

City Council Meeting
October 9, 2001
Minutes

The City Council for the Town of Ransom Canyon met in regular session October 9, 2001. Members present were: Mayor Robert Englund, Aldermen Earl Starks, David Peterson, Inez Speed, Kyle Ashley and Leon Whetzel.

MINUTES: Kyle Ashley requested a change to page one paragraph five to read " Kyle said that the evaporation rate study and the lake pumping conclusions that were drawn by the Mayor at the August meeting were incorrect."

With this change, Inez Speed moved to approve the minutes, David Peterson seconded the motion, all voted aye.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Approved on a motion from David Peterson and second from Inez Speed.

PROPOSED ORDINANCE RE- PUMPING FROM THE LAKE: Mayor Englund presented this item. Attorney John Sims explained the parts. This Ordinance prohibits pumping from the lake, and it also prohibits private wells. Attorney Sims explained that the Deed Restrictions prohibit private wells. The city does not enforce Deed Restrictions; they only enforce laws that have been enacted by the city. Therefore, in order to enable the police department to enforce this restriction of not allowing private wells, the city needs an ordinance. Attorney Sims also explained that the TNRCC would not give a ticket to an individual property owner. The TNRCC enforcement would be to either fine the city or to cancel the city's certificate.

There was discussion about putting the well provision in a separate ordinance, but there was no motion to this end.

When discussion ended, David Peterson made a motion to pass the ordinance, (with one clerical correction to the final sentence "Any person violating Section 2 of this Ordinance will receive a citation for said violation and can be fined up to \$500 if found guilty.") Leon Whetzel seconded the motion.

Earl Starks asked why the city cared if there were private wells, and Harold Needham answered that the city's concern was with health and safety, and also with protection of the city's water system from pollution.

The vote to pass this ordinance was divided. David Peterson, Inez Speed and Leon Whetzel voted aye, and Earl Starks and Kyle Ashley voted against the measure. The measure passed, and the Ordinance passed.

EAST LAKE SHORE LIFT STATION: This past week and weekend, the East Lake Shore Lift Station has needed emergency repair. The council told Bernie Gradel from Hugo Reed to bid the project a second time, ASAP with an effort to get more than one bid, even if it meant going to contractors outside of Lubbock. The council told Harold to use his judgment in the field if the station needed emergency repairs that could not wait until the whole lift station is rebuilt, per the CIP designated project.

LAKE COMMITTEE: Leon Whetzel asked to be excused from the lake committee, and suggested that David Peterson replace him in this duty. The Mayor accepted this change.

The Mayor reported on the progress of the lake committee. Ron Kendall had been chosen as chairman, the committee had met once, they have a vision statement, and they are scheduled to meet October 11 with a request from the Mayor for defined scope and projects. David Peterson said the committee requested funds from the city, but the requests are not specific at this time. Leon Whetzel said he would like to see specifics before a commitment is made. The Mayor suggested that the council could approve a preliminary engineering fee of \$ 1,000 for this committee, and the council approved.

Mayor Englund said he had received requests from property owners around the lake to lower the lake so they could do repairs to their docks. He said he would defer action on this issue to the committee for their input.

ENGINEERING REPORT: Bernie Gradel reported from Hugo Reed. Timeline for the projects is attached.

Effluent pools, and does not flow freely through the new line on the Brookhollow project. Hugo Reed is examining the project.

BUILDING CONTROL COMMITTEE: Drainage for a new house on Arapaho was resolved.. A new home has been approved on Navajo.

OPERATIONS: Harold Needham will take the plumbing test that is required for the plumbing inspector's license. Inez Speed will look at applications for the new sewer operator and candidates will be chosen for interviews.

POLICE: Wayne Rawls reported on heightened security for the city. Harold Needham said the doors on top of the water tanks are locked.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Wayne Rawls reported that the members enjoyed the appreciation dinner and thanked the individuals responsible. The sausage dinner is October 27 on the island.

LIBRARY: Kim Copeland reported that the library is doing great, and repairs are being made to the building, all being paid for from the Christmas 2000 fund raiser in the Echo. They needed space, so they removed a wall. The board members cleaned up, designated duplicate books to be donated to the POA. New paint, new blinds, the deck was repaired. Two smoke detectors were installed, as was a new light fixture. Open House is December 4, 4-6:30. Kim thanked the board, who all work very hard. New students come into the city and Kim really enjoys her job.

POA: No report.

Open Forum: Nothing

Inez Speed moved to adjourn, Leon Whetzel seconded the motion, all approved.

Melissa Verett
City Administrator