



## **REGULAR MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF RICE, TEXAS**

**Thursday, March 14, 2024**

**7:00 PM**

**Rice City Hall**

**305 N. Dallas Street**

**Rice, TX 75155**

### **AGENDA**

1. Call to Order: By Christi Campell, Mayor at 7:01 pm
2. Roll Call
  - a. Present: Sheila Teague, Rosa Vasquez, Diane Cheek, Donnie Fisher, Troy Foreman, Mayor
  - b. Absent: None
3. Pledge of Allegiance: By all
4. Texas Pledge of Allegiance: By all
5. Prayer: Donnie P. Fisher
6. Public Forum:

Debbie Johnson – 800 E. Calhoun Rice, TX

Debbie Johnson spoke of shooting firearms, behind her house and in city limits. The Sheriff Department told her a while back, that they can't enforce city laws.

This past Saturday night at approximately 8 pm, a rapid fire was shot behind her house. Sounded like it was hitting tin, and Kevin's barn is tin. The building and house are within the city limits.

Called Sheriff's Department to see if Rice had any police officers on duty and was told No.

Monday morning, she came to talk to Celeste at the police department and was told the police department had undergone budget cuts, hours had been cut and are down a vehicle and that was why there were no police officers on duty on Saturday night at 8 pm.

Mrs. Johnson stated that the Dollar General coming down would bring more crime.

Mrs. Johnson advised the council to cut the budget but not the police department.

Maria Rodriquez and Charles Howard, 205 E. Crocket Street, Rice, TX

Maria explained to the council that she and her husband (Juan) bought property from the Economic Development Commission in 2019 and have not received all the deeds to their property. They received the deed for the mobile home and the “basketball court”. They were waiting on the deeds for the property of Gilmer Street, Sherman and Sherman and Benton and the deeds for the Right of Ways they bought from the City in 2019-2020. (Gilmer and Sherman), (Sherman and Jefferson), Sherman and Benton Streets)

It came to their attention that the city sold 5’ of their property on Jefferson Street to Dollar General Market.

They are frustrated and want their deeds before the city sells more of their property.

7. Public Hearing was held for the rezoning request for 200 North Dallas Street, Rice, TX from R-2 to R-4 (multifamily residential).

James Farmer was present to explain the reason for the rezoning and answer questions.

8. Reports

Request was made to forego reading of each department report:

- a. January 2024 Volunteer Fire Department Report
- b. February 2024 Volunteer Fire Department Report
- c. January 2024 Police Department Report
- d. February 2024 Police Department Report
- e. January 2024 Municipal Court Report
- f. February 2024 Municipal Court Report
- g. January 2024 Administrative Report
- h. February 2024 Administrative Report
- i. Mayors Report

Rosa Vasquez pointed out that there was a duplicate of the Administrative Report. There were 2 January 2024 Reports

9. Consent Items

A. Approval of Minutes

1. Discuss and Deliberate Approval of January 11, 2024, Regular Minutes:

Motion to approve Minutes, with the addition of the votes for each item, for January 11, 2024: Made by: Rosa Vasquez

Seconded by: Diane Cheek

Ayes: Rosa Vasquez, Sheila Teague, Diane Cheek, Donnie P. Fisher, and Troy Foreman

Nays: None

Motion passed.

B. Approval of Financials

1. Discuss and Deliberate Approval of January and February 2024 Financials  
There was a question regarding the Library and its Donations.

Motion to Approve Financials for January 2024 and February 2024: Made by:  
Troy Foreman

Seconded by: Rosa Vasquez

Ayes: Rosa Vasquez, Sheila Teague, Diane Cheek, Donnie P. Fisher and Troy  
Foreman

Nays: None

Motion passed.

10. New Business

- a. Discuss and Deliberate Approval of the Resolution for changes to Board  
of Adjustment members:

Motion to approve changes of adding Troy Foreman and deleting Christi  
Campbell as members of the Board of Adjustment: Made by: Donnie P.  
Fisher

Seconded by: Diane Cheek

Ayes: Rosa Vasquez, Sheila Teague, Diane Cheek, Donnie P. Fisher, and  
Troy Foreman

Nays: None

Motion passed.

- b. Discuss and Deliberate on Rezoning 200 North Dallas property to multi-  
family zone:

Motion to approve the rezoning of 200 North Dallas from R-2  
To R-4: Made by: Troy Foreman

Seconded by: Donnie P. Fisher

Ayes by: Rosa Vasquez, Sheila Teague, Diane Cheek, Donnie P. Fisher,  
and Troy Foreman

Nays: None

Motion passed.

- c. Discuss and Deliberate approval of the Joint Contract for Election Services

Motion to approve the Joint Contract for Election Services: Made by:  
Donnie P. Fisher

Seconded: Diane Cheek

Ayes by: Rosa Vasquez, Sheila Teague, Diane Cheek, Donnie P. Fisher,  
and Troy Foreman

Nays: None

Motion passed.

- d. Discuss refund to Juan and Maria Rodriguez  
Motion to Table until all the deeds are completed and recorded: Made by:  
Donnie P. Fisher  
Seconded by: Rosa Vasquez  
  
Ayes by: Rosa Vasquez, Sheila Teague, Diane Cheek, Donnie P. Fisher,  
and Troy Foreman  
  
Nays: None  
  
Motion passed.
- e. Discuss and Deliberate accepting Laura McGee's resignation from EDC.  
Motion to accept Laura McGee's resignation from EDC: Made by: Troy Foreman  
Seconded by: Rosa Vasquez  
  
Ayes by: Rosa Vasquez, Sheila Teague, Diane Cheek, Donnie P. Fisher,  
and Troy Foreman  
  
Nays: None  
  
Motion passed.
- f. Discuss and Deliberate accepting the resignation of Office Matthew Guerrero  
(Badge #375)  
Motion to accept Office Matthew Guerrero's resignation from the police  
department: Made by: Donnie P. Fisher  
Seconded by: Troy Foreman  
  
Ayes by: Rosa Vasquez, Sheila Teague, Diane Cheek, Donnie P. Fisher,  
and Troy Foreman  
  
Nays: None  
  
Motion passed.
- g. Discuss and Deliberate the reserve officers to cover as part time  
officers until a full time position is filled:  
Motion to use reserve officers 32 hours a week between the two  
reserve officers, as part time officers until full time position is  
filled: Made by: Donnie P. Fisher  
Seconded by: Rosa Vasquez  
  
Ayes by: Rosa Vasquez, Sheila Teague, Diane Cheek, Donnie P. Fisher,  
and Troy Foreman  
  
Nays: None  
  
Motion passed.
- h. Discuss and Deliberate T-Mobile cell phones instead of Hotspots for  
Police Department.  
  
Motion to approve using T-Mobile cell phones instead of Hotspots for  
Police Department: Made by: Donnie P. Fisher  
Seconded by: Rosa Vasquez

Ayes by: Rosa Vasquez, Sheila Teague, Diane Cheek, Donnie P. Fisher, and Troy Foreman

Nays: None

Motion passed.

- i. Discuss and Deliberate Approval of Replat to abandon one-half Sherman Street at Gilmer to end of Sherman Street.

Motion to deny the approval of the replat to abandon one-half Sherman Street at Gilmer to end of Sherman Street: Made by: Donnie P. Fisher

Seconded by: Rosa Vasquez

Ayes by: Rosa Vasquez, Sheila Teague, Diane Cheek, Donnie P. Fisher, and Troy Foreman

Nays: None

Motion passed.

- j. Discuss and Deliberate approval for Procurement Policy for Grantworks

Motion to approve the Procurement Policy for Grantworks: Made by: Donnie P. Fisher

Seconded by: Troy Foreman

Ayes by: Rosa Vasquez, Sheila Teague, Diane Cheek, Donnie P. Fisher, and Troy Foreman

Nays: None

Motion Passed

- k. Discuss and Deliberate approval for SysLogic Technology Services, LLC's contract for Police Department

Motion to approve SysLogic Technology Services, LLC's contract for the Police Department: Made by: Troy Foreman

Seconded by: Rosa Vasquez

Ayes: Rosa Vasquez, Sheila Teague, Diane Cheek, Donnie P. Fisher, and Troy Foreman

Nays: None

Motion Passed

- l. Draw names for order names will appear on May 4, 2024, ballot:

Names were drawn by Donnie P. Fisher:

1. Rosa Vasquez
2. Tonya Roberts
3. Troy Foreman
4. Sarah Farley
5. Nick White

- m. Discuss logistics and security for the weekend of April 8, 2024, during the eclipse.

Every officer will be available.

Staff will be downtown and at the park.

Recommended to close city hall.

Chief Parsons stated that DPS will have extra troopers on the I45 corridor.

- n. Discuss safety concerns for school traffic.

It was discussed that the police department could alter their schedule to help with school traffic during school hours.

Donnie P. Fisher requested more of a police presence before school and when school is let out, and for the police department to come up with a plan.

- o. Discuss and Deliberate approval of Donna Gibson to the EDC

Motion to approve Donna Gibson on the EDC: Made by: Rosa Vazquez

Seconded by: Diane Cheek

Ayes: Rosa Vasquez, Sheila Teague, Diane Cheek, Donnie P. Fisher, and Troy Foreman

Nays: None

Motion passed.

- p. Discuss and Deliberate approval of Economic Development Commission bylaw changes.

Motion to approve the changes to the Economic Development Commission bylaws: Made by: Donnie P. Fisher

Seconded by: Sheila Teague

Ayes: Rosa Vasquez, Sheila Teague, Diane Cheek, Donnie P. Fisher, and Troy Foreman

Nays: None

Motion passed.

- 11. Closed Session      No Closed Session
- 12. No Closed Session
- 13. Council will go into Closed Executive Session pursuant to Section 551.071
- 14. Reconvene into Regular Session
- 15. Return from Closed Executive Session to take any action regarding discussions in the Closed Session

16. Adjourn

a. Motion to Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn: Made by: Donnie P. Fisher

Seconded by: Sheila Teague

Ayes: Rosa Vasquez, Sheila Teague, Diane Cheek, Donnie P. Fisher, and Troy Foreman

Nays: None

Motion passed.

ATTEST:

---

Sharon Watson  
City Secretary/Finance Clerk

---

Date