

Ransom Canyon City Council Meeting Minutes  
Regular Meeting – March 13, 2014  
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 Mayor Pro-Tem Jana Trew, Lyle Way, Donna Clarke, and John Schmersey. Billy Williams was not at the meeting. A moment of silent meditation followed.

2. Executive Session:

The council convened into closed session at 7:00 pm to discuss personnel matters, hiring a new police chief, in accordance with Texas Government Code Section 551.074. The council reconvened into open session at 7:03 pm. The council took no action in closed session.

3. Minutes of Meeting

The minutes of the Regular Meeting February 11, 2014 were approved on a motion made by Jana Trew, seconded by Lyle Way; motion carried unanimously.

4. The Financials

The financial reports and the February 2014 claims and demands were approved on a motion made by Jana Trew, seconded by Donna Clarke; motion carried unanimously.

5. Police Chief

The Council ratified the appointment of James Hill as the Police Chief with a motion made by Donna Clarke, seconded by John Schmersey; motion carried unanimously.

6. Ordinance No. 14-00313 Atmos Energy Corporation

Ordinance No. 14-00313, Settlement Agreement with Atmos Energy Corporation was approved on a motion made by John Schmersey, seconded by Lyle Way; motion carried unanimously.

7. Building Review Committee

The BRC has not met since the last city council meeting.

8. Department Reports

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

- ❖ The general city election will be May 10, 2014. Four people are running for three positions. Those running for council are Billy Williams, Lyle Way, Jana Trew, and Kevin Carlson. We will have early voting at Ransom Canyon City Hall every day during the early voting period except Saturday and Sunday. Early voting starts

April 28<sup>th</sup>. We will also have voting on Election Day, May 10<sup>th</sup> at City Hall, 7am – 7pm.

- ❖ The next Regional TML meeting will be Thursday, March 20<sup>th</sup> at the Scottish Rite Center.

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

- ❖ There was no court activity this month.
- ❖ The Judge has completed his judicial education for this year.

**Operations:** Harold Needham reported the following:

- ❖ Trees were replaced on Ransom Road this week. A total of 10 trees were planted and more will be planted next fiscal year.
- ❖ The city has borrowed a street sweeper from the City of Wolfforth. We are negotiating purchasing it.

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

- ❖ This has been a quiet month. There was one incident that involved a possible dog bit that turned out not to involve a dog.
- ❖ The city has received money for police education from the state.
- ❖ We are entering storm season so the city is preparing for potential storm disasters. Notices will be sent to homeowners to ensure their yards are clean to help mitigate fire hazards.
- ❖ Wayne thanked the Council for his many years of working for the City, which he has enjoyed. He is scheduled to retire April 1<sup>st</sup>.

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

- ❖ There were no fire calls this month, but our department assisted Buffalo by providing our thermal imager for their use.
- ❖ There is a Storm Spotter School tonight in Idalou.
- ❖ The next pancake breakfast is Saturday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at the fire station.
- ❖ The regional office of the Texas Forrest Service has moved from Canyon to Idalou.
- ❖ The city employees need to be re-certified in CPR and first aid. Rand will begin the process of arranging a time.

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

- ❖ The annual Easter Egg Hunt will be April 17<sup>th</sup>. This year we will be accommodating special needs children by providing them their own area to hunt and by using beeping eggs so they can better locate the eggs.

9. Slaton ISD Presentation of Bond Election

Julee Becker, Slaton ISD Superintendent and Shannon Hinsler, Slaton ISD Board Member, presented a \$15 million bond packet that will be on the May 10<sup>th</sup> ballot for consideration by voters (see attached copy of the presentation). The bond initiative is to provide needed infrastructure upgrades, consolidate elementary school campuses, and to open a vocational school in the district that will also be used by surrounding school districts.

The Mayor commented that he felt this region has a shortage of skilled labor and that he supports the bond initiative.

10. POA Report and Citizen Comments:

- ❖ Jackie Lindsey reported that 75 property owners have not paid their dues and that there are 13 liens on properties for non-payment. The annual city wide garage sale will be April 5<sup>th</sup> and the annual property owner's association meeting will be April 15<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ The Mayor announced that Lorrie Bellair received the Women of Excellence Award this week for her contributions over the years, and that Wayne Rawls' retirement reception will be March 21<sup>st</sup> at the Ranch House and all are invited to attend.

11. Adjourn

- ❖ A motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 p.m. was made by Jana Trew, seconded by John Schmersey; motion carried unanimously.

These minutes were approved on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of April 2014

APPROVED:

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Robert Englund, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Muvat Musa, City Secretary