

Ransom Canyon City Council Meeting Minutes  
Special Meeting, August 16, 2022  
Ransom Canyon City Hall, 24 Lee Kitchens Drive

1. Budget Work Session

The City Council began budget work session #2 at 6:00 p.m. They discussed the following changes to the budget: The property tax estimates reflect a more conservative amount until the City Council proposes a tax rate. Payroll amounts for the Administration and Water Departments have increased due to increases in short-term and long-term disability to reflect current salaries. The computer expense has increased by \$7000 to update the current website so that it is more user-friendly for residents and staff. The additional increase in the "Legal Expense for Codification" line item reflects expenses that are added to update the building ordinances and Franklin Legal is now a new company which may have additional costs. Payroll for Operations has decreased due to a retirement and a death of a long-time employee. Police is requesting \$14,000 for surveillance cameras and they will look into whether they can reduce this amount by obtaining a quote without the tasers.

2. Adjournment

The Budget Work Session was adjourned at 6:27 p.m. on a motion made by Councilmember Ron McWilliams, seconded by Councilmember Val Meixner; motion carried unanimously.

3. 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; Assistant Fire Chief, Angela Hill; and Librarian, Angie Fikes. Guests attending the meeting included Laurel Anderson, Allen Butler, and Linda Williams. The prayer was said by Ron McWilliams, followed by the pledges to the United States and State of Texas.

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

Linda Williams reported on behalf of the Chapel and stated that the teens hosted an evangelization event with the children at the Chapel which was followed by an ice cream social.

5. Public Participation for Water Quality 2021 Consumer Confidence Report  
There were no comments regarding the 2021 Water Quality Consumer Confidence Report.
6. Changing Speed Limit to 35 Miles Per Hour on Ransom Road  
The City Council held a brief discussion on changing the speed limit of Ransom Road (from FM 3523 to the intersection where the Fire Station is located) from 50 mph to 35mph.
7. First Reading of Ordinance Adopting 2022-2023 Fiscal Year Budget  
The mayor read the first paragraph of the ordinance adopting the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year Budget. This is the first reading of the ordinance.
8. Minutes  
The minutes of the June 14, 2022 and the June 21, 2022 were approved on a motion made by Councilmember Dr. Terry Waldren, seconded by Councilmember Val Meixner; motion carried unanimously.
9. Financials  
The financial reports and the June and July 2022 claims and demands were approved on a motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood, seconded by Councilmember Dr. Terry Waldren; motion carried unanimously.
10. Strategic Plan  
The City Council approved the 2022-2027 Town of Ransom Canyon Strategic Plan on a motion made by Councilmember Ron McWilliams, seconded by Councilmember Val Meixner; motion carried four to one with the following councilmembers voting aye: Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood, Dr. Terry Waldren, Ron McWilliams, and Val Meixner. Councilmember John Hand voted nay.
11. Texas Municipal League Benefits Pool  
The City Council approved a nomination for Elena Quintanilla, City Administrator of the Town of Ransom Canyon to serve on the Texas Municipal League (TML) Benefits Pool 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.

12. Membership of the Capital Improvement Advisory Committee

The City Council amended the membership of the Capital Improvement Advisory Committee to add two additional members to represent the "lake interests" of the Town of Ransom Canyon.

13. Appointments to the Capital Improvement Advisory Committee

The City Council approved the appointments of Ron McWilliams as an ex-officio nonvoting member and Dr. Ron Kendall as a regular voting member to serve on the Capital Improvement Advisory Committee on a motion made by Councilmember John Hand, seconded by Val Meixner; motion carried unanimously.

14. Proposed Property Tax Rate

The City Council reviewed the following information and proposed the following tax rate for fiscal year 2022-2023.

❖ 2022 Certified Taxable Value:	\$174,525,485 (2021) \$156,191,764
❖ Certification of Collection Rate:	100%
❖ 2022 No New Revenue Rate:	.548594
❖ 2022 Voter Approval Rate:	.699261
❖ 2022 De Minimus Rate:	.913306
❖ 2022 Tax Rate:	.610091
❖ 2021 Tax Rate:	.610091

The City Council voted to propose the same tax rate of .610091 which was adopted in 2021 on a motion made by Councilmember Dr. Terry Waldren, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood; the 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 Waldern – Yes  
Councilmember John Hand – Yes

Mayor Jana Trew announced that a public hearing to listen to comments regarding the property tax rate will take place on Thursday, September 1, 2022 at City Hall. The City Council will officially vote on the tax rate on Tuesday, September 12, 2022 at the regular City Council meeting.

- A. BUILDING REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT: The Building Review Committee did not meet in the month of June. The Building Review Committee met on July 5 and approved a new home at 31 Sunrise Lane. The Builder is Modern Homes of Lubbock. The Committee also met on July 11, 2022 and approved a 30 X 30 metal building at 70 East Canyon View. The Builder is Pablo Luna Construction. On July 25, 2022, the Committee met to discuss building codes, and they

approved a new home construction at 2 West Brookhollow. The builder is Craig Ray Custom Homes.

## B. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

- a. Administration: Elena Quintanilla reported the following:
  - She discussed her schedule of events for the week.
  - The preliminary report for the Buffalo Lake Dam was completed by Freeze and Nichols.
  - Vector Disease Control International is ready to spray the cities as we may need services in the future.
  - Parkhill provided an estimate of \$8000 to conduct an American with Disabilities Act (ADA) Assessment on what is needed for the Children's Library. The City Council may need to entertain the construction of a new Library.
  - Elena contacted the Texas Tech Landscape Architect Department regarding the development of a Parks Master Plan. South Plains Association of Governments can also complete master plans. At this time, Elena is awaiting a return phone call from the University.
  - Elena distributed a new budget calendar to all city councilmembers.
- 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 tapping into the water lines and they are beginning work on the streets.
  - The Beautification efforts in the Canyon have involved some mowing; however, the shredder is still in the shop and with the drought, there has been very little mowing in the Canyon.
  - Buffalo recently had some sewer issues which caused a problem with our sewer lines due to the amount of chemical in our sewer plant; this issue has been resolved.
  - There was no need to eradicate mosquitos in July due to the drought in the area.
- d. Police: James Hill reported the following:
  - There were eight (14) citations, thirty- three (33) traffic warnings, and one (1) arrest.
  - The Fourth of July traffic went well. The only complaint the Police received was on the parade route which will be changed next year to start the parade at South Lakeshore.
  - The Lake buoys have been purchased and the concrete is set to install them.
- e. Fire: Rand McPherson reported the following:
  - There were five (5) EMS calls and two (2) fire calls this month.
  - The Fire Department is continuing their fire training exercises with the Buffalo Springs Lake Volunteer Fire Department.

- The Ransom Canyon Fire Department is undergoing a remodel at the firehouse and the extraction machine is a couple of days from its date of installation.
  - The Fire Department's Fourth of July silent auction was successful, and the Department is starting their second round of curb painting to generate additional funds.
- f. Library: Angie Fikes reported the following:
- She will be purchasing new books for the Children's Library.
  - The Summer Reading Program was a success, with the top reader completing 104 hours of reading.
  - The Back to School Bash is scheduled for September 24, 2022 and will include a water balloon and shaving cream fight.

14. 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:



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Jana Trew, Mayor

ATTEST:



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Elena Quintanilla, City Secretary

# MEETING SIGN-IN SHEET

<b>Project:</b>	SPECIAL MEETING CITY COUNCIL	<b>Meeting Date:</b>	8/16/2022
<b>Facilitator:</b>	Town of Ransom Canyon	<b>Place/Room:</b>	Ransom Canyon City Hall

Name	Name	Name
KATE Anderson		
Linda Williams		
Allen Butler		