Ordinance No. 13-00912 Texas Municipal Retirement System, increasing the employee match to 150% was approved on a motion made by Donna Clarke, seconded by John Schmersey; motion carried 4 to 1. Jana Trew voted against the motion.
12. Variance Request for Fence Height, 68 South Lake Shore Drive
A variance request to allow for an 8 to 10 foot fence was debated. The request involves allowing the fence to begin at 10 feet and then having the fence taper down to 6 feet as it reaches the lake. The abutting neighbor had no objection to the variance height request. After much discussion, a motion was made by Billy Williams to allow for an 8 foot fence that tapers down to 6 feet at the lake. The motion was seconded by John Schmersey; motion carried unanimously.
13. Variance Request for Fence Height, 2 Cherokee Trail
A variance request to allow for a 7 foot fence was discussed. Of the three abutting neighbors that were contacted, one replied that he had no objection to the 7 foot request for the sides but he did object to anything over 6 feet at the back of the property where his property abuts. After much discussion, a motion to allow for a 7 foot fence variance on the sides of the property was made by Donna Clarke, seconded by Jana Trew; motion carried unanimously. The fence at the back of the property was not included in the variance so it cannot exceed 6 feet.
14. Section 6.04 Employee Personnel Policy Manual
Section 6.04 of the Employee Personnel Policy Manual was revised to extend the Incentive Program to the Police Department. The motion to approve the policy change was made by Donna Clarke, seconded by John Schmersey; motion carried unanimously.

15. Building Review Committee

The BRC met on August 12 to consider plans for new construction at 48 East Canyon View Drive, 34 South Lake Shore Drive, and 8 South Lake Shore Drive. All plans were approved.

16. Department Reports

Administration: Murvat Musa reported the following:

- ❖ The city of Lubbock is set to raise the block rates for water at an approximate 7.7% increase. If that passes, we will need to revisit our water rates.
- ❖ The SPAG Annual Meeting will be this Wednesday at 6 pm at the Spirit Ranch.

Court Report: Gary Bellair had a conflict and was unable to attend the meeting.

Operations: Harold Needham reported the following:

- ❖ The Ransom Canyon Center is on Ransom Canyon water. TCEQ performed the final inspection.
- ❖ The Operations Department is clearing and removing trees and bushes from the right of way on Johnston Road. The ground crew got backed up on mowing because the mower was in for repairs for a week. Mowing in the city is now caught up.

Police: Wayne Rawls reported the following:

- ❖ We have had several incidents of criminal mischief. There were four reported thefts of bushes, solar lights, and other landscaping items.
- ❖ All police officers have completed their required continuing education for this year.
- ❖ The state has authorized the release of money for education this year.
- ❖ Eighty-nine weed notices were mailed out, 20 did not comply so those lots were mowed by the city.

Fire: Rand McPherson reported the following:

- ❖ There were no fire calls this month, but there were six medical calls.
- ❖ Five EMS volunteers are attending a trauma conference at UMC and several fire fighters are at a fire school in Canyon, Texas.
- ❖ The fire house is being rewired. Currently all the wiring is on one breaker.
- ❖ The pancake breakfast is being moved to October 19, 2013.

Library: Kim Copeland was out of town and unable to attend the meeting.

17. POA Report and Citizen Comments:

- ❖ Linda Williams reported that on October 13th the Chapel will be celebrating its 25th anniversary. They are working with the POA to incorporate the art tour with the Chapel celebration.

18. Adjourn

- ❖ A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. was made by Billy Williams, seconded by John Schmersey; motion carried unanimously.

These minutes were approved on the 15th day of October 2013

APPROVED:

Robert Englund, Mayor

ATTEST:

Murvat Musa, City Secretary