

## CITY COUNCIL MEETING

September 30, 2003

### Minutes

The City Council of the Town of Ransom Canyon met in open session at 7:00 P.M. September 30, 2003. Mayor Englund called the meeting to order. Leon Whetzel, Dick Hulslander and Glen Robertson were present. David Peterson was absent. Inez Speed arrived as the council opened discussion on item 5.

Minutes of the August meeting were approved unanimously on a motion from Leon Whetzel, second from Dick Hulslander.

The Financial Report was approved unanimously on a motion from Dick Hulslander, second from Glen Robertson. Item 3A on the agenda, the release of 02/03 undesignated funds to the General Fund was approved unanimously on a motion from Dick Hulslander, second from Leon Whetzel.

The following agenda items were considered in a block motion to approve from Glen Robertson and second from Dick Hulslander. All voted aye and these items passed as prepared:

- ?? Agenda item 4. C. Adoption of the Capital Improvement Program 03-04 Budget ( Ordinance 190) ,
- ?? Agenda item 4.D. Adoption of the Operating Reserve Fund Contribution level Resolution for the 03-04 Budget ( Resolution # 81) ,
- ?? Agenda item 4E. Approve the 03-04 Operating Budget ( Ordinance # 191), and
- ?? Agenda item 4.F, Approval of the 2003 tax rate., ( Ordinance No 192).

Agenda item 4A passed on a motion from Dick Hulslander and second from Leon Whetzel. All approved. Mayor Englund explained that this Resolution # 80 was a one-time health insurance benefit adjustment that was being made so that the city would no longer contribute to the family health insurance premium, and to compensate the employees for the change.

Agenda item 4 B. Motion to adopt the Texas Municipal Retirement System at a 1:1, 5% ratio, with 100% prior service credit, was adopted on a motion from Leon Whetzel, second from Dick Hulslander, all voted aye.

Agenda item 4G. New Water and Sewer rates. Discussion explained that the \$.08 cents per thousand gallons water rate increase was a direct pass through from the City of Lubbock, and the \$1.00 per month sewer rate increase was to help pay for the increased electric expense at the new sewer plant. This \$1.00 figure was calculated after deducting Buffalo's contributory cost of this expense. All voted aye to the motion to approve the increases and the new rates. The motion was made by Leon Whetzel and seconded by Dick Hulslander.

Agenda item 5, Adopt 20% attorney fee for the collection of delinquent taxes. The Texas Tax Laws now allow the tax collection attorney fees to be 20%, rather than the old 15% rate. This fee is collected entirely from the taxpayer and is passed directly to the attorney.

Inez Speed made the motion to approve this increased fee, Dick Hulslander seconded the motion, all approved.

Special Agenda item to consider the plat of Block 20 Tract F-1 was discussed. According to the new subdivision ordinance, these documents were submitted to the building control committee, and were signed off on by a quorum as “no exception taken. “ The documents had been prepared and reviewed by city engineer Bernie Gradel. This plat was accepted as prepared showing a drainage easement. Glen Robertson made a motion to accept the easement and approve the plat as prepared. Dick Hulslander seconded the motion. All voted aye. Bernie will send the plat to the Hoeve’s attorney Stan Weaver for preparation of the dedication deed.

The blowers at the sewer plant are driving at 100%. Hopefully this need will drop some and the utility rates will drop, also. These blowers were designed for full city development, so the size of the equipment was necessary.

The council all indicated that they preferred a round-type water tower.

Fire Chief Rand McPherson reported that the RC volunteer department will participate in the Patriot Day 911 county-wide tribute in Kastman Park. 3400 US flags will be placed in the park. The pancake breakfast is Saturday Sept 13.

Police Chief Wayne Rawls reported that he had attended another SPAG meeting on the TEEEX grant. We are ready to order. The SPAG matching funds will go toward a county HAZMAT trailer that will be manned and housed in Wolfforth. No word yet on the COPS Fast grant from the DOJ. Our officers Rawls and Hill will participate in the Roosevelt Shattered Dreams presentation again this year. Plans are being made for that. There are new fines that make DWI and Drivers License violations really expensive. Wayne must attend his annual police chief’s school in either Huntsville or Austin this year.

Librarian Kim Copeland reported that after two thorough sprayings, and a brief 2-week closing, the spiders appear to be gone. Kim says she has no doubt that these spiders were brown recluse. The library and city hall are now on a quarterly spraying maintenance schedule and she believes that the insects are under control. The new library roof is in place, so all is back to routine at the library.

(Note: The library, the water house and the fire house all have new roofs for the second year in a row due to extreme hail storms.)

Carol Hulslander represented the POA and thanked the council for helping the POA one more year with mowing the meadow and the park. The cooperation is appreciated.

No items were presented in open forum so the meeting adjourned on a motion from Leon Whetzel, second from Inez Speed.

Melissa Verett, City Administrator

