

**RANSOM CANYON CITY COUNCIL
CALLED MEETING
SEPTEMBER 17, 2002**

Mayor Robert Englund brought this special called meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. A quorum was present consisting of Dick Hulslander, Leon Whetzel and Glen Robertson. Kyle Ashley arrived after the meeting had begun. David Peterson was absent.

The Mayor called for a moment of silent meditation.

The Mayor then presented the agenda, which consisted of a request from the fire department for permission to enter a bid for a vehicle that was being auctioned by the City of Slaton, and a request to purchase a used power generator.

The Mayor commented that purchases outside of the budget, for audit purposes, needed to be identified as emergency items. He mentioned that these items had not been mentioned as emergency items, and they were not part of the budget for the fiscal year ending, or for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2002.

Chief McPherson submitted a memo with an inventory of the department vehicles, including the unit history, use, potential, and present condition. This memo also listed the operating procedure for fire and EMS response.

Mr. Whetzel asked Rand to explain exactly what this vehicle will do, and how many times in the past two years has there been a need to roll this vehicle? He went on to say that in his experience, in Ransom Canyon, the response vehicle was the Police Chief's car. Rand answered that they had one medical call per month. The old truck is a standard shift and one of the EMT's cannot drive a standard shift vehicle. The department has one paramedic, 1 intermediate and 6 EMT's. Rand explained that this vehicle responds to fire calls also.

Mr. Hulslander asked about the truck that will be donated from SPEC. Rand said the donation is a sure thing, but the type of truck is unknown. Mr. Hulslander said we might end up with an extra truck, a decision about what to do with it, and he also asked if this was such a good deal.

Mr. Whetzel said before we bid on the truck a mechanic should check it out thoroughly. Mr. Robertson commented that he would always support providing equipment necessary for the operation of the fire and EMS departments, but he also wondered about the dollar value of the particular vehicle in question.

A lengthy discussion followed about different reasons to bid on the truck, the right amount to bid on the truck, what equipment from the truck would be useful, what equipment would be duplicated. Mayor Englund called for a motion, and Kyle Ashley moved to offer a bid of \$1,000. This motion died for lack of a second. There were no other motions, so the Mayor announced that this issue was tabled.

There was also a lengthy discussion about the purchase, adaptation and rewiring of generators. Harold Needham needs a submersible pump and generator in the event both pumps in the lift stations fail. The fire department had an old generator that Wayne Rawls said had been purchased years ago from surplus. It needed wiring change to 220 in order for it to work for the firehouse. It would also need wiring change to work for Harold. Harold also needed funds to wire the lift stations to be able to use an emergency generator. In all, the proposed equipment changes would cost around \$10,000.

Mr. Whetzel commented that emergency generators must be manually started on a regular basis to keep them in working order, that they were a maintenance challenge. A propane/natural gas crossover was very dangerous equipment. He said this equipment would need expertise for regular maintenance.

Glen Robertson commented that he agreed that the city would need emergency backup power, and he asked several questions about amps, wattage requirements, circuits, and he commented that if the old machine would not work for the fire station, it would not work for the water department, either.

Harold stated he had \$16,000 left in the sewer repair budget. Some of the lift stations are single phase. Some are three phase. He would need a submersible pump.

Kyle Ashley asked what we have done in the past for this type of emergency. The discussion concluded that this type of emergency has never happened. For emergencies of this nature, Ransom Canyon has in the past called an independent contractor, or the City of Slaton, or the City of Lubbock for assistance with repairs. Kyle commented that it was possible that this equipment could be purchased, but never used.

Dick Hulslander expressed concern about the unknown condition of the equipment in question, the proposed expense to adapt the generator that had been traded from one department to the other, and that the old unit still needed wiring changes to make it useable, even for the firehouse.

Glen Robertson said equipment is needed for the fire station. He quoted \$9,000 for a Miller diesel portable unit. He also clarified that \$5350 was still needed for sewer repair.

Mr. Hulslander ran several scenarios about the possible use of this equipment, and the need for a submersible pump.

The council did not make a motion to buy the proposed generator for \$2990.

Mayor Englund asked Rand to spend money not to exceed \$500 to see if the generator will work, to get it wired over so it can be determined if it is functional. He also noted for the record that \$4000 would probably be needed to wire the lift stations.

Dick Hulslander moved to table the issue, and Kyle Ashley seconded the motion.

Kyle Ashley moved to adjourn, Dick Hulslander seconded the motion, all approved, and the meeting adjourned.

Melissa Verett