

RANSOM CANYON CITY NEWS

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March City Council Meeting

- Llano Estacado Regional water use projections are short
- South Lake Shore Lift Station finished
- Dual Mode Smoke Detectors required
- Racial Profiling report
- Animal Control Kennel closed
- Parklane Flood Elevations studied
- Fire Hydrants set for 03-04 budget study
- SPAG cuts grant funding

BACK HILL AVALANCHE



City crews were met Monday morning, March 3, by this giant rock that fell from the wall on Foothill Drive. Heavy equipment was needed to lift the rock and tip it over the opposite wall where it rolled down the hill and came to a stop in a clearing below.

STATE BUDGET CUTS AFFECT RANSOM CANYON

Ransom Canyon has been notified by SPAG that the TCEO has been required by the state to reduce their budget, and they have cut the solid waste grant program by 10%.

The Solid Waste Advisory Committee meets March 28 to discuss how SPAG can cut 10

% from the grants that were awarded last fall. The grantees can defend their programs at the meeting.

Some grant monies have not yet been spent.

Ransom Canyon had a one purchase item, and \$23,600

was paid when SPAG signed the contract. David Peterson will attend the March 28 meeting. The City Council is steeling itself for a \$2,360 cut in funding.

BLOWING TRASH BIG PROBLEM

Mayor Robert Englund asks everyone to attend to the growing problem of blowing trash and blowing plastic trash bags.

When unbagged polycart trash is emptied into the top-loading garbage trucks, any breeze at all will blow the trash out, down the street, past the dumpsters and into the fields and canyons east of Ransom Canyon.

City crews have spent many hours picking trash out of neighboring fields and ranges. The landfill at Abernathy has asked that citizens be especially careful to tie off and weigh down all plastic grocery bags, because these little bags balloon and blow everywhere.

Here at Ransom Canyon they also land in the lake. Walkers routinely pick up trash as they travel.

Please bag all trash. Put only household trash in the polycarts.

Bring grass clippings to the brushy debris location by the dumpsters. Please do not leave grass clippings in plastic bags.

Bring all tree trimmings and other brushy debris to the same location. These will be reduced with the wood chipper and returned to the public as ground cover material.



Typical Lubbock County dust storm.

This chipped material is free to the public and can be gathered at any time.

RANSOM CANYON SIGN REPAIR

City crews replaced 10 fluorescent bulbs in the Lake Ransom Canyon sign located at the front entrance.

Current ownership of the sign and maintenance responsibility is unclear, but the council agreed on the value that the sign adds when the bulbs are working.

SPEC and LRC, Inc. shared in

the expense to make and install the sign. It sits on Lubbock County land.

The sign is made out of a material that might be pierced by a bullet, but it will not shatter.

It is fairly riddled with bullet holes at this time. There is one 15 x 12 hole that appears to have been created

by a Corona beer bottle.

The council discussed replacing the sign at \$500 per side, but, with budget constraints looming, they opted to just replace the bulbs in the short term.

“The sign is fairly riddled with bullet holes.”

BOAT STICKERS ARE AVAILABLE

Ransom Canyon Police are busy selling boat stickers! All watercraft must be registered to operate on the lake.

The fee is \$20 for all motorized craft, and \$10 for all others. The maximum size is 200 hp and the maximum length is 22 feet.

You must have your Texas Parks and Wildlife registration. The police will sell these permits from their vehicles, and will be available in and around

the lake throughout the weekend.

The Ransom Canyon Police boat is enjoying the second successful year of operation in police and rescue activities. The lake patrol is available and happy to help. Fishing licenses are re-



quired for all fishermen. The lake is full, it is stocked and the fish are healthy and happy to play.

WATER USE PROJECTION SHORT

The City Council reviewed the Llano Estacado Regional Water Planning Group water use projections for Ransom Canyon through the year 2060 and concluded, along with the City Engineer, that the projections were low.

Ransom Canyon's per capita water use is 274 GPCD. (Gallons of water used per person per day) .

This average is the highest average of any other water user group in the region. The next highest is Lamb County with 230 GPCD, and Petersburg with 195 GPCD.

Ransom Canyon's population through the year 2060 could

reach 3,433 citizens. The projected water demand could reach 1004 acft/year. (The factor 365/325,851 expresses the calculation in acre-feet per year.)

These numbers are added to numbers for all communities in the region, then this water use demand is added to one state-wide analysis. This work is in accordance with Senate Bill 2.

The water demand projections presented by the Texas Water Development Board will take into account conservation measures that are expected through low flow plumbing fixtures and through



landscaping programs to reduce quantities of water used for lawn watering and landscaping.

DUAL MODE SMOKE DETECTORS REQUIRED

The City Council passed Ordinance 189 requiring smoke alarms that are dual mode ionization and photoelectric detectors.

Ionization alarms are better at detecting a fast burning fire and photoelectric alarms are better at detecting a slow burning, smoldering type fire.

Smoke alarms are required in

homes in bedrooms and front hallways, and any other place in the home where groups of people may gather.

This ordinance is effective immediately, and will be applied to all new homes and to all major remodel work that requires a permit.

Fire Marshall Clinton Thetford recommends

that homeowners install this type of detector in all these home locations.

SOUTH LAKE SHORE LIFT STATION BY-PASS FINISHED

The new bypass lift station installation on South Lake Shore Drive is complete.

The final bill on the project is \$48,000 including engineering and construction by Allen Doggett.

Doggett said the installation should be good for many years and should handle the flow from South Lake Shore Drive and from Buffalo Lake for many years to come.

Allen Doggett is also building

the new sewer plant and this construction is on target.

The water tower is still on the drawing board.

The City Council is still talking to Lubbock about a contract increase in the total volume of water .

CITY COUNCIL

ELECTION

Incumbent Mayor Robert Englund is being challenged by Mike Greer.

Two Alderman seats are available, but the only candidate is incumbent David Peterson.

Write-in candidates have until March 24 to file their declaration.

If there is no write-in contest, the city council can appoint someone to fill this vacancy.

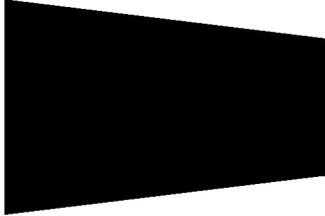
Kevin Carlson will return as election judge for the May 3 City Election. Election workers are needed. Call 829-2470.

“Mike Greer is challenging incumbent Mayor Robert Englund.”

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The Ransom Canyon Library Easter Egg Hunt will be held Thursday, April 17, in the park, at 5:30. Over 1000 eggs will be carefully hidden. If you have never seen this event, make time just to come watch. 100-150 children spread out all over the park and it is more fun! Miss Kim the librarian has as much fun as the children.

Parents, put it on your calendars! Get home early from work and bring the whole family. Grandparents, bring your grandchildren, too. Everyone finds eggs, and there are surprises and prizes for all age groups. It is a truly spectacularly fun event.

'It's a sight to see. Come and be part of the fun!'

DOG KENNEL ALL WASHED UP

The City Council agreed to change the way stray dogs are handled. The Ransom Canyon Police Department can no longer shelter or quarantine domestic pets at the kennel facility.

Chief Wayne Rawls explained to the Council that state requirements for operating an animal shelter have just become more stringent.

He recommended that Ransom Canyon could not afford to implement the upgrades that would be required, such as: enclosed pens, dry bedding, heating, air conditioning, and solid, sanitized flooring. These items are required now in all facilities in counties with a population of 75,000 or greater.

Ransom Canyon currently has pens that are covered, but these pens do not meet all requirements.

Chief Rawls says if the animal control officers pick up your



pet, and the pet is wearing a tag, every effort will be made to contact the owner or to secure your pet on your property.

If the police can't locate the owner, or if the dog is not tagged, it will be taken straight to the animal shelter in Lubbock.

The Chief emphasized the

need for all dogs to wear veterinarian ID tags, so they can be reunited quickly with their owners.

The Chief mentioned that he does not have good luck with capturing cats.