

Ransom Canyon City Council Meeting Minutes
Regular Meeting – Tuesday, November 9, 2010
Ransom Canyon City Hall, 24 Lee Kitchens Drive

1. Call to Order/Silent Meditation

The meeting was called to order at 6:36 pm by Mayor Robert Englund. Council members present, Mayor Pro-Tem John Schmersey, Jack Randorff, Billy Williams and Jana Trew. Donna Clarke was not present. A moment of silent meditation followed. Immediately after convening into Open Session, the Mayor convened the meeting into Closed Session.

2. Executive Session

The City Council convened into Executive Session at 6:37 pm for Consultation with Attorney to discuss pending litigation and a possible settlement agreement for the Hugo Reed and West Texas Paving lawsuit in accordance with Section 551.071 of the Open Meetings Law. The council reconvened into Open Session at 7:00 pm. No action was taken by the council in Executive Session.

3. Minutes of Meeting

Minutes of the Regular October 12, 2010 meeting were approved on a motion made by John Schmersey, seconded by Billy Williams; motion carried unanimously.

4. The Financials

The financial reports and the October claims and demands were both approved on a motion made by Jack Randorff, seconded by Billy Williams; motion carried unanimously.

5. Ordinance No. 10-001112 Creating the Office of City Administrator

The Mayor, City Attorney, and City Council had lively debate on the matter of creating the Office of City Administrator. The pros and cons of creating and appointing such a person were heavily discussed. The debate centered around: (1) the need for the city to have a City Administrator; (2) the need for the city to enter into a written agreement with the City Administrator; (3) the City Administrator's powers as it pertains to appointing and removing department heads; and (4) the potential erosion of the powers of the Mayor and City Council if a person were to be appointed to the position. After a long debate on the matter, comments from the public, and clarification of the role of the City Administrator, the ordinance was unanimously approved with a motion made by Billy Williams, seconded by John Schmersey. The motion to approve the ordinance was made with the following changes: (1) to remove Section 4 which requires the city to enter into a written agreement with the City Administrator and (2) to clarify "except as otherwise provided by law" in Section 3A in relation to the City Administrator's powers in appointing and removing department heads.

6. LCAD Annual Collections Report

The council discussed the annual collections report for taxes which was 99.12%.

7. Building Review Committee Report

The BRC met on October 25, 2010 to reconsider plans for new construction at 98 East Canyon View. The plans were not approved.

8. Department Reports

Administration: Muvat reported the following:

- ❖ The annual audit of the city's financials is currently being performed.
- ❖ The 3rd Annual Veterans Day lunch will be November 11th, everyone is invited.
- ❖ There has been a request by Walt Clark for the City Council to consider lowering the lake so that maintenance can be performed on docks, retaining walls, and the POA's causeway. This issue will be discussed at next month's meeting.

Court Report: Gary Bellair was unable to attend the meeting.

Operations: in addition to Harold's written report, he discussed the need for a shed like structure to house a salt and gravel mix for the upcoming winter's usage. He can purchase a shed that would be sufficient to meet the needs for \$3,000. The council instructed Muvat to review the budget to see if there would be enough money to cover this expense.

Police: Wayne reported the following:

- ❖ There was a traffic accident with a city police vehicle and a resident car. They two cars bumped mirrors. DPS was called in to work the accident; a report should be issued within 7-10 days.
- ❖ James and Rick are taking a class through the Sherriff's Office Wednesday and Thursday.
- ❖ The police officers are preparing for the upcoming annual tour of homes.

Fire: Rand McPherson reported the following:

There were four fire calls. Two were false alarms, one was a vehicle fire and one was a very large grass fire by Rustic Range. Many jurisdictions responded. The new city brush truck was used and worked very well.

Library: Kim Copeland reported the following:

- ❖ The October 28 Halloween party was a huge success. Jana Trew read her favorite Halloween to the children.
- ❖ The Community Christmas Card is underway and the deadline is December 8.
- ❖ The annual library Christmas party is December 14 from 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm.

9. Hugo Reed/West Texas Paving Settlement Offer:

On a motion made by Jack Randorff, seconded by John Schmersey; the settlement offers made by both Hugo Reed and West Texas Paving were unanimously approved by the council. The offers were made pursuant to a confidentiality agreement.

10. POA Report and Citizen Comment:

- ❖ Jackie Lindsey reported that 800 people attended the Visions of Art program this year.
- ❖ Linda Williams announced the annual Chapel Home Tour fundraiser is scheduled for December 9 from 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm. Tickets are \$10 each.
- ❖ Carol Patterson asked about the possibility of dredging the lake. The Mayor responded that it would cost in excess of \$1 million, would require EPA, and TCEQ permitting and is therefore cost prohibitive.

11. Adjourn:

Robert Englund adjourned the meeting at 7:57 p.m.

These minutes were approved on the 14th day of December, 2010

APPROVED:

Robert Englund, Mayor

ATTEST:

Murvat Musa, City Secretary