

Ransom Canyon City Council Meeting Minutes
Special Meeting – September 17, 2019
Ransom Canyon City Hall, 24 Lee Kitchens Drive

1. Call to Order/Pledges/Prayer

The special meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Jana Trew. Council members present were Mayor Jana Trew, Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood, Councilmen Dr. Terry Waldren, Mike Greer, Ingram Rich, and Chip Armstrong. The pledges to the United States and the State of Texas were recited, followed by a prayer by Councilman Ingram Rich.

2. Public Comments and Property Owner's Association (POA) Reports

Rand McPherson reported that the POA is having their family fun night at the same time that City Council is having their meeting on September 17, 2019. McPherson also reminded the City Council that Taste of the Canyon is taking place on Saturday, September 21, 2019 at the Ranch House. There were no other public comments.

3. Approval of Minutes

There was a correction by Mayor Jana Trew to correct the September 10, 2019 minutes by listing her title as Mayor instead of Mayor Pro Tem on the signature line of the minutes. The minutes of the regular meeting on August 13, 2019, and the special meetings on September 5, 2019 and September 10, 2019 were approved with the correction stated above on a motion made by Councilman Dr. Terry Waldren, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood; motion carried unanimously.

4. Financials

The financial reports and the August 2019 claims and demands were approved on a motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood, seconded by Councilman Dr. Terry Waldren, motion carried unanimously.

5. Resolution R-19-000917 Designation of Newspaper

The City Council approved Resolution R-19-000917 designating the *Slatonite* as the official newspaper for the 2019-2020 fiscal year on a motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood, seconded by Councilman Dr. Terry Waldren; motion carried unanimously.

6. Budget Public Hearing
Elena Quintanilla reviewed any budgetary changes to the City Council regarding specific line items. There were no comments at the budget public hearing and the hearing took place for approximately 10 minutes. The budget hearing was closed at 6:52 p.m. and the regular meeting continued at that time.

7. Ordinance No. 19-00200 to Adopt the 2019-2020 Budget
The City Council voted on Ordinance No. 19-00200 to adopt the 2019-2020 Budget on a motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Brand Underwood, seconded by Dr. Terry Waldren. The record vote of the City Council took place in the following manner:
Councilman Ingram Rich – Aye
Councilman Mike Greer – Aye
Mayor Jana Trew – Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood - Aye
Councilman Dr. Terry Waldren – Aye
Councilman Chip Armstrong - Aye; motion carried unanimously.

8. Resolution No. R19-091719 to Ratify the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year Budget
The City Council voted to ratify the 2019 -2020 Fiscal Year Budget that will raise more property tax revenue than was generated in the previous year. The motion to ratify the budget was made by Councilman Chip Armstrong and it was seconded by Dr. Terry Waldren. The record vote took place as follows:
Councilman Ingram Rich – Aye
Councilman Mike Greer –Aye
Mayor Jana Trew –Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood – Aye
Councilman Dr. Terry Waldren – Aye
Councilman Chip Armstrong – Aye; motion passed unanimously.

9. Ordinance No. 19 – 00219 to Adopt Property Tax Rate for 2019-2020
The City Council voted to consider the same property tax rate as the 2018-2019 property tax rate of \$.612933 per 100.00 of taxable value. They also voted for \$.542859 per \$100.00 of taxable value for Maintenance and Operations and \$.070074 per \$100.00 of taxable value for Debt. The City Council held two public hearings to obtain feedback from the citizenry regarding the tax rate prior to its adoption. Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood wanted to note for the record that he did not agree with the language established by the State on how the motion should be stated by the City Council. His concern is that the required language shifts the blame to the City as if they raised taxes and revenue when the Lubbock Central Appraisal District raised all property appraisals in the Town which affected the higher taxes for the citizens in Ransom Canyon. A motion to maintain the same tax rate as last year was made as follows: “ I move that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of .612933, which is

effectively a 5.53% by which the proposed tax rate exceeds the effective tax rate percent increase in the tax rate,” approved on a motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood, seconded by Councilman Ingram Rich. The record vote was as follows:

Councilman Ingram Rich – Aye

Councilman Mike Greer - Aye

Mayor Jana Trew – Aye

Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood - Nay

Councilman Dr. Terry Waldren– Aye

Councilman Chip Armstrong – Aye; motion passed on a 5-1 vote.

10. COBRA Continuation of Coverage Administrative Agreement with Texas Municipal League (TML) Health Pool

The City Council approved an agreement with TML Health Benefit Pool to have COBRA Continuation of Coverage for city employees on a motion made by Councilman Dr. Terry Waldren, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood; motion passed on a 5-1 vote with Councilman Chip Armstrong voting nay.

11. 125 Flexible Spending Arrangement (FSA) Account with TML Health Benefit Pool

The City Council approved the 125 FSA Account with TML Health Benefit Pool with a maximum amount of \$2600.00 to assist employees with any gaps in healthcare on a motion made by Mayor Pro tem Brandt Underwood, seconded by Councilman Dr. Terry Waldren; motion carried unanimously.

12. Librarian Agreement for Services

The City Council approved an agreement with Angie Fikes to continue serving as the Librarian in the Town of Ransom Canyon on a motion made by Councilman Dr. Terry Waldren, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood; motion carried unanimously.

13. Second Reading of Ordinance No. 081319 to Enact Fee for Roofing Permit

The City Council approved Ordinance No. 081319 to enact a fee for roofing permits based upon a flat fee of \$200 for all roofing permits on a motion by Councilman Ingram Rich, seconded by Councilman Dr. Terry Waldren; motion carried unanimously.

14. ATMOS Energy Resolution

The City Council approved a negotiated settlement between the steering committee of cities served by Atmos “Cities” and Atmos Energy Corp, West Texas Division, regarding the company’s 2019 rate review mechanism filings on a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood, seconded by Councilman Dr. Terry Waldren; motion carried unanimously.

15. Board of Trustee for Texas Municipal League(TML) Region 3 Health Benefit Pool
The City Council voted for David Riley, Mayor of Idalou, to continue serving as a Board of Trustee for the TML Region 3 Health Benefit Pool on a motion made by Councilman Dr. Terry Waldren, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood; motion carried unanimously.

16. Building Review Committee Report
The Building Review Committee met on August 12, 2019 to discuss a garage addition to a residence located at 62 South Lakeshore Drive; the builder is Chris Chisom.

A. Department Reports

Administration: Elena Quintanilla reported the following:

- She discussed her schedule of events for the week.
- She mentioned that a Texas Municipal League Quarterly Meeting will take place on September 19, 2019.
- The Annual Texas Municipal League Conference Training for Elected Officials and staff is scheduled for October 8-11, 2019.
- The City Council meeting in October will be rescheduled for October 15, 2019.
- She provided the City Council with a handout earlier in the week with all legislative items that will or may affect the City and asked the City Council if they had any questions. She reviewed a few of the major legislative issues that have raised concerns for cities.

Court Report: Gary Bellair reported the following:

- There are no major changes to the status of any court cases.

Operations: Harold Needham reported the following:

- The east ground storage tank renovation is complete.
- The Department mowed the Canyon and worked hard to prevent the growth of weeds.
- The staff has been repairing sewer lines in the Canyon.

Police: James Hill reported the following:

- Police issued no citations and three warnings.

Fire: Rand McPherson reported the following:

- There were four EMS calls and two fire calls this month.

Library: Angie Fikes reported the following:

- The Library repairs are near completion.
- The Back to School Bash is scheduled for September 28, 2019.

- The youth will participate in the pumpkin trail at the Lubbock Garden and Arts Center by carving pumpkins for the event.

Adjournment

The City Council adjourned the meeting at 7:15 p.m. on a motion made by Councilman Dr. Terry Waldren, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood; motion passed on a 5-1 vote, with Councilman Chip Armstrong voting nay.

APPROVED:



Jana Trew, Mayor

ATTEST:



Elena Quintanilla, City Secretary