

**TOWN OF RANSOM CANYON
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 10, 1995
MINUTES**

The regular meeting of the Town of Ransom Canyon City Council was brought to order at 7:00 P.M. at the Ransom Canyon Fire Station by Mayor Lee Kitchens. Council members present were Inez Speed, Charles Burford, Ken Williams, and Erika Hoeve. Bill Green arrived approximately 7:30.

MINUTES: Erika Hoeve moved to approve, Charles Burford seconded, all approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Erika Hoeve inquired about the dock and related equipment that the fire dept. purchased for the wave runner. Wayne Rawls explained that the dock was within the equipment category. Erika expressed concern that the purchase was out of bounds for consideration as a line item in the budget, and it also was not an emergency.

Erika also expressed disapproval that the police department had purchased a radio for \$710, but the expense was shared between two non-related budget categories, (\$500 for education and \$210 for repairs). Erika instructed that the financial report reflect this correction, putting this purchase of equipment in the proper category.

Inez Speed questioned the fire department about the number of radios they have in the field, and why another radio was being purchased. Wayne answered that the fire department has 8 walkies, 4 truck radios, the EMS has 1 truck radio and 5 walkies. The fire radios are on different frequencies than the EMS radios. EMS can't talk to the police. Wayne purchased two EMS walkies for \$1000.

Stating that council approval must be obtained prior to expensing unbudgeted money, Erika Hoeve moved to approve the financial report, Inez Speed seconded, all approved. Charles Burford believed there needed to be clarification of "unbudgeted."

RESOLUTION # 53: This resolution freed \$5,703.36 remaining in the tax fund that had accumulated from miscellaneous fees, earned interest and penalty and interest on delinquent taxes, to be used for operations expenses at the discretion of the council. Charles Burford so moved, Inez Speed seconded, all approved.

POLICY MANUAL: A work session was set for November 1.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: CITY SUPERVISOR, WAYNE GENTRY: Wayne Gentry and Lee Kitchens presented the letter from SPEC outlining the agreement concerning SPEC's replacing their lines. This process will span five or more years. Cuts will be made at the asphalt/curbing line whenever possible, but there will be areas where this is not possible. Wayne Gentry will work closely with SPEC. SPEC will cover their

trenches as they go, and when the project is complete, they will pay 11 % of the final seal-coat that will improve the appearance of the road, a regularly budgeted item in the city's maintenance program. Erika Hoeve moved to accept the proposal, Inez Speed seconded, all approved.

TAX COLLECTOR: Melissa Verett reported that only \$2,170.04 is outstanding in delinquent taxes. No homes are on the list. The appraisal district has changed software companies and the tax statements are late. They are promised for October 13, 1995, but this two weeks comes at a crucial juncture in the city's fiscal year. The city depends on early tax payments for use in October and November. History has shown that we can depend on this, provided statements go out on time. This situation will require close monitoring in October and early November.

ARCHITECTURE CONTROL COMMITTEE: David Williams term has expired and the council is faced with appointment of another member. The committee had written a letter to the mayor stating their schedule of meeting once monthly. The council felt this was not sufficient to meet the needs of the building activity. Inez met with the remaining committee members and they had proposed meeting twice monthly, requiring the attendance of Wayne Gentry. They propose to meet the first Thursday at noon, and the third Tuesday night at 7:00.

Lengthy discussion followed about the needed number of committee members, and the history of the Deed Restrictions establishing the committee, Harold Chapman, as majority property owner passing the responsibility on to the city council. Erika Hoeve was concerned that the city did not have a corresponding ordinance to provide for the oversight of the committee, and she also objected to the city council being told by anyone, Deed of Restrictions or whomever, how many members it could have, or not have on a city committee. Chip Polk asked if the committee was truly functional, and Lee Kitchens answered that it was, that the committee regulated compliance with such things as roof materials, height restrictions, set backs, etc. Charles Burford stated for the record that the city encouraged new builders. In the end..Charles Burford moved to appoint Charles Hobbs to the committee, and on next month's agenda prepare an ordinance to provide for the expansion of the committee, with a membership of six, and a quorum of two. Erika Hoeve seconded, and all approved.

Wayne Gentry presented a set of plans for B 24 L 20. The ACC had passed this variance request on to the city council. The owner wanted to turn the angle of the front of the house from facing Cardinal, to facing the corner of the lot. Approval was moved and seconded and approved.

Wayne Gentry presented a second set for B 2 L 29. This set had variance requests for both front and side set backs. The council expressed concern that the extent of the variance requests exceeded reasonable caution. Ken Williams moved to deny the request at this time, Bill Green seconded and all agreed.

POLICE: Ray Short reported the following activity for the month of September. One accident investigated. Thirty-eight calls requiring police activity: two 911 hang-up calls, seven suspicious vehicles, five motorist assists, two calls on BB guns, one fight, two welfare checks, two peddlers, two shots fired. Seven of these calls were while he was off duty, and four of them involved the lake. One ticket was issued for dogs running loose. Thirty-six warnings were issued, 4 traffic and 32 trespassing. Three thefts were reported for a lawn mower and 2 statues. There were 26 vacation watches this month, six dog dispositions, 1 DPS assist, 1 LSO assist, 2 Slaton PD assists, 2 assists to the Ransom Canyon water department, and three instances of power outages. 2151 miles were put on the police car.

The historical marker has been recovered, but cannot be repaired. The suspects are juveniles, but it will fall on the District Attorney's office to pursue the matter of defacing state property. Erika Hoeve requested a copy of the police work schedule. Lee instructed the secretary to include the schedule in the city council package.

Chief Short has been sending out mowing letters. Whenever lots are not mowed, given ten days, the mowing job is assigned to an independent contractor. The owner is billed the amount the city has paid the contractor. Ken Williams proposed that a significant administrative fee be added. This Ordinance will be put on the November agenda.

MUNICIPAL COURT: Court Clerk Melissa Verett reported that in September six cases were closed: 2 fines were paid based on guilty pleas, 3 cases were closed after successful completion of deferred adjudication, 1 case was closed after proof of completion of defensive driving was provided. The court now has three active cases, one is new for violation of a city ordinance, two traffic cases are in the 90 day period of deferred adjudication. There is one 1995 warrant outstanding for a juvenile. There are four outstanding warrants for 1994. These cases have been worked by Ransom Canyon officers, and the individuals are no longer in the county.

FIRE DEPT: Wayne Rawls reported three EMS calls in September. Seven volunteers attended the EMS conference at TTUHSC. He called for volunteers.

LIBRARY: Kim Copeland reported 126 patrons for September, 41 adults. 19 movies were in circulation. The raffle was a big success, and the top ticket sellers won a book of their choice donated by Dorothy Conger. The Fall Decorating contest has four categories: Best all around, most unique scarecrow, most humorous scarecrow, and best pumpkin display.

POA: Donna Ricks read a letter from Chip Polk requesting support to keep teenage drinking on the island under control, thanking the police for their patrolling of the island.

OPEN FORUM: The park committee met their round up goal needed to secure the SPEC grant. There will be a garage sale October 28 at the fire station.

Ken Williams moved to adjourn, Inez Speed seconded, all approved.

Melissa Verett
City Secretary