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"Crossroads to the Metroplex"

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
REGULAR SESSION**

**June 11th, 2015**

Mayor Pittman called the meeting to order at 7:00pm, and announced a quorum. Council members present were Jo Ann Wilson, Dawn Davis, Jerry Taylor, Tim Robison, and Ronnie Moore.

Staff Present: City Attorney, Walt Leonard, and City Secretary, Angie Young, Police Sergeant, Thomas Pennington, Fire Chief, Jason Miller, and Public Works Director, Sam Dorsett.

Council Member Jerry Taylor gave the invocation and Mayor Pittman led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Citizens Presentations and Public Input for Future Agenda Items**

Sam Eason addressed the issue of notification of a closed session. Specifically he noted Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code as it pertains to Open Meetings, specifically under which section it is held, an explanation of the item. He also believes the Parks and Recreation and Planning & Zoning Board should be in Executive Session

Next Mr. Eason addressed who may attend closed session, specifically the representatives from Taco Casa should not have been allowed in and read from section 9e in support of his belief and asked that the minutes be published or action stricken.

Robert Kurtz spoke on his desire to utilize parks or park land for a baseball field. He stated that the Decatur has invited Rhome to participate in their events. He also has received donations of 14 lights for the fields and believes a baseball facility will increase sales from local business during events.

Mayor Pittman announced that New Rhome Police Officers Shawn Owens and Lonnie Sneed will be sworn in and given their Oath of Office. Mayor Pittman then administered the Oath to Officer Sneed and then Office Owens.

**Consent Agenda**

Council Member Wilson asked to pull down the Fire Department Report. Fire Chief Miller addressed the items for auction and request for funding for Incentive Pay due to the increase in staff and number of calls. Council Members Robison and Taylor asked questions regarding the funding for incentives. Mayor Pittman gave feedback on possible avenues for funding. Council Member Moore addressed repairs on trucks and Fire Department Representatives explained the repairs needed. Council Member Wilson asked about any grants received to which Mayor Pittman said there are none yet. Council Member Robison asked about the estimates for adding on to the day room to which Fire Chief Miller responded that they are looking into getting funding for that. Council Member Taylor likes the ideas f trading off unused equipment.

Council Member Wilson asked if we could authorize the Fire Department to move forward with the auction Council Member Moore suggested the Police Department items be put with the fire Department items for auction. Council Member Moore made a motion to sell the Quint for not less than $5,000.00 and Council Member Wilson seconded the motion. All voted aye, the motion carried.

Council Member Moore made a motion to move to Item “I” on the agenda, Council Member Wilson seconded the motion. All voted aye, the motion carried.

The Support Group for the Volunteer Fire Department spoke on the plans, budget and dates for Splash Day and the 4th of July. Member Christan Poe advised discussed the blow up slides owned by the Volunteer Fire Department, the vendors, and the expenses to date. She also advised that they will have some things donated and that they will be set up inside the Fire Hall Council Member Moore had concerns about whether there would be enough slides. Ms. Poe said they have 2 slides and a slip and slide but they do not have a budget to buy more, however, they may have one donated as well. Ms. Poe also noted that they will need more volunteers to work it and Council Member Moore said we could put it on the Community Review and the Website. Ms. Poe stated they need about 12 volunteers. Support Crew member Candace Fitch spoke on behalf of the plans for the 4th of July. Fire Chief Miller knows someone with land near By Well they are willing to allow them to set off fireworks on. Council Member Wilson asked whether they would charge admission, Ms. Fitch said they were thinking of $5.00 a car load. They will use Facebook and the DFW Scanner to advertise. Council Member Robison said the land owner wants and agreement from the city that he is not responsible for accidents and will make sure it is safe. Fire Chief Miller will check to make sure this is compliant with the Fire Code and also provide traffic control. City Secretary Young will look into whether insurance will be needed for the event. Council Member Wilson made a motion to approve both Splash Day and the 4th of July events and Council Member Robison seconded the motion. All voted aye, the motion carried.

Council Member Taylor asked to pull the Police Department Report down for further review. His concerns were about getting a quote for the work needed on the parking lot. He would like to see the work done in conjunction with the parking lots at the park. Public Works Director Sam Dorsett has not heard back with a quote.

Council Member Moore made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda and Council Member Wilson seconded the motion. All voted aye, the motion carried. Mayor Pittman announced that the dates for Spring Clean up are Saturday June 13th and Saturday June 20th. There will be three dumpsters placed at the north side of the Fire Hall. This is open to resident only and they will be asked to verify their residency. Council Member Moore asked if there would be city employees present. Public Works Director Sam Dorsett advised there would be.

Taco Casa Representative Will Reed spoke regarding his requests. Mayor Pittman read from an email sent from Mr. Reed concerning the requests. Citizen LeeAnn Mackowski spoke in opposition to the request, stating that the city could not afford to give them and that the sign height is too high. Citizen Liz Rubin also spoke in opposition to the height of the sign and waiving the permit fees. Citizen Jimmy Johnson said he would love to have Taco Casa but also disagrees with the costs to the city. He wanted to know where the employees would come from. Mr. Reed said he hoped from Rhome but he cannot control who applies. Mr. Reed noted that he thought that the previous Mayor Pro Tem had already addressed all of his requests and that they would not be an issue. Council Member Moore said that the sales would generate revenues in Rhome. Council Member Robison offered that if the city paid $15,000.00 period for all concessions and that the Reed’s sign an agreement to pay that back immediately when they sell lot 2 would they be able to do this? Mr. Reed had an issue with the request to bore under the road as opposed to cutting through it as this will cost more. Public Works Director Sam Dorsett asked if they cut through it instead would they sign an agreement to make any repairs to the road that come up in the next five years. Mr. Reed said he could not make these decisions without first speaking to his father about them. Council Member Davis made a motion to table the decision until they could hear back from Mr. Reed on the $15,000.00 offer and the agreement on the road repair. Council Member Moore seconded the motion. All voted aye, the motion carried.

Council Member Wilson made a motion to approve the final draft of the Parking Ordinance No. 2015-2. Council Member Robison seconded the motion. All voted aye, the motion carried.

Agenda Items D.) , E.) , and F.) were moved to a future meeting

Mayor Pittman announced that the Planning & Zoning Board had made a recommendation for approval on the final plat for 158, 166, and 172 Private Road 4842, and that the city’s inspector had also approved it. Council Member Wilson made a motion to approve and Council Member Moore seconded the motion. All voted aye, the motion carried.

Mayor Pittman explained that the revision to Chapter 5 of the Code of Ordinances was approved last year but never signed. And that she will sign off on it.

At 8:32p.m. Council recessed into Executive Session. At 9:47p.m. Council reconvened into Open Session. Council Member Robison made a motion that the City Secretary has authority over the Administrative Assistant and the Court Clerk for day to day decisions. Council Member Taylor seconded the motion. All voted aye, the motion carried.

**New Business**

Mayor Pittman addressed the form used for council to put an item on the agenda. This form may be emailed. Council Member Wilson asked that both the Mayor and the City Secretary be included on requests to put items on the agenda. City Attorney Leonard said we should print off any emailed requests. If you miss the deadline we will roll it to the next agenda. Council Member Wilson asked that the form be limited to just the request and not a reason as to why. She also asked why the five business day requirement, City Secretary Young explained that it allows for preparation and posting within the 72 hour period.

Mayor Pittman said we might want to have a workshop and also involve Planning & Zoning. Council set a workshop date of July 14th, 2015 at 6:30 for a workshop to address a five year plan for the city and to review all vendor lists by department including any drafts. (Agenda Item G.)

Council Member Moore asked if we were putting the seat available on the P&Z and Parks Board on the web or Community Review. Mayor Pittman said the have 4 applications for each. Council Member Wilson made a motion to move the discussion to appointment Planning & Zoning Board Members to the June 23rd agenda. Council Member Davis seconded the motion. All voted aye, the motion carried.

Mayor Pittman said that the Planning & Zoning Board has asked for a review of using the ten acres behind Crown Point for a city park. Council Member Moore said the problem has been access. City Attorney Leonard said we may have an easement by description. Council Member Moore said most grants require the road to be paved. Mayor Pittman asked about the suggestion of land swapping the ten acres. Council Member Wilson said they wanted ten for three. Council Member Moore made a motion to set this item aside. Council Member Taylor seconded the motion. All voted aye, the motion carried.

Council Member Wilson said she would like to table this item until June 23rd as well, to give more time for applications to be received. Council Member Davis seconded the motion. All voted aye, the motion carried.

Mayor Pittman said she had asked for the locks at City Hall and the Community Center and the code at the Fire Department because she has seen ex-employees use the code for access, they have had several changes at the Fire Department. She also said we have had two mayors and all new department heads in the last year. She asked council to determine who should have keys. Council Member Wilson said the key board in the vault needs to be removed and new one made. Council Member Moore said the Police Department needs a key. Council Member Wilson said she needs access to the Community Center. She also asked about the combination to the back door at the Fire Hall. Mayor Pittman said that would be the same as the keys. She said we would make copies and have people sign them out. Council Member Moore said a council member should have access to the Fire Hall. Council Member Taylor said the state says who can enter the Fire Hall for insurance purposes. He also said it is a city building and all should have access. Mayor Pittman said the buzzer is not working. Council Member Robison made a motion to all council and the PD to have access to all city buildings. Council Member Moore seconded the motion. All voted aye, the motion carried.

Council Member Wilson said the list of vendors can be pulled of QuickBooks. Council Member Robison said this will help at budget time. Council Member Wilson made a motion to move this to the workshop date on June 23rd. Council Member Robison seconded the motion. All voted aye, the motion carried.

Mayor Pittman explained that she has been in contact with the judge for Wise County and the Fire Marshall for Wise regarding disaster relief. He will be sending paperwork for assistance to reimburse overtime, roadwork, and other expenses. Council Member Robison made a motion to ask the Mayor move forward on this issue and Council Member Taylor seconded the motion. All voted aye, the motion carried.

Mayor Pittman asked whether the gathering of quotes and proposals for city attorney, city engineer, building inspector, and city auditor was meant to be done by council or the mayor. Council Member Wilson said it would come out of the front office. She also noted that TML may have a source list. City Attorney said they have a website. She said she would get with the City Secretary to get a list. Mayor Pittman asked for thoughts on this. She said that we could ask for a quote for the fiscal year on the cost of services. City Attorney Leonard said they could give their rates. Council Member Taylor made a motion to authorize city staff and Council Member Wilson to get these proposals and quotes. Council Member Davis seconded the motion. All voted aye, the motion carried.

**Future Agenda Items**

None

There being no further business, at 10:15p.m. Council Member Moore made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Taylor seconded the motion. All voted aye, the motion carried.

**CERTIFICATION:**

**Passed and approved on this the 23rd day of June, 2015.**

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**Michelle Pittman, Mayor**

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**Angie Young, City Secretary**