

Ransom Canyon City Council Meeting Minutes
Regular Meeting – September 14, 2021
Ransom Canyon City Hall, 24 Lee Kitchens Drive

1. Call to Order/Pledges/Prayer

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:30 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, Councilmen Dr. Terry Waldren, Ron McWilliams, and Councilwoman Val Meixner. Staff members attending the meeting included City Administrator, Elena Quintanilla; Chief of Police, James Hill; Operations Assistant Manager, Cory Needham; Fire Chief, Rand McPherson; City Attorney, Garrett Ferguson, and City Engineer, Leonard Nail. See the attached sign-in sheet for guests in attendance. The prayer was said by Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood, followed by the pledges to the United States and State of Texas.

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

The Property Owner's Association Taste of Canyon is postponed for a later date.

3. Appointment to City Council for An Alderman At-Large to Fill Unexpired Term

City Council made a motion to appoint Ingram Rich as an Alderman At-Large to fill the unexpired term of Councilman Mike Greer on a motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood, seconded by Councilwoman Val Meixner; motion carried three to one, with Councilman Ron McWilliams voting nay.

4. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the special meeting on August 10, 2021 were approved on a motion made by Councilman Ron McWilliams, seconded by Councilwoman Val Meixner; motion carried unanimously.

5. Financials

The financial reports and the August 2021 claims and demands were approved on a motion made by Councilman Dr. Terry Waldren, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood; motion carried unanimously.

6. Variance for the Placement of a Set Back of a Storage Shed

The City Council approved a variance for the placement and set back of a 10X12 storage shed at 1 East Lakeshore on a motion made by Councilman Ron

McWilliams, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood; motion carried unanimously.

7. Variance of a 35-Foot Setback to Tract K on Johnson Road
Councilman Ron McWilliams made a motion to postpone the variance of a 35-foot setback for a future date; Councilman Dr. Terry Waldren seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
8. Excavation of City Park to Address Drainage
Twin Flames Investments, LLC. addressed the City Council and requested to excavate the city park across from City Hall as part of their drainage plan for the new subdivision. The City Council denied the excavation of the City Park on a motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood, seconded by Councilman Dr. Terry Waldren; motion carried unanimously.
9. Public Hearing on the 2021-2022 Budget
There were no comments from residents regarding the proposed 2021-2022 fiscal year budget except for a question from Dr. Denton Collins regarding the house bill proposed by Representative Dustin Burrows which would affect Lease Purchase Agreements as a financial tool to purchase a fire truck. Elena Quintanilla provided an overview of the proposed 2021-2022 Budget.
10. Ordinance No. 21-00200 Adopting the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year Budget
The City Council voted on Ordinance No. 21-00200 to adopt the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year Budget on a motion made by Councilman Ron McWilliams, seconded by Councilwoman Val Meixiner; motion carried unanimously.
11. Ordinance No. 21-00210 To Adopt the Property Tax Rate for 2021
The City Council voted to adopt a tax rate of \$.610091 per \$100.00 of taxable value with a Maintenance and Operations Rate of \$.54993 per \$100.00 taxable value and Debt Rate of \$.060161 per \$100.00 taxable value on a motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood, seconded by Councilman Dr. Terry Waldren; motion carried unanimously.
12. Ordinance No. 081021 Entitled Vehicle Removal
The City Council approved Ordinance No. 081021 entitled "Vehicle Removal Ordinance to provide for administration and enforcement on the city recreational vehicle lot. Motion carried three to two, with Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood and Councilman Dr. Terry Waldren voting nay.

13. Resolution No. R21-00914 Designation of Official Newspaper
The City Council approved Resolution No. R21-00914 designating “The Slatonite” as the official newspaper for the 2021-2022 fiscal year on a motion made by Councilman Dr. Terry Waldren, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood; motion carried unanimously.
14. Independent Contractor Agreement for Librarian Services for FY 2021-22
The City Council authorized the Mayor to execute a contract with Angie Fikes to provide librarian services for fiscal year 2021-2022 on a motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood, seconded by Councilman Dr. Terry Waldren; motion carried unanimously.
15. Engagement Letter with Terry and King, CPA Auditors
The City Council approved an engagement letter with Terry and King, CPA Auditors, to conduct audit services for fiscal year 2021-2022 and authorized the City Administrator to execute said letter on a motion made by Councilman Dr. Terry Waldren, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood; motion carried unanimously.
16. Agreement with Terry Crofoot to Purchase Land
The City Council approved an agreement with Terry Crofoot to purchase land in the amount of \$25,000 for expansion of the sewer plant on a motion made by Councilman Dr. Terry Waldren, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood; motion carried unanimously.
17. Resolution No. 091421 to Approved Negotiated Settlement by Atmos West Texas
The City Council approved Resolution No. 0914221 to approve a negotiated settlement between the Executive Committee of Cities served by Atmos West Texas and Atmos Energy Corp., regarding the Company's 2021 Rate Review Mechanism on a motion made by Councilman Dr. Terry Waldren, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood; motion carried unanimously.

B. BUILDING REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT: The Building Review Committee met on Monday, August 9, 2021 and approved new construction at 29 Sunrise Lane and construction of a 40 X 50 metal building at 12 Cottonwood. The Committee met again on August 16, 2021 upon receiving new information regarding deed restrictions for the new construction at 29 Sunrise Lane. The committee also reviewed plans for new construction at 3 Foothill and approved both plans.

C. Department Reports

Administration: Elena Quintanilla reported the following:

- She discussed her schedule of events for the week.
- She mentioned that the cities of Tahoka and Big Spring are joining the Aerial Mosquito Spraying Coalition and that South Plains Association of Governments (SPAG) is applying for a grant to support the costs of the Coalition through the Economic Development Administration.
- She mentioned that the City will be receiving approximately \$278,000 of American Recovery Act funds.
- The land purchase with Terry Crofoot should be scheduled for a closing in October.
- She explained the process for closeout and auditing the books which will take place within the next three months.
- The Texas Water Development Board will be issuing their first payment this month.

Municipal Court: Elena Quintanilla reported the following:

- There are approximately four pending cases from the old docket prior to Judge Jan Mathews assuming the docket.
- There are four new cases added to the docket this month.

Operations: Cory Needham reported the following:

- The Citizen Collection Station will need another minor repair which should be addressed this week and the cards to access the citizen collection station were mailed to residents.
- Staff has continued with mosquito prevention through larvicide applications in the Town and Cory will provide additional information to City Council regarding the effectiveness of aerial mosquito spraying.

Police: James Hill reported the following:

- Police issued five (5) citations and they issued nineteen (19) verbal traffic warnings.
- The Police Department is fully staffed with four full-time officers.
- One Officer will be getting his Intermediate License and taking another class at the end of the month and Lt. Charles Jensen is pursuing his Bachelor's degree from Sam Houston.
- There were no major problems on Labor Day.

Fire: Rand McPherson reported the following:

- There were five (5) EMS calls and zero (0) fire calls this month.
- The EMT Basic Training is still in progress.

Library: Elena Quintanilla reported the following:

- The Library held their Back to School Bash.
- The Puzzles were a success.

18. Executive Session

The City Council entered into a closed session at 7:39 p.m. in accordance with Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney).

19. Return to Open Session

The City Council returned back into open session at 8:21 p.m.

20. Adjournment

The City Council adjourned the meeting at 8:21 p.m. on a motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood, seconded by Councilman Dr. Terry Waldren; motion carried unanimously.

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jana Trew", is written over a horizontal line.

Jana Trew, Mayor

ATTEST.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Elena Quintanilla", is written over a horizontal line.

Elena Quintanilla, City Secretary