

Ransom Canyon City Council Meeting Minutes
Regular Meeting, October 11, 2022
Ransom Canyon City Hall, 24 Lee Kitchens Drive

1. Call to Order/Pledges/Prayer

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Jana Trew. The City Council met in person at City Hall, 24 Lee Kitchens Drive, Ransom Canyon, Texas 79366. The following City Council members physically attended the meeting: Mayor Jana Trew, Councilmembers Dr. Terry Waldren, Ron McWilliams, Val Meixner, and John Hand. Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Underwood was absent. Staff members attending the meeting included City Administrator, Elena Quintanilla; Deputy City Secretary, Leslie Randolph, Chief of Police, James Hill; Director of Public Works, Cory Needham; Assistant Fire Chief, Angela Hill, and Librarian, Angie Fikes. Guests attending the meeting included Laurel Anderson, Madisson and Ryen Ortiz, Jason Sharkey, and Linda Williams. David Rodriguez from Texas Communities Group was present virtually. The prayer was said by City Administrator, Elena Quintanilla, followed by the pledges to the United States and State of Texas.

2. Property Owner's Association (POA) Report and Citizen Comments

Linda Williams reported that the Ransom Canyon Chapel and Fellowship Church are working together on a Revival in the Canyon to be held on November 1-2, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. She also stated that the Chapel is working on a fundraiser with homemade cookies and apple cider to solicit families to participate in a Christmas Home Tour for next year. Councilmember Val Meixner reported that the Property Owner's Association Garage Sale took place during the weekend and it was lightly attended.

3. Texas Communities Group (TCG)

David Rodriguez made a presentation on behalf of Texas Communities Group regarding their financial investment opportunities and other resources to serve cities.

4. Minutes

The minutes of the special meeting on September 1, 2022 and regular meeting on September 13, 2022 were approved on a motion made by Councilmember Ron McWilliams, seconded by Councilmember Dr. Terry Waldren; motion carried unanimously.

5. Financials

The financial reports and the September 2022 claims and demands were approved on a motion made by Councilmember Ron McWilliams, seconded by Councilmember Dr. Terry Waldren; motion carried unanimously.

6. Interlocal Agreement with Education Service Center (ESC) for 457 Plan

The City Council approved an interlocal agreement with Education Service Center (ESC) Region 10 to provide a 457 (b) Retirement Savings Plan for the Town of Ransom Canyon through the ESC Region 10 457 Cooperative and Master Plan on a motion made by Councilmember Ron McWilliams, seconded by Councilmember Dr. Terry Waldren; motion carried unanimously.

7. Resolution Approving Retirement Asset Management Program

The City Council approved a resolution approving the terms and conditions of an interlocal agreement between the Town of Ransom Canyon and the Education Service Center (ESC) 10 which sponsors the Retirement Asset Management Services program (RAMS) authorizing establishment or takeover of one or more city plans on a motion made by Councilmember Val Meixner, seconded by Councilmember Ron McWilliams; motion carried unanimously.

8. Texas Municipal Retirement Services

The City Council approved an ordinance authorizing and allowing, under the act governing the Texas Municipal Retirement System (TMRS) updated service credits, providing for a change in the municipal contributions to the current service annuity reserve at retirement; increasing the rate of deposits to the TMRS by the employees of the Town of Ransom Canyon; and establishing an effective date on a motion made by Councilmember Val Meixner, seconded by Councilmember Ron McWilliams; motion carried unanimously.

9. A Bid for Master Meter to Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) for Water

The City Council rejected a bid amount of \$382,341.78 submitted by Master meter to Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) system smart water meters for the Town of Ransom Canyon on a motion made by Councilmember Dr. Terry Waldren, seconded by Val Meixner; motion carried unanimously.

10. Replat on 3 Foothill

The City Council approved a replat at 3 Foothill on a motion made by Councilmember Ron McWilliams, seconded by Councilmember John Hand; motion carried unanimously.

11. Variance on a Fence at 3 Foothill

The City Council approved an appeal for a variance of a height variance of a fence at 3 Foothill from 6 feet to 7.6 feet on a motion made by Councilmember Ron McWilliams, seconded by Councilmember John Hand; motion carried unanimously.

A. BUILDING REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT:

The Building Review Committee met on September 26, 2022 to review porch plans for a home located at 23 Sunrise Lane. The builder is Billy Koontz and the owner is Gene Smith. Logan with Madewell Construction made a presentation regarding rammed earth house construction and is moving forward on a proposed construction of a house at 32 East Brookhollow. There was a second discussion on the fence variance request for Madisson Sharkey Ortiz at 3 Foothill.

B. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

- a. Administration: Elena Quintanilla reported the following:
 - She discussed her schedule of events for the week.
 - Vector Disease Control International (VDCI) attended the Texas Municipal League Conference and will continue to work with area cities to provide aerial spray services for the Region.
 - Elena contacted the Texas Tech Landscape Architect Department regarding the development of a Parks Master Plan and is anticipating a response from them.
 - Elena mentioned that the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) needs to approve a compaction study before they can move forward with the sewer plant. The engineers were required to get soil samples because the sewer plant is so close to the dam and TWDB was concerned whether the current soils could withstand construction.
 - The City Council watched a video of the services provided by the Texas Municipal League Health Board.
- b. The Municipal Court: Elena Quintanilla reported the following:
 - There are 68 total cases on the docket which include the following:
 - 12 pending warrant letters
 - 5 reminder letters mailed to offenders
 - 8 offenders are making payments
 - 4 offenders are completing paperwork from driver's safety courses, etc.
 - 4 cannot be contacted
 - 35 are paid and closed out.
- c. Operations: Cory Needham reported the following:
 - The Beast/Quad Investment subcontractors are installing a new road in the new subdivision.
 - Staff has been working on storm drainage repairs in the Canyon.

- The Operations advertisement has been posted for an Operations Operator.
 - Only two applicants submitted their applications for the Operations Operator position.
 - Staff sprayed for mosquitos four times and will spray on demand if rainfall continues to eradicate for mosquitos in the area.
- d. Police: James Hill reported the following:
- There was one (1) arrest, two (2) citations, and six (6) traffic warnings.
 - Chief Hill attended a Texas Police Chief Education Class in Lubbock, and Lt. Jensen will be attending a similar training.
 - A deer report accounted for 76 total deer in the Canyon on September 23, 2022. Police Department is still working with Parks on Wildlife to discuss solutions for the large number of deer in the Canyon.
 - The Department has been in contact with the Mayor of O'Donnell who is working to with a company in the metroplex to move to the area to provide animal control services for the area communities.
- e. Fire: Angela Hill reported the following:
- There were four (4) EMS calls and one (1) fire call this month.
 - The Fire Suppression Grant details are complete.
 - The Ransom Canyon Volunteer Fire Department is continuing with a remodel at the firehouse to accommodate the extraction (washing) machine and to renovate the floors, supply room, and new windows.
 - The Fire Department Pancake Breakfast had steady traffic and flu shots were administered at the event.
- f. Library: Angie Fikes reported the following:
- Angie Fikes attended a rural and small library conference.
 - Approximately fifteen kids attended the "The Back to School Bash" on September 24, 2022.
 - Angie is working with the girls in the Canyon on a "Girls Who Code Computer Program" to assist with a gender gap that exists in technology.
 - She is providing a resource for homeschoolers to provide some books for parents to assist kids with financing and other programs.
 - The Children's Library will host an event for Halloween.
 - The Children's Library will start some projects relating to the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Programs (STEM).

12. Adjournment

The City Council adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m. on a motion made by Councilmember Dr. Terry Waldren, seconded by Councilmember John Hand; motion carried unanimously.

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jana Trew", written over a horizontal line.

Jana Trew, Mayor

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Elena Quintanilla", written over a horizontal line.

Elena Quintanilla, City Secretary