

Ransom Canyon City Council Meeting Minutes  
Regular Meeting, September 13, 2022  
Ransom Canyon City Hall, 24 Lee Kitchens Drive

1. Call to Order/Pledges/Prayer

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m. by Mayor Jana Trew. The City Council met in person at City Hall, 24 Lee Kitchens Drive, Ransom Canyon, Texas 79366. The following City Council members physically attended the meeting: Mayor Jana Trew, Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood, Councilmembers Dr. Terry Waldren, Ron McWilliams, Val Meixner, and John Hand. Staff members attending the meeting included City Administrator, Elena Quintanilla; Deputy City Secretary, Leslie Randolph, Chief of Police, James Hill; Director of Public Works, Cory Needham; and Assistant Fire Chief, Angela Hill. Guests attending the meeting included Ingram Rich, Jim and Charlotte Bertram, Linda Williams, Laurel Anderson, Tyler Moore, and Ronnie Hill. The prayer was said by Val Meixner, followed by the pledges to the United States and State of Texas.

2. Property Owner's Association (POA) Report and Citizen Comments

Linda Williams reported that Cam Dockery was featured in the Texas Country Reporter where some of the wood carvings at the Chapel were also featured. Val Meixner announced that the Taste of Canyon will take place on Saturday from 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

3. Recognition of Building Review Committee Member

The City Council recognized Jim Bertram for his years of service on the Building Review Committee.

4. Appointment to Building Review Committee

The City Council appointed David Riley to the Building Review Committee on a motion made by Councilmember Dr. Terry Waldren, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood; motion carried unanimously.

5. Minutes

The minutes of the special meeting on August 16, 2022 were approved on a motion made by Councilmember Val Meixner, seconded by Councilmember Dr. Terry Waldren; motion carried unanimously.

6. Financials

The financial reports and the August 2022 claims and demands were approved on a motion made by Councilmember Dr. Terry Waldren, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood; motion carried unanimously.

7. Public Hearing on the Budget for fiscal year 2022-2023

Mayor Jana Trew opened the public hearing at 6:46 p.m. for public comments. Ronnie Hill requested funds to refurbish the tennis courts for both tennis and pickleball uses. The public hearing was closed at 7:15 p.m.

8. Ordinance Adopting the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year Budget

The City Council approved Ordinance No 22-00200 adopting the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year Budget on a motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood, seconded by Councilmember Dr. Terry Waldren; motion carried with a record vote as follows:

Councilmember Ron McWilliams – Yes

Councilmember Val Meixner – Yes

Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood – Yes

Councilmember Dr. Terry Waldren – Yes

Councilmember John Hand - Yes

9. Resolution to Ratify the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year Budget

The City Council approved a motion to ratify the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year Budget on a motion made by Councilmember Dr. Terry Waldren, seconded by Councilmember Ron McWilliams; motion carried unanimously with a record vote as follows:

Councilmember Ron McWilliams – Yes

Councilmember Val Meixner – Yes

Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood – Yes

Councilmember Dr. Terry Waldren – Yes

Councilmember John Hand - Yes

10. Ordinance for the Property Tax Rate for 2022-2023 Fiscal Year

The City Council approved Ordinance No. 22-00210 to approve the property tax rate at .610091 per \$100.00 of taxable value, with a .513009 per \$100.00 of taxable value for maintenance and operations and a .097082 per \$100.00 of taxable value for debt on a motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood, seconded by Councilmember Dr. Terry Waldren; motion carried with a record vote as follows:

Councilmember Ron McWilliams – Yes

Councilmember Val Meixner – Yes

Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood – Yes

Councilmember Dr. Terry Waldren – Yes

Councilmember John Hand – Yes

11. Designation of Newspaper

The City Council approved the *Slatonite* as the official newspaper for the 2022-2023 fiscal year for the Town of Ransom Canyon on a motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood, seconded by Councilmember Dr. Terry Waldren; motion carried unanimously.

12. Agreement for Librarian Services

The City Council approved an agreement to continue contractual librarian services with Angelia Fikes on a motion made by Councilmember Ron McWilliams, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood; motion carried unanimously.

13. Agreement for Fire Suppression with Lubbock County

The City Council approved an agreement for fire suppression and rescue services with Lubbock County on a motion made by Councilmember Dr. Terry Waldren, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood; motion carried unanimously.

14. Atmos Resolution

The City Council approved a negotiated settlement between the Executive Committee of Cities served by Atmos West Texas Atmos Energy Corp, regarding the Company's 2022 Rate Review Mechanism on a motion made by Councilmember Ron McWilliams, seconded by Councilmember Dr. Terry Waldren; motion carried unanimously.

15. Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental (TML) Risk Pool

The City Council approved a ballot for the TML Risk Pool on a motion made by Councilmember Val Meixner, seconded by Councilmember Ron McWilliams; motion carried unanimously.

16. Texas Municipal League (TML) Benefits Pool

The City Council approved a ballot to elect Elena Quintanilla, City Administrator of the Town of Ransom Canyon to serve on the TML Benefits Pool as a Board of Trustee for a three-year term that begins October 1, 2022-September 30, 2025 on a motion made by Councilmember Ron McWilliams, seconded by Val Meixner; motion carried unanimously.

A. BUILDING REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT: The Building Review Committee did not meet in the month of August.

B. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

- a. Administration: Elena Quintanilla reported the following:
  - She discussed her schedule of events for the week.
  - Vector Disease Control International (VDCI) conducted an aerial flight for the Town of Ransom Canyon and eleven other cities on Saturday.
  - Elena contacted the Texas Tech Landscape Architect Department regarding the development of a Parks Master Plan and is anticipating a response from them. South Plains Association of Governments can write the grant for the Town. James Hill added the Library to the Hazard Mitigation plan as a building where residents go for to as a safe shelter during a tornado. If this project is funded in the future, it would resolve the current American with Disabilities Act (ADA) issues with the Children's Library.
  - Elena will close out the financial municipal books at the end of September and staff will be preparing for the audit which will take place in mid-October. The official closeout of the books for this fiscal year will take place on December 31, 2022 and the new budget will be installed for January 1, 2023.
  - The construction of the sewer plant is anticipated for the summer of 2023.
- b. The Municipal Court: Elena Quintanilla reported the following:
  - There were no new changes in the docket.
- c. Operations: Cory Needham reported the following:
  - The Beast/Quad Investment subcontractors are installing curb and gutter in the new subdivision.
  - Staff has been working on sewer repairs in the Canyon. When the new construction of the plant begins, Cory anticipates that they will begin with removing the drying beds and installing a belt press.
  - The Operations advertisement has been posted for an Operations Operator.
  - Staff has been spraying to eradicate the mosquitos in the area.
- d. Police: James Hill reported the following:
  - There was one (1) arrest, four (4) citations, and one (1) traffic warning.
  - Chief Hill attended a mandatory training in Lubbock
  - The patrol for Labor Day went well.
- e. Fire: Angela Hill reported the following:
  - There were eight (8) EMS calls and one (1) fire call this month.
  - The Fire Suppression Grant details are complete.

- The Ransom Canyon Fire Department is undergoing a remodel at the firehouse to accommodate the extraction (washing) machine and to renovate the floors, supply room, and new windows.
  - The Fire Department painted fifty-seven (57) addresses on curbs as a fundraiser.
- f. Library: Elena Quintanilla reported the following:
- Angie Fikes is attending a rural and small library conference.
  - The Back to School Bash is scheduled for September 24, 2022.
  - Angie will start an “Alice in Wonderland” project at the library.

17. Executive Session

The City Council entered into a closed session at 7:53 p.m. to discuss the following authorized by Chapter 551, Texas Government Code in accordance with Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney) regarding legal issues related to variances.

18. Open Session

The City Council returned into open session at 8:06 p.m.

19. Variance for a Fence

The City Council denied a fence variance at 3 Foothill which would allow for a fence that exceeds six feet in height and exceeds two feet in height beyond the front of the home. The fence also extends across property lines. The motion to deny the variance was made by Councilmember Ron McWilliams, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood; motion carried unanimously.

20. Adjournment

The City Council adjourned the meeting at 8:11 p.m. on a motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood, seconded by Councilmember Dr. Terry Waldren; motion carried unanimously.

APPROVED:



Jana Trew, Mayor

ATTEST:



Elena Quintanilla, City Secretary