



City of Rowlett

Meeting Agenda

City Council

4000 Main Street
Rowlett, TX 75088
www.rowlett.com

City of Rowlett City Council meetings are available to all persons regardless of disability. If you require special assistance, please contact the City Secretary at 972-412-6115 or write 4000 Main Street, Rowlett, Texas, 75088, at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

Tuesday, December 9, 2014

6:00 P.M.

Municipal Building – 4000 Main Street

As authorized by Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code, this meeting may be convened into closed Executive Session for the purpose of seeking confidential legal advice from the City Attorney on any agenda item herein.

The City of Rowlett reserves the right to reconvene, recess or realign the Regular Session or called Executive Session or order of business at any time prior to adjournment.

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. EXECUTIVE SESSION (6:00 P.M.)* Times listed are approximate

2A. The City Council shall convene into Executive Session pursuant to the Texas Government Code, §551.087 (Economic Development) and §551.071 (Consultation with Attorney) to receive legal advice from the City Attorney and discuss the Rowlett Public Library transition plan. (60 minutes)

2B. The City Council shall convene into Executive Session pursuant to the Texas Government Code, §551.071 (Consultation with Attorney) to receive legal advice from the City Attorney relating to Elgin B. Robertson Park and the Master Lease Agreement with the City of Dallas for the Take Area. (30 minutes) (THIS ITEM WILL BE DISCUSSED FOLLOWING THE REGULAR PORTION OF THE MEETING)

3. WORK SESSION (7:00 P.M.)

3A. Discuss 2015 Legislative Agenda. (30 minutes)

4. DISCUSS CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

CONVENE INTO THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS (7:30 P.M.)*

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

TEXAS PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Honor the Texas Flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible.

5. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

- 5A. Hear presentation of the Monthly Financial report for the period ending October 31, 2014.
- 5B. Update from the City Council and Management: Financial Position, Major Projects, Operational Issues, Upcoming Dates of Interest and Items of Community Interest.

6. CITIZENS' INPUT

At this time, three-minute comments will be taken from the audience on any topic. To address the Council, please submit a fully-completed request card to the City Secretary prior to the beginning of the Citizens' Input portion of the Council meeting. No action can be taken by the Council during Citizens' Input.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

The following may be acted upon in one motion. A City Councilmember or a citizen may request items be removed from the Consent Agenda for individual consideration.

- 7A. Consider action to approve minutes from the December 2, 2014, City Council Meeting.
- 7B. Consider action to approve a resolution supporting use of the Sporting Goods Tax for funding Texas State Parks and the Texas Recreation and Parks Account for local park grants.

8. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION

There are no items for Individual Consideration.

TAKE ANY NECESSARY OR APPROPRIATE ACTION ON CLOSED/EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTERS

9. ADJOURNMENT

Stacey Chadwick

Stacey Chadwick, Deputy City Secretary

I certify that the above notice of meeting was posted on the bulletin boards located inside and outside the doors of the Municipal Center, 4000 Main Street, Rowlett, Texas, as well as on the City's website (www.rowlett.com) on the 4th day of December 2014, by 5:00 p.m.



City of Rowlett
Staff Report

4000 Main Street
P.O. Box 99
Rowlett, TX 75080-0099
www.rowlett.com

AGENDA DATE: 12/09/14

AGENDA ITEM: 2A

TITLE

The City Council shall convene into Executive Session pursuant to the Texas Government Code, §551.087 (Economic Development) and §551.071 (Consultation with Attorney) to receive legal advice from the City Attorney and discuss the Rowlett Public Library transition plan. (60 minutes)



City of Rowlett
Staff Report

4000 Main Street
P.O. Box 99
Rowlett, TX 75080-0099
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AGENDA DATE: 12/09/14

AGENDA ITEM: 2B

TITLE

The City Council shall convene into Executive Session pursuant to the Texas Government Code, §551.071 (Consultation with Attorney) to receive legal advice from the City Attorney relating to Elgin B. Robertson Park and the Master Lease Agreement with the City of Dallas for the Take Area. (30 minutes) (THIS ITEM WILL BE DISCUSSED FOLLOWING THE REGULAR PORTION OF THE MEETING)



City of Rowlett
Staff Report

4000 Main Street
P.O. Box 99
Rowlett, TX 75030-0099
www.rowlett.com

AGENDA DATE: 12/09/14

AGENDA ITEM: 3A

TITLE

Discuss 2015 Legislative Agenda. (30 minutes)

STAFF REPRESENTATIVE

Brian Funderburk, City Manager

SUMMARY

The purpose of this item is to discuss possible legislation that could impact the City during the 84th Legislative Session and to determine if the City Council desires to establish legislative priorities for Rowlett.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In previous years, the City Council has approved resolutions supporting or opposing certain issues that may be considered before the Texas State Legislature. The 84th Legislative Session begins on January 13, 2015, and staff has prepared this item to provide the opportunity for the City Council to approve a formal legislative agenda.

DISCUSSION

Introduction:

Like most municipalities in Texas, the City of Rowlett pays attention to possible legislation that could impact it from the 84th Legislative Session. Unlike 2013, it will be a growing economy that will have a profound impact on how Texas balances its budget. With the stakes so high, lobbyists and other special interest groups are expected to work doubly hard to make sure that their interests are protected even if that means creating winners and losers.

The sheer magnitude of bills in any legislative session is a chore to monitor. Given the economic impetus that the legislature will be dealing with, staff will take a proactive role in tracking bills that may have a significant impact on Rowlett's revenues, operations, or legal authority, through state mandates.

In order to do this, staff has created a tracking system that it will utilize to optimize collaboration and information sharing. It will include a report that staff will update and publish on a weekly basis. In addition, at any time staff becomes aware of a critical issue, we will use email, telephone or use other means to notify the Council and other stakeholders in a timely manner.

84th Legislative Session:

The 84th Legislative Session will begin on Tuesday, January 13, 2015. The Session will end on Monday, June 1, 2015. Prefiling of bills began on November 10, 2014. Each Senator and

Representative is allowed to introduce bills. In addition, others in the government, as well as senators and representatives who chair committees, are also allowed to introduce bills. Often, bills that are introduced “compete” with other versions introduced by other legislators. Committees “hear” these bills, offer changes and amendments, and either move them to the main floor to be voted on or vote to table them in Committee where they never see the light of day.

Calendar:

STATE OF TEXAS 84th LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Tuesday, November 4, 2014

General election for legislative and other offices is held
[Election Code, Sec. 41.002]

Monday, November 10, 2014

Prefiling of legislation for the 84th Legislature begins
[House Rule 8, Sec. 7, and Senate Rule 7.04(a)]

Session Begins

Tuesday, January 13, 2015 (1st day)

84th Legislature convenes at noon
[Government Code, Sec. 301.001]

Friday, March 13, 2015 (60th day)

Deadline for filing bills and joint resolutions other than local bills, emergency appropriations, and bills that have been declared an emergency by the governor
[House Rule 8, Sec. 8; Senate Rules 7.07(b); Senate Rule 10.01 subjects joint resolutions to the rules governing proceedings on bills]

Monday, June 1, 2015 (140th day)

Last day of 84th Regular Session; corrections only in house and senate
[Sec. 24(b), Art. III, Texas Constitution]

Session Ends

Sunday, June 21, 2015 (20th day following final adjournment)

Last day governor can sign or veto bills passed during the regular legislative session
[Sec. 14, Art. IV, Texas Constitution]

Monday, August 31, 2015 (91st day following final adjournment)

Date that bills without specific effective dates (that could not be effective immediately) become law
[Sec. 39, Art. III, Texas Constitution]

Legislative Agenda for Other Entities:

The Texas Municipal League (TML) published their 2015 legislative priorities on October 10, 2014. In previous years, TML has approved a series of resolutions regarding municipal revenue

and finance, eminent domain and regulation of development, and utilities and transportation, among other items. Most of these resolutions list issues that they would like to see introduced, support, oppose or take no position on. For 2015, TML is taking the approach that Cities are “partners” with the state (Attachment One) with the theme *Continue Partnering with Cities to do the State’s Local Work*. TML’s legislative priorities are as follows:

1. Ensure that local decisions are made locally by supporting reasonable enhancements to regulatory authority and by opposing attempts to harm the ability of cities to:
 - Protect property values by imposing reasonable development standards;
 - Enact zoning ordinances; and
 - Respond to citizen demands for orderly development.
2. Protect and enhance essential infrastructure by opposing efforts to diminish municipal revenue and by supporting initiatives that will meet the needs of our cities for:
 - Streets, roads, and bridges;
 - Clean water;
 - Safe and effective wastewater treatment;
 - Stormwater management; and
 - Sustainable solid waste collection and disposal.
3. Ensure funding for vital community services by vigorously opposing efforts to erode revenue needed to:
 - Keep cities safe from crime;
 - Respond to emergencies;
 - Enhance economic growth and job creation;
 - Provide recreational facilities, parks, and libraries; and
 - Protect the natural environment.

On October 23, 2014, the Texas Municipal Retirement System (TMRS) passed a resolution (Attachment Two) regarding the upcoming legislative session. The resolution contains the following “be it resolved” language.

Be It Resolved by the Board of Trustees of TMRS, that the Board strongly supports the continuation of the current hybrid (“cash-balance”) plan design, high operational standards, local control for cities, and commitment to actuarially sound funding policies that have characterized TMRS since its inception, and furthermore

Be It Resolved by the Board of Trustees of TMRS, that the Board encourages the Texas Legislature to continue their support of TMRS and not support any legislative proposals that would negatively impact TMRS.

The North Texas Tollway Authority (NTTA) has adopted their priorities for 2015 (Attachment Three) as well. Their priorities support roadway safety, remedies to aid in the collection of tolls, and preservation of their current business tools for the effective operation of NTTA.

The North Texas Crime Commission (NTCC) has approved their North Texas Crime Commission Anti-Crime Legislative Package (Attachment Four). Some of their primary initiatives are to oppose legalization of marijuana, use of DNA samples, and to increase funding to develop a strategic mental health initiative to facilitate access to those challenged by mental health issues.

Finally, as of the time of this staff report, Rockwall County had scheduled a meeting for November 17th to discuss 2015 legislative issues but was cancelled. It is not certain yet whether Dallas County has discussed their priorities for 2015 as of the time of this staff report.

At the current time, other key organizations, such as Dallas County and the Government Finance Officers Association of Texas (GFOAT), have not yet published their legislative agenda on their webpages. Once they do so, staff will update its information. Links to these key entities' legislative webpages are as follows:

Texas Municipal League -	http://www.tml.org/legislative_faq
North Central Texas Council Of Governments -	http://www.nctcog.org/trans/legislative/index.asp
Texas Municipal Retirement System	http://www.tmr.org/legislative.php
North Texas Tollway Authority	https://www.ntta.org/whatwedo/govtaff/Pages/Legislative-Progress.aspx

Rowlett's Legislative Agenda:

Rowlett has the opportunity to be more proactive if the City Council wishes. For example, in the 2011 Legislative Session, the City solicited the assistance of Senator Bob Deuell to file bills creating three separate municipal management districts, all of which passed. In the 2013 Legislative Session, the City of Rowlett developed a Fact Sheet (Attachment Five) with its legislative priorities including greater flexibility by cities to fund local transportation projects, requiring toll authorities to reimburse local governments for the value of services provided to help toll roads operate safely, and to directly oppose any erosion of municipal authority, including setting revenue caps or imposing state fees on municipal water systems. Clearly, with the advent of the discussions this past summer centering around the possibility of a new tollway through Rowlett, support for improvements on I-30 have never been more important.

On February 11-12, the City of Rowlett will again partner with the Rowlett Chamber of Commerce for *Rowlett Legislative Days* to visit with our representatives in Austin. This would be a good time to share our concerns and issues about any particular bills being considered or the City's legislative agenda overall.

Based upon research conducted by City staff utilizing pre-filed bills and legislative programs/agendas of other governmental bodies, it is staff's recommendation that the City

Council consider the following issues as part of any formal legislative agenda that the Council may approve:

Municipal Revenue

- Support any legislation that would simplify the effective tax rate calculation for notice purposes only, provided the legislation would have no effect on the underlying effective tax rate and rollback tax rate calculations themselves, nor upon the hold harmless exemptions to those rates.
- Oppose any legislation that would reduce the annual property tax appraisal cap.
- Oppose any legislation that would impose a revenue cap of any type, including a reduced rollback rate, mandatory tax rate ratification elections, lowered rollback petition requirements, limitations on overall city expenditures, or exclusion of the new property adjustment in effective rate and rollback rate calculations.
- Oppose any legislation that would impose new property tax exemptions that erode the property tax base.
- Oppose any legislation that would impose a property tax freeze that can be implemented by any mechanism other than council action.
- Oppose any legislation that would impose new sales tax exemptions that erode the sales tax base.
- Oppose any legislation that would inhibit the City from setting the sales tax.
- Oppose any legislation that would erode municipal authority to participate in utility rate cases.
- Oppose any legislation that would impose additional state fees or costs on municipal court convictions or require municipal courts to collect fine revenue for the state.

Public Safety

- Support legislation that would allow DWI Checkpoints to be established by local law enforcement.
- Support legislation that would require sex offenders to provide additional pertinent information to local law enforcement.
- Support the legislative agenda of the North Texas Crime Commission (NTCC).
- Oppose any legislation that would repeal or limit use of video in law.

Transportation

- Support the I-30 Bottleneck Project and I-30 Reconstruction Project identified in the Blacklands Corridor Feasibility Study. Join with the City of Garland to support further improvements to I-30 as part of the I-30/US80 East Corridor Project as it affects I-30. Support the East Corridor Project currently under consideration by the Texas Department of Transportation to be extended further east, beyond Dalrock Road and its inclusion, as an amendment, in the current Mobility 2035 Transportation Plan. **[Note: these projects are part of the resolution approved by the Rowlett City Council on October 21, 2014]**
- Support legislation that would allow for greater flexibility by cities to fund local transportation projects; amend or otherwise modify state law to help cities fund

transportation projects; or provide municipalities with additional funding options and resources to address transportation needs that the state and federal governments are unable or unwilling to address.

- Support legislation that would discontinue the diversion of transportation revenues to non-transportation purposes and appropriate all revenues from highway user fees and taxes to fund transportation.
- Support the legislative agenda of the Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART).
- Support the legislative agenda of the Regional Transportation Council (RTC).

Quality of Life

- Support legislation that would maximize the use of revenues from the sporting goods sales tax and federal funds to increase funding for parks and recreation programs for both Local and State parks and that all Texas Recreation and Parks Account (TRPA) and Urban Account funded park projects be subject to the established Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD) competitive scoring system. **[Note: this item is part of the resolution for approval by the Rowlett City Council on December 9, 2014]**
- Support legislation that would restore funding to the Texas Recreation and Parks Account (TRPA) and Urban Account accounts in the amount of at least \$15.5 million per year. **[Note: this item is part of the resolution for approval by the Rowlett City Council on December 9, 2014]**

Home Rule/Local Control

- Support any legislation that would exempt Texas cities from any federal collective bargaining legislation that may become law in the future.
- Oppose any legislation that would erode municipal authority or otherwise undermine the City's sovereign immunity, or municipal annexation and zoning powers.
- Oppose any legislation that would erode municipal authority over the management and control of its rights-of-way or decreasing the authority of the City to be adequately compensated for such use.
- Oppose any legislation that would expand the current meet-and-confer law.

Environment

- Support legislation that would encourage environmental responsibility within the fiscal resources allowed.

Other

- Support the legislative agenda of the Texas Cities Aggregation Power Project (TCAP).
- Oppose any legislation that would erode municipal authority in any way, imposes an unfunded mandate, or otherwise be detrimental to cities.

City staff will track the progress of pre-filed bills and will periodically report their progress to the City Council through oral presentations and written reports. In addition to this action, City staff will prepare a communications piece for legislators and citizens.

FINANCIAL/BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

N/A

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Provide direction as needed regarding the 2015 Legislative Session.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment One – TML Legislative Priorities

Attachment Two – TMRS Legislative Resolution

Attachment Three – NTTA Legislative Priorities

Attachment Four – NTCC Anti-Crime Legislative Package

Attachment Five – Rowlett Priorities 83rd Texas Legislative Session



Texas Cities Do the State's Local Work: Safe Communities, Essential Infrastructure, Vital Services

Cities, the government closest to the people, embody the idea that “We the People” should be in control. Cities provide the services that we cannot do without. Those services reflect the will of the local taxpayers. They are not the kind of services people think of when they say they want less government. **Put simply: City services are the nuts and bolts of our society.**

Starting with Texas' independence in 1845, the legislature began creating cities to do its local work. **The Texas Municipal League now represents more than 1,100 cities of every size, shape, and service level.** The locally-elected city councils in those cities decide – based on the wants of their citizens – how to provide appropriate services.

They provide police and fire protection, the roads we drive on, local business development, the utilities we need to survive and prosper, the protection of property values through thoughtful rules that benefit everyone, and more. It costs money to provide these services, but **keeping taxes low while meeting citizens' demand for services** is a core value of city officials.

Cities don't typically seek funding from the state, and they receive virtually nothing from the state. What cities need in lieu of state funding is **to be treated as partners in keeping Texas great.** They want to continue providing local services in the way they were elected to do. That leads to the following legislative priorities:

1. Ensure that local decisions are made locally by supporting reasonable enhancements to regulatory authority and by opposing attempts to harm the ability of cities to:
 - Protect property values by imposing reasonable development standards;
 - Enact zoning ordinances; and
 - Respond to citizen demands for orderly development.

2. Protect and enhance essential infrastructure by opposing efforts to diminish municipal revenue and by supporting initiatives that will meet the needs of our cities for:
 - Streets, roads, and bridges;
 - Clean water;
 - Safe and effective wastewater treatment;
 - Stormwater management; and
 - Sustainable solid waste collection and disposal.

3. Ensure funding for vital community services by vigorously opposing efforts to erode revenue needed to:
 - Keep cities safe from crime;
 - Respond to emergencies;
 - Enhance economic growth and job creation;
 - Provide recreational facilities, parks, and libraries; and
 - Protect the natural environment.

**The City Message to Legislators is Clear:
Continue Partnering with Cities to do the State's Local Work**

To learn more, visit www.tml.org or call 512-231-7400
Legislative direct contact: Shanna Igo 512-750-8718

Texas Cities: Did You Know?

1. Texas cities **lead the nation in population growth**. In 2014, seven of the 15 fastest growing cities in the nation are in Texas. On average, somewhere around **1,000 people are added to the Texas population each day**. [*U.S. Census Bureau.*]

2. **Seventy-four percent of Texas residents live in incorporated cities** (of which there are 1,216) and 86 percent of Texans live in urban areas. [*U.S. Census Bureau.*]

3. **From 1990 to 2011, the total city property tax levy rose an average of 5.48 percent per year**. This increase is closely aligned with Texas' population growth plus inflation over the same period of time, which averaged out to a 4.7 percent average yearly increase. [*Texas Comptroller, Biennial Property Tax report for 2010 and 2011 and U.S. Census Bureau.*]

4. From 2009-2013, **total outstanding state debt increased by 27.8 percent**, total outstanding local debt increased by 14.9 percent, and **total outstanding city debt increased by only 13.7 percent**. [*Texas Bond Review Board, 2013 Annual Report and 2013 Local Annual Report.*]

5. Seventeen percent of property taxes statewide go to cities. **The majority of property taxes (54 percent) go to fund public schools**. Of the remainder, sixteen percent goes to counties, and 13 percent goes to special districts. [*Texas Comptroller, Annual Property Tax Report for Tax Year 2009.*]

6. **Texas cities receive virtually no financial assistance from the state**. In fact, Texas ranks 49th out of the 50 states in the amount of general revenue it receives from state government. [*National League of Cities, City and State Fiscal Structure (2008).*]

7. Using a unique concept dubbed "reverse intergovernmental aid," the Texas Legislature requires **cities to generate and remit to the state over \$200 million annually to fund state programs**. [*TML article, Reverse Intergovernmental Aid Revisited, Again (2013).*]

8. In fiscal year 2012, **cities pitched in more than \$112 million** in cash and much more in right-of-way donations and in-kind services **for state highway projects initiated by TxDOT**. [*TML article, Reverse Intergovernmental Aid Revisited, Again (2013).*]

9. **Local economic development incentives dwarf the economic development incentives offered by the state**. [*Committee Testimony by Executive Director of Governor's Office for Economic Development and Tourism, House Economic and Small Business Development Committee (2014).*]



Resolution

Whereas, the Texas Municipal Retirement System (TMRS) has provided Texas cities, municipal employees, and retirees a soundly funded, hybrid (“cash-balance”) retirement program for over 65 years that provides superior retirement security when compared to defined contribution plan alternatives; and

Whereas, the design of TMRS provides local control of retirement benefits so that cities may choose the level of benefits appropriate for their employees and their communities; and

Whereas, the design of the TMRS program requires each city to pay the annual required contribution to ensure that benefits remain soundly funded; and

Whereas, the TMRS Board of Trustees is committed to operating under the highest ethical standards and incorporating best practices for its actuarial and investment policies; and

Whereas, in recent years, TMRS has worked with constituent groups, including elected officials, employee associations, and representatives of city management, to craft important changes to the System that ensure its continued soundness; and

Whereas, the Board of Trustees studied the need for potential plan design changes during the most recent legislative interim period and after due consideration chose not to propose any changes to the current plan design at this time; and

Whereas, the Legislature of the State of Texas has historically been supportive of TMRS, the local control it provides to cities, and the high standards of its operations; and

Whereas, legislation may be proposed in the next session of the Texas Legislature to affect TMRS without regard to its actuarial condition, plan design, or potential impact on the sponsoring cities; therefore

Be It Resolved by the Board of Trustees of TMRS, that the Board strongly supports the continuation of the current hybrid (“cash-balance”) plan design, high operational standards, local control for cities, and commitment to actuarially sound funding policies that have characterized TMRS since its inception, and furthermore

Be it Resolved by the Board of Trustees of TMRS, that the Board encourages the Texas Legislature to continue their support of TMRS and not support any legislative proposals that would negatively impact TMRS.

Adopted by the TMRS Board on October 23, 2014



About NTTA

- Formed in 1997 as a political subdivision of the state of Texas.
- Authorized to acquire, construct, maintain, repair and operate turnpike projects in North Texas
- Serves Collin, Dallas, Denton, Tarrant and Johnson counties.
- Owns and operates the Dallas North Tollway, President George Bush Turnpike, Sam Rayburn Tollway, Addison Airport Toll Tunnel, Chisholm Trail Parkway, Lewisville Lake Toll Bridge and the Mountain Creek Lake Bridge.
- Raises capital for construction projects through the issuance of turnpike revenue bonds.
- Receives no direct tax funding. Tolls are collected to repay debt and to operate and maintain the roadways.

2015 Legislative Priorities

- **Paperless, electronic billing opt-in for ZipCash pay-by-mail customers** – Create paperless, electronic-only billing notification option for ZipCash customers.
- **Predictable monthly billing** – Adjust ZipCash payment periods to allow for true monthly billing (25 days) and consistent mailing on the same day each month.
- **Contiguous County Advisory Committee Plan** – Codify a formalized and continuing means to offer input on NTTA matters for ring counties with NTTA projects.
- **Protect NTTA vehicles and employees through expansion of the “Move Over or Slow Down” law** – Add NTTA emergency vehicles to “Move Over and Slow Down” law.
- **Account Data Privacy** – Protect account and trip data from public disclosure. This change will not prohibit any law enforcement or judicial request for information.
- **Annual Report Date Change** – Revise the annual summary requirement from March to June to align with the completion of the audited financial report.
- **Justice of the Peace Judicial Discretion** – Revise NTTA statute to change "shall" to "may" regarding Justice of the Peace collection of tolls during the citation process (*request of the JPs*).
- **Regional Toll Enforcement** – Allow NTTA to exercise toll enforcement remedies on the managed lane projects for which NTTA provides tolling services.

Fast Facts	
624 million total transactions (2013)	\$573.3 million Total Revenue (2013) <i>\$9+ billion in outstanding bond obligations</i>
950 lane miles	\$116 million operating budget
3 million-plus active TollTags	A2 (Moody's) stable system credit rating
6 million-plus unique toll road users	A- (S & P) stable system credit rating

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2015 Legislative Priorities

- **Seek opportunities to further enhance NTTA customer experience.** NTTA has implemented many initiatives to improve the customer experience. Finding legislative opportunities to provide customers a further enhanced experience is good for all parties.
 - Create paperless, electronic-only billing notification option for ZipCash customers
 - Adjust ZipCash payment periods to allow for true monthly billing (25 days)
 - Allow NTTA to exercise toll enforcement remedies on the managed lane projects for which NTTA provides tolling services.
 - Protect account and trip data from public disclosure. This change will not prohibit any law enforcement or judicial request for information.

- **Continue to support enhanced toll enforcement remedies to aid the effective and equitable collection of tolls.** With the passage of important toll collection and enforcement legislative in the prior two sessions, it will be important to review opportunities to improve the effective and equitable collection of tolls.
 - Revise NTTA statute to change “shall” to “may” regarding Justice of the Peace collection of tolls during the citation process (request of the JPs)

- **Support policies to protect NTTA employee safety.** In the 83rd legislative session, TxDOT vehicles were added to the list of emergency vehicles receiving protections under the "Move Over and Slow Down" law, which requires drivers to move over and away from the lane nearest an accident or construction site or slow to 20 miles below posted speeds when passing the site. NTTA inclusion in the "Move Over and Slow Down" law provides customers and staff with added safety protections while traveling on NTTA roads.
 - Add NTTA emergency vehicles to “Move Over or Slow Down” law

- **Preserve existing authority for the effective operation of NTTA.** Protecting NTTA's current business tools is vital for day-to-day operations.
 - Align annual report due date with availability of audited financials – NTTA currently produces an annual summary in March of each year although our fully audited numbers for the previous year are not completed until June. This change would move the annual summary requirement to June to align with the completion of the audited financial report.

- **Partner with stakeholders throughout region and state to address transportation needs.** Where possible, it is important for NTTA to serve as a partner and ally in helping address the transportation needs of North Texas and throughout the state.
 - Formation of a Contiguous County Advisory Committee for contiguous counties with NTTA projects within their boundaries.



2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
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**THE NORTH TEXAS CRIME COMMISSION
ANTI-CRIME LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE
84th Session of the Texas Legislature**

OPPOSE LEGALIZATION OF MARIJUANA – PRIORITY

The North Texas Crime Commission supports legislation that would oppose the legalization of marijuana in the State of Texas, including medical marijuana. The Sherriff's Association of Texas has openly opposed the legalization of marijuana in Texas and we will support them. Twenty-three states now offer marijuana for medical reasons. Two states have allowed for recreational use to be legal. The issue is sweeping the nation and the State of Texas needs to be a leader in opposition.

DNA LEGISLATION – PRIORITY

The North Texas Crime Commission supports as a priority that DNA samples are taken of all persons arrested for a Class B Misdemeanor or higher. Two sessions ago, the Legislature passed a new law that required any person convicted of a felony to provide a DNA sample.

A precedent exists in that law enforcement takes fingerprints from all persons arrested for Class B Misdemeanors and above. Many agencies even fingerprint persons for Class C Misdemeanors.

The collection of DNA could be done easily as part of the jail intake process. This simple, non-invasive procedure can provide crucial evidence in serious crimes that may otherwise go unsolved. Some obstacles have been due to fiscal note and storage availability.

Community Mental Health Programs / Jail System – PRIORITY

The North Texas Crime Commission supports legislation and increased funding to develop a strategic mental health initiative designed to improve coordination and facilitate access to care for those challenged by mental health issues at the community level. Local law enforcement is currently often the first line of contact with those in our communities struggling with mental health issues or in crisis. These interactions can lead to significant resource drains and injecting those suffering from mental illness into the criminal justice system rather than treatment. Spending on mentally ill patients in the jail system alone has risen approximately \$25 million a year and the combined cost of incarcerating and treating the mentally ill is \$87 million annually, noted from a study done in 2008 by the Treatment Advocacy Center. The strategic initiative could include community mental health liaisons, diversionary courts and expanded treatment opportunities. We believe it is important that the State of Texas serve as a leader in this initiative that is quickly sweeping the United States.

ENHANCED PENALTIES FOR INDECENT EXPOSURE – Priority

The North Texas Crime Commission supports legislation that enhances the penalty for indecent exposure offences. The current penalty for indecent exposure in the State of Texas is a Class B Misdemeanor and does not increase for repeat offenders. Those who are registered sexual offenders receive greater penalty.

K2 / Bath Salts - Priority

The North Texas Crime Commission supports the amendment prohibiting the possession and sale of Bath Salts and Synthetic Cannabinoids.

Senator Joan Huffman authored Senate Bill 263 in the 83rd Legislative Session that designated criminal prosecution of certain chemicals commonly referred to as synthetic cannabinoids as controlled substances and controlled substance analogues under the Texas Controlled Substances Act. The Bill passed out of both the House and the Senate, yet was left in Local & Consent Calendars Committee.

Retaliation of Public Servants - Priority

The North Texas Crime Commission supports legislation that prohibits the obstruction of and retaliation against public servants both past and present.

SOBRIETY CHECK POINTS – PRIORITY

The North Texas Crime Commission supports legislation dealing with DWI checkpoints. Each session, legislation has been defeated or stalled due to some saying it is a violation of an individual's civil rights. With specific guidelines attached on how the checkpoints are conducted, legislation might be considered.

TABC – BYOB AMENDMENT REGARDING SEXUALLY ORIENTED BUSINESSES - PRIORITY

The North Texas Crime Commission supports as a priority to amend the Alcoholic Beverage Code to create an on-premises consumption only license.

Current law authorizes the owner of a commercial establishment, including a sexually oriented business that charges a customer a fee and does not have a private club registration license, to allow a patron to bring their own alcoholic beverages onto the premises for consumption. This proposal is based on the concern that such establishments are not adequately regulated as they have no responsibility to adhere to the Alcoholic Beverage Code.

This proposal will provide a way for T.A.B.C. and local law enforcement to regulate the alcohol consumption in said establishments which include B.Y.O.B. sexually oriented businesses. This proposal will carve out exceptions for establishments that operate primarily as a food service and locations such as golf courses.

CONFIDENTIALITY OF GRAND JURY MEMBER'S NAMES AND ADDRESSES - SUPPORT

CARGO THEFT - SUPPORT

OPPOSE THE LEGALIZATION OF OPEN CARRY - WATCH

CELL PHONE LEGISLATION - WATCH

A unique community where families enjoy life and feel at home.

Rowlett

On the Water. On the Move.

5 FACTS ABOUT ROWLETT:

1 Population

Rowlett is home to 56,230 residents with a median age of 36.7

2 Income

The *median* household income is \$82,466 with an *average* household income of \$102,605.

3 Housing

Rowlett has 18,969 households with a median value of \$162,100.

4 General Fund

The City of Rowlett's FY2013 General Fund Revenues total \$32.7 million. 62% of this comes from property and sales taxes.

5 Amenities

Rowlett has 24 parks on 600 acres of parkland including:

- Paddle Point Park - 29th on the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Paddling Trail listing
- Katy Park - Opened in October, 2012
- Scenic Point Park - 8.6 acres on Lake Ray Hubbard

Citizens also enjoy an expansive Community Centre, a water park, a golf course and a large Library.



Ranked 24th in Money Magazine's 2010 Top 100 Places to Live, Rowlett is a lakeside community located 20 minutes east of downtown Dallas on Interstate Highway 30, surrounded by over 30 miles of shoreline on beautiful Lake Ray Hubbard.

THE CITY OF ROWLETT IS "ON THE MOVE"!

- North Texas Tollway Authority's (NTTA) President George Bush Turnpike Eastern Extension now links the eastern region of Texas to the Dallas Fort Worth metroplex through Rowlett. Opened in December of 2011, Rowlett residents waited 47 years for this transportation amenity!
- DART Light Rail is open in Rowlett! After paying into the Dallas Area Rapid Transit Authority for 28 years, Rowlett residents celebrated the opening of the Blue Line in December of 2012.

\$40 MILLION IN PRIVATE INVESTMENT IN 2012

The Rowlett Economic Development Department takes an active role in business recruitment, retention and expansion. New or expanded businesses include:

- Applebee's
- Stonebridge Vet Hospital
- Link America
- Raising Cane's
- Preferred Powder Coating
- CVS Pharmacy



REALIZE ROWLETT 2020 COMMUNITY VISIONING INITIATIVE

Rowlett staff and citizens together have spent the past two years developing a vision for the future of Rowlett. The **Realize Rowlett 2020** strategic vision is to foster private and public investment through strategic partnerships, to enhance and diversify Rowlett's tax base and ensure fiscal sustainability.

ROWLETT RESIDENTS RECEIVE AN INCREDIBLE RETURN ON INVESTMENT!

With declining property values and no tax increase for six years, Rowlett residents pay an average of \$1,004 annually in City taxes. That's only **\$2.76** per day!

- \$.51 per day for Fire/Rescue
- \$.22 per day for Parks
- \$.25 per day for Public Works!
- \$.67 per day for Police
- \$.07 per day for Library





Simplifying the effective tax rate calculation for notice purposes only, provided the legislation would have no effect on the underlying effective tax rate and rollback tax rate calculations themselves, nor upon the hold harmless exemptions to those rates.

Rowlett Priorities

83rd Texas Legislative Session

Creating a new council-option city sales tax for property tax relief that may exceed the two-percent local cap.

Allowing for greater flexibility by cities to fund local transportation projects; amend or otherwise modify state law to help cities fund transportation projects; or provide municipalities with additional funding options and resources to address transportation needs that the state and federal governments are unable or unwilling to address.

Requiring toll authorities to reimburse local governments for the value of services provided to help toll roads operate safely.

Supporting the legislative agendas for the Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART), Texas Municipal League (TML), Regional Transportation Council (RTC), North Texas Crime Commission (NTC), and Texas Cities Aggregation Power Project (TCAP).



Rowlett Opposes

Eroding municipal authority in any way, imposing an unfunded mandates, or otherwise approval of any law deemed detrimental to cities or that would undermine the City's sovereign immunity or municipal annexation and zoning powers.

Negatively impacting the ability of the City to raise or expand revenue, including expanding appraisal caps, imposing revenue caps, or imposing new tax exemptions.

Imposing state "tap fees" or any other type of state charge on municipal water systems.

Eroding municipal authority over the management and control of its rights-of-way or decreasing the authority of a city to be adequately compensated for such use.

Eroding municipal authority to participate in utility rate cases.

Imposing additional state fees or costs on municipal court convictions or require municipal courts to collect fine revenue for the state.





City of Rowlett
Staff Report

4000 Main Street
P.O. Box 99
Rowlett, TX 75080-0099
www.rowlett.com

AGENDA DATE: 12/09/14

AGENDA ITEM: 5A

TITLE

Hear presentation of the Monthly Financial report for the period ending October 31, 2014.

STAFF REPRESENTATIVE

Alan Guard, Chief Financial Officer

SUMMARY

Attached is the Comprehensive Monthly Financial Report for October 2014, in accordance with the City Council's financial strategy to provide timely and accurate reporting. The fiscal year for the City of Rowlett is October 1 through October 30. One month of FY2015, or 8.3 percent of the fiscal year is complete.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The City of Rowlett Department of Financial Services is dedicated to excellence in local government, comprehensive fiscal management, compliance and reporting. The Comprehensive Monthly Finance Report (CMFR) is a unique document that is prepared each month and is directed at providing our audience (internal and external users), with important information about the City's financial position and operations.

DISCUSSION

Attached is the Comprehensive Monthly Financial report for October 2014. One month of FY2015, or 8.3 percent of the fiscal year is complete.

Revenues: Overall, the City has earned or received \$5.6 million for FY2015. This amount is 6.5 percent of the approved operating budget of \$85.2 million and is 6.6 percent more than forecast through the month of October.

- General Fund revenues are \$0.2 million or 9.5 percent higher than expected.
- Utility Fund revenues are \$12 thousand or 0.5 percent lower than expected.

Expenditures: Expenses totaled \$5.7 million year-to-date for FY2015. This amount is 6.6 percent of the approved operating budget of \$86.0 million and is as forecast through the month of October.

- General Fund expenditures are \$19 thousand or 0.7 percent lower than expected.
- Utility Fund expenditures are \$1 thousand or 0.1 percent higher than expected.

Surplus: The net shortfall from operations through October is \$0.1 million which is \$0.3 million better than expected at this point in the year. The adopted operating budget for the fiscal year anticipates a total decrease of \$0.7 million.

FINANCIAL/BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

N/A

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Information only. The Comprehensive Monthly Financial Report – October 31, 2014 is attached to this agenda item as Attachment 1.

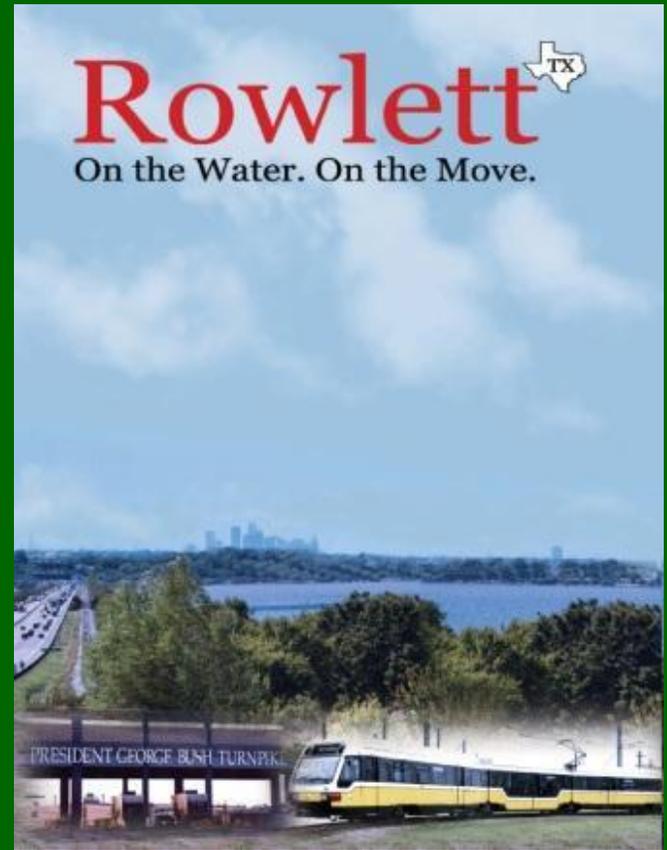
ATTACHMENT

Attachment 1 – Comprehensive Monthly Financial Report – October 31, 2014



**Comprehensive
Monthly
Financial
Report**

October 2014





MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

PERFORMANCE AT A GLANCE

OCTOBER 2014

	YEAR TO DATE	REFERENCE
ALL FUNDS SUMMARY	POSITIVE	Page 4
GENERAL FUND REV VS EXP	POSITIVE	Page 5
PROPERTY TAXES	POSITIVE	Page 5
SALES TAXES	POSITIVE	Page 6
FRANCHISE FEES	POSITIVE	Page 6
UTILITY FUND REV VS EXP	POSITIVE	Page 7
SEWER REVENUES	NEGATIVE	Page 7
WATER REVENUES	WARNING	Page 8
WATER USAGE	WARNING	Page 8
REFUSE FUND REV VS EXP	POSITIVE	Page 9
DRAINAGE FUND REV VS EXP	POSITIVE	Page 9
DEBT SERVICE FUND REV VS EXP	POSITIVE	Page 10
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS REV VS EXP	NEGATIVE	Page 10

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

POSITIVE

= Positive variance or negative variance < 1% compared to seasonal trends.

WARNING

= Negative variance of 1-5% compared to seasonal trends

NEGATIVE

= Negative variance of >5% compared to seasonal trends.



ECONOMIC INDICATORS	OCTOBER 31, 2014 – NEWS FOR YOU
<p data-bbox="337 323 488 352">ECONOMY</p> <p data-bbox="188 359 431 388">National GDP: </p> <p data-bbox="188 394 633 611">GDP - the output of goods and services produced by labor and property located in the US – increased at a rate of 3.5% in the 3rd quarter of 2014 after increasing 4.6% in the 2nd quarter of 2014 as reported by the Bureau of Economic Analysis.</p> <p data-bbox="188 646 488 676">Texas Retail Sales: </p> <p data-bbox="188 682 633 772">Texas retail sales totaled \$41.5 billion for the month of Aug., an increase of \$3.2 billion (8.4%) over Aug. 2013.</p> <p data-bbox="188 808 516 840">Texas Leading Index: </p> <p data-bbox="188 846 633 1096">The Texas Leading Index is a single summary statistic that sheds light on the future of the state's economy. The index is a composite of eight leading indicators—those that tend to change direction before the overall economy. The index decreased 1.1% between the months of July and August.</p>	<p data-bbox="781 289 1312 319">OCTOBER 31, 2014 – NEWS FOR YOU</p> <p data-bbox="656 325 1437 422">Attached is the Comprehensive Monthly Financial report for October 2014. One month of FY 2015, or 8.3% of the fiscal year is complete.</p> <p data-bbox="656 457 1437 590">Revenues: Overall, the City has earned or received \$5.6 million for FY 2015. This amount is 6.5% of the approved operating budget of \$85.2 million and is 6.6% more than forecast through the month of October.</p> <ul data-bbox="704 625 1437 758" style="list-style-type: none"> • General Fund revenues are \$0.2 million or 9.5% higher than expected. • Utility Fund revenues are \$12 thousand or 0.5% lower than expected. <p data-bbox="656 793 1437 926">Expenditures: Expenses totaled \$5.7 million year-to-date for FY 2015. This amount is 6.6% of the approved operating budget of \$86.0 million and is as forecast through the month of October.</p> <ul data-bbox="704 961 1437 1094" style="list-style-type: none"> • General Fund expenditures are \$19 thousand or 0.7% lower than expected. • Utility Fund expenditures are \$1 thousand or 0.1% higher than expected. <p data-bbox="656 1129 1437 1297">Surplus: The net shortfall from operations through October is \$0.1 million which is \$0.3 million better than expected at this point in the year. The adopted operating budget for the fiscal year anticipates a total decrease of \$0.7 million.</p>
<p data-bbox="285 1102 537 1131">UNEMPLOYMENT</p> <p data-bbox="188 1167 565 1197">National Unemployment: </p> <p data-bbox="188 1203 633 1293">The national unemployment rate decreased from 5.9% in September to 5.8% in October.</p> <p data-bbox="188 1329 407 1358">State-Wide: </p> <p data-bbox="188 1365 633 1455">The Texas unemployment rate decreased from 5.3% in Aug to 5.2% in September.</p> <p data-bbox="188 1491 354 1520">Rowlett: </p> <p data-bbox="188 1526 633 1682">The City of Rowlett unemployment rate for September 2014 was 4.9%, a 12.5% decrease over the Aug. unemployment rate of 5.6%. Note – city unemployment rates are not seasonally adjusted.</p>	<p data-bbox="938 1302 1154 1331">NOTEWORTHY</p> <p data-bbox="656 1337 1437 1430"><u>NORTH TEXAS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT INITIATES SEASONAL STAGE 3 RESTRICTIONS; EVERY OTHER WEEK WATERING IN EFFECT THROUGH MARCH 31, 2015!</u></p> <p data-bbox="656 1436 1437 1549">Recently, due to below average rainfall and extremely low lake levels, NTMWD has initiated Stage 3 seasonal watering. This limits landscape watering with sprinklers or irrigation systems to once every two weeks between November 1 and March 31.</p> <p data-bbox="656 1585 1437 1677"><u>HOLIDAY PARADE & MAIN STREET FEST, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6 FROM 3:00 TO 7:00 P.M;</u> Main Street comes alive with holiday sparkle, including children's activities, choir performances, photos with Santa, and a spectacular fireworks show! The Noon Exchange Club's 28th Annual Holiday Parade is at 4pm. Then the holiday light show all along Main Street is switched on for the season.</p>



CITY OF ROWLETT, TEXAS
FINANCIAL STATUS DASHBOARD
October 31, 2014

BUDGET SUMMARY OF ALL FUNDS FY2015

	2015 <u>Budget</u>	2015 <u>Forecast</u>	2015 <u>Year-to-Date</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Beginning Reserves	\$ 17,438,670	\$ 17,438,670	\$ 17,438,670	0.0%
Revenues:				
General	37,097,467	1,584,785	1,734,785	9.5%
Water & sewer	28,605,460	2,535,330	2,523,628	-0.5%
Debt service	7,783,232	133,735	249,127	86.3%
Drainage	1,346,939	112,194	110,599	-1.4%
Refuse	4,699,097	391,317	402,012	2.7%
Employee health benefits	4,405,117	367,093	419,181	14.2%
Impact fees	44,357	3,696	64,695	1650.2%
Police seizure	100,550	8,379	-	-100.0%
Economic development	316,694	26,391	26,554	0.6%
Hotel/motel tax	47,752	3,653	3,960	8.4%
P.E.G.	85,042	-	64	0.0%
Grants	73,792	6,149	5,302	-13.8%
Community Development Block Grant	186,209	15,517	-	-100.0%
Inspection Fees Fund	169,333	14,111	6,918	-51.0%
Juvenile diversion	33,281	2,773	3,193	15.1%
Court technology	26,936	2,245	2,523	12.4%
Court security	20,035	1,670	1,824	9.3%
Golf course	256,564	-	766	0.0%
Total Revenues	\$ 85,297,857	\$ 5,209,039	\$ 5,555,130	6.6%
Expenses:				
General	37,021,061	2,740,384	2,759,381	0.7%
Water & sewer	28,062,142	1,922,149	1,923,448	0.1%
Debt service	7,783,232	15,507	10,468	-32.5%
Drainage	1,318,500	72,384	67,145	-7.2%
Refuse	4,657,232	388,103	389,513	0.4%
Employee health benefits	4,337,523	361,460	447,218	23.7%
Impact fees	916,238	76,353	-	-100.0%
Police seizure	350,550	29,213	11,273	-61.4%
Economic development	436,593	29,728	59,662	100.7%
Hotel/motel tax	42,749	3,562	-	-100.0%
P.E.G.	73,142	5,418	3,191	-41.1%
Grants	71,434	2,976	5,302	78.1%
Community Development Block Grant	186,209	15,517	-	-100.0%
Inspection Fees Fund	115,760	8,575	3,892	-54.6%
Juvenile diversion	34,399	2,548	1,894	-25.7%
Court technology	49,005	4,084	19,029	366.0%
Court security	23,989	1,999	1,976	-1.2%
Golf course	559,025	25,372	-	-100.0%
Total Expenses	\$ 86,038,783	\$ 5,705,333	\$ 5,703,392	0.0%
Current Year				
Surplus/(Shortfall)	\$ (740,926)	\$ (496,294)	\$ (148,262)	-70.1%
Ending Reserves	\$ 16,697,744	\$ 16,942,376	\$ 17,290,408	2.1%

Positive
Warning
Negative

Positive variance or negative variance <1% compared to forecast
Negative variance between 1%-5% compared to forecast
Negative variance >5% compared to forecast



**CITY OF ROWLETT, TEXAS
FINANCIAL STATUS DASHBOARD
October 31, 2014**

OVERALL FUND PERFORMANCE

GENERAL FUND REVENUES VS EXPENSES FY2015

<u>Month</u>	<u>2015 Revenue</u>	<u>2015 Expenses</u>	<u>Monthly Variance</u>
Oct	1,734,785	2,759,381	\$ (1,024,596)
Nov	-	-	-
Dec	-	-	-
Jan	-	-	-
Feb	-	-	-
Mar	-	-	-
Apr	-	-	-
May	-	-	-
Jun	-	-	-
Jul	-	-	-
Aug	-	-	-
Sep	-	-	-
Total	\$ 1,734,785	\$ 2,759,381	\$ (1,024,596)
Cumulative Forecast	\$ 1,584,785	\$ 2,740,384	\$ (1,155,599)
Actual to Forecast \$	\$ 150,000	\$ 18,996	\$ 131,003
Actual to Forecast %	9.5%	0.7%	



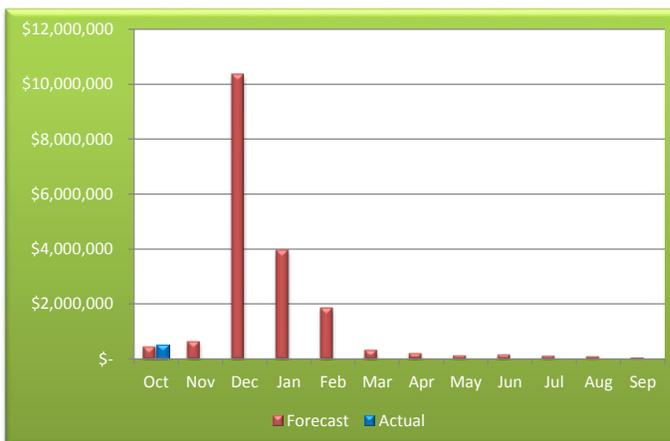
Positive

Cumulatively overall, the General Fund is better than forecasted for this time of the year, with revenues exceeding the forecast by 9.5% and expenses 0.7% higher than forecasted. These differences are primarily due to higher than expected tax collections and other fees and the timing of supply and other equipment purchases.

REVENUE ANALYSIS

PROPERTY TAXES FY2015

<u>Month</u>	<u>2015 Forecast</u>	<u>2015 Actual</u>	<u>Monthly Variance</u>
Oct	\$ 454,997	\$ 526,146	\$ 71,149
Nov	658,035	-	-
Dec	10,362,155	-	-
Jan	3,986,347	-	-
Feb	1,884,055	-	-
Mar	340,621	-	-
Apr	216,375	-	-
May	138,080	-	-
Jun	164,504	-	-
Jul	119,972	-	-
Aug	104,988	-	-
Sep	58,993	-	-
Total	\$ 18,489,122	\$ 526,146	\$ 71,149
Actual to Forecast			15.6%



Positive

Property taxes represents nearly 50% of the total General Fund revenue budget and serves as the primary funding source for the general government. They are generally collected in December and January of each year. Cumulatively overall, property tax revenues are 15.6% higher than forecasted for this time of the year.

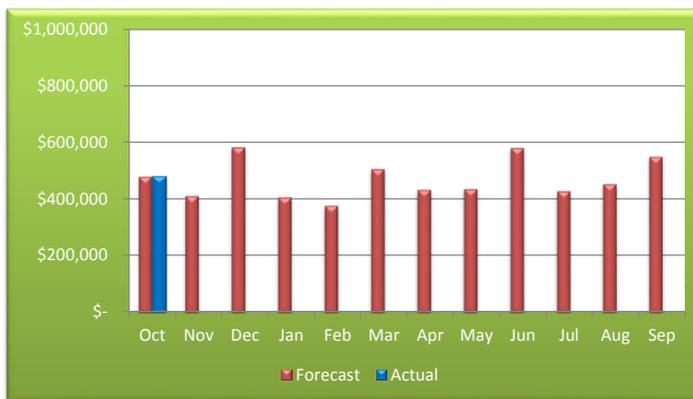


**CITY OF ROWLETT, TEXAS
FINANCIAL STATUS DASHBOARD
October 31, 2014**

REVENUE ANALYSIS

SALES TAXES FY2015

<u>Month</u>	<u>2015 Forecast</u>	<u>2015 Actual</u>	<u>Monthly Variance</u>
Oct	\$ 478,504	\$ 478,504	\$ -
Nov	410,264		
Dec	581,282		
Jan	405,356		
Feb	376,136		
Mar	504,779		
Apr	432,807		
May	434,829		
Jun	579,529		
Jul	427,562		
Aug	452,415		
Sep	548,190		
Total	\$ 5,631,653	\$ 478,504	\$ -
<i>Actual to Forecast</i>			<i>0.0%</i>



Positive

Sales tax is an important indicator of financial health for the Rowlett community. Sales taxes are collected by the State Comptroller and are recorded two months later. The sales taxes reported here for October represent an estimate.

REVENUE ANALYSIS

FRANCHISE FEES FY2015

<u>Month</u>	<u>2015 Forecast</u>	<u>2015 Actual</u>	<u>Monthly Variance</u>
Oct	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Nov	-		
Dec	667,417		
Jan	-		
Feb	343,788		
Mar	656,587		
Apr	-		
May	-		
Jun	543,057		
Jul	-		
Aug	-		
Sep	867,119		
Total	\$ 3,077,966	\$ -	\$ -
<i>Actual to Forecast</i>			



Positive

Franchise fees represents nearly 10% of the total General Fund budget and include electric, gas, cable and telecommunications. Most fees are paid quarterly with natural gas being paid yearly in February. No franchise payments are expected until December.



**CITY OF ROWLETT, TEXAS
FINANCIAL STATUS DASHBOARD
October 31, 2014**

OVERALL FUND PERFORMANCE

UTILITY FUND REVENUES VS EXPENSES FY2015

<u>Month</u>	<u>2015 Revenue</u>	<u>2015 Expenses</u>	<u>Monthly Variance</u>
Oct	2,523,628	1,923,448	\$ 600,179
Nov			-
Dec			-
Jan			-
Feb			-
Mar			-
Apr			-
May			-
Jun			-
Jul			-
Aug			-
Sep			-
Total	\$ 2,523,628	\$ 1,923,448	\$ 600,179
Cumulative Forecast	\$ 2,535,330	\$ 1,922,149	\$ 613,181
Actual to Forecast \$	\$ (11,702)	\$ 1,300	\$ (13,002)
Actual to Forecast	-0.5%	0.1%	



Positive

Utility fund revenues are 0.5% lower than forecast, and expenses are 0.1% higher. These differences are primarily due to lower than expected water and wastewater treatment sales.

REVENUE ANALYSIS

SEWER REVENUES FY2015

<u>Month</u>	<u>2015 Forecast</u>	<u>2015 Actual</u>	<u>Monthly Variance</u>
Oct	\$ 980,881	\$ 919,190	\$ (61,691)
Nov	863,081		
Dec	822,085		
Jan	818,618		
Feb	787,673		
Mar	810,911		
Apr	832,390		
May	891,378		
Jun	901,239		
Jul	922,611		
Aug	922,221		
Sep	963,034		
Total	\$ 10,516,122	\$ 919,190	\$ (61,691)
Actual to Forecast			-6.3%



Negative

Sewer sales represent over 40% of the Utility Fund budget and cover the cost of sewer treatment paid to City of Garland. Cumulatively overall, sewer revenues are 6.3% lower than forecasted for this time of year.



**CITY OF ROWLETT, TEXAS
FINANCIAL STATUS DASHBOARD
October 31, 2014**

REVENUE ANALYSIS

WATER REVENUES FY2015

<u>Month</u>	<u>2015 Forecast</u>	<u>2015 Actual</u>	<u>Monthly Variance</u>
Oct	\$ 1,476,673	\$ 1,451,221	\$ (25,452)
Nov	1,425,161		
Dec	1,614,038		
Jan	1,184,773		
Feb	789,848		
Mar	1,476,673		
Apr	1,270,626		
May	1,390,820		
Jun	1,407,991		
Jul	1,631,209		
Aug	1,682,721		
Sep	1,820,086		
Total	\$ 17,170,618	\$ 1,451,221	\$ (25,452)
<i>Actual to Forecast</i>			<i>-1.7%</i>



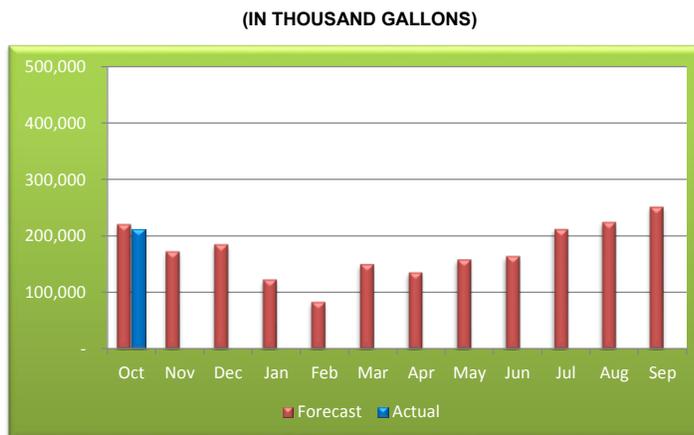
Warning

Water sales represent just over 50% of the total Utility Fund budget and cover the cost of water acquisition from the North Texas Municipal Water District. Water revenues are 1.7% less than forecasted for this time of year.

REVENUE ANALYSIS

WATER USAGE FY2015

<u>Month</u>	<u>2015 Forecast</u>	<u>2015 Actual</u>	<u>Monthly Variance</u>
Oct	220,275	212,743	(7,532)
Nov	172,480		
Dec	184,948		
Jan	122,606		
Feb	83,123		
Mar	149,621		
Apr	135,074		
May	157,933		
Jun	164,167		
Jul	211,963		
Aug	224,431		
Sep	251,446		
Total	2,078,067	212,743	(7,532)
<i>Actual to Forecast</i>			<i>-3.4%</i>



Warning

The City purchases its water from the North Texas Municipal Water District. Customer usage is 3.4% lower than forecasted for this time of the year. The contract with NTMWD requires the City to pay for a minimum of 3.2 billion gallons of water per year.



**CITY OF ROWLETT, TEXAS
FINANCIAL STATUS DASHBOARD
October 31, 2014**

OVERALL FUND PERFORMANCE

REFUSE FUND REVENUES VS EXPENSES FY2015

<u>Month</u>	<u>2015 Revenue</u>	<u>2015 Expenses</u>	<u>Monthly Variance</u>
Oct	402,012	389,513	\$ 12,499
Nov	-	-	-
Dec	-	-	-
Jan	-	-	-
Feb	-	-	-
Mar	-	-	-
Apr	-	-	-
May	-	-	-
Jun	-	-	-
Jul	-	-	-
Aug	-	-	-
Sep	-	-	-
Total	\$ 402,012	\$ 389,513	\$ 12,499
Cumulative Forecast	\$ 391,317	\$ 388,103	\$ 3,214
Actual to Forecast \$	\$ 10,695	\$ 1,410	\$ 9,285
Actual to Forecast	2.7%	0.4%	



Positive

The Refuse Fund accounts for monies collected from customers on their utility bills and remitted to our solid waste provider. Revenues are currently 2.7% higher than forecasted, and expenses are 0.4% lower than forecasted.

OVERALL FUND PERFORMANCE

DRAINAGE FUND REVENUES VS EXPENSES FY2015

<u>Month</u>	<u>2015 Revenue</u>	<u>2015 Expenses</u>	<u>Monthly Variance</u>
Oct	110,599	67,145	\$ 43,454
Nov	-	-	-
Dec	-	-	-
Jan	-	-	-
Feb	-	-	-
Mar	-	-	-
Apr	-	-	-
May	-	-	-
Jun	-	-	-
Jul	-	-	-
Aug	-	-	-
Sep	-	-	-
Total	\$ 110,599	\$ 67,145	\$ 43,454
Cumulative Forecast	\$ 112,194	\$ 72,384	\$ 39,810
Actual to Forecast \$	\$ (1,595)	\$ (5,239)	\$ 3,643
Actual to Forecast	-1.4%	-7.2%	



Positive

The Drainage Fund accounts for monies collected from customers on their utility bills for the municipal drainage system. Cumulatively overall, the fund is better than forecasted for this time of the year, with revenues 1.4% lower than forecasted but expenses 7.2% lower than forecasted.



**CITY OF ROWLETT, TEXAS
FINANCIAL STATUS DASHBOARD
October 31, 2014**

OVERALL FUND PERFORMANCE

DEBT SERVICE FUND REVENUES VS EXPENSES FY2015

<u>Month</u>	<u>2015 Revenue</u>	<u>2015 Expenses</u>	<u>Monthly Variance</u>
Oct	249,127	10,468	\$ 238,659
Nov	-	-	-
Dec	-	-	-
Jan	-	-	-
Feb	-	-	-
Mar	-	-	-
Apr	-	-	-
May	-	-	-
Jun	-	-	-
Jul	-	-	-
Aug	-	-	-
Sep	-	-	-
Total	\$ 249,127	\$ 10,468	\$ 238,659
Cumulative Forecast	\$ 133,735	\$ 15,507	\$ 118,227
Actual to Forecast \$	\$ 115,393	\$ (5,039)	\$ 120,432
Actual to Forecast	86.3%	-32.5%	



Positive

General Debt Service Fund is used to pay principal and interest on tax-supported debt. Overall, the fund is better than forecasted, with revenues 86.3% higher than projected and expenses 32.5% lower than expected. The fund makes semi-annual debt payments in February and August.

OVERALL FUND PERFORMANCE

EMPLOYEE HEALTH BENEFITS FUND REVENUES VS EXPENSES FY2015

<u>Month</u>	<u>2015 Revenue</u>	<u>2015 Expenses</u>	<u>Monthly Variance</u>
Oct	419,181	447,218	\$ (28,037)
Nov	-	-	-
Dec	-	-	-
Jan	-	-	-
Feb	-	-	-
Mar	-	-	-
Apr	-	-	-
May	-	-	-
Jun	-	-	-
Jul	-	-	-
Aug	-	-	-
Sep	-	-	-
Total	\$ 419,181	\$ 447,218	\$ (28,037)
Cumulative Forecast	\$ 367,093	\$ 361,460	\$ 5,633
Actual to Forecast \$	\$ 52,088	\$ 85,758	\$ (33,670)
Actual to Forecast	14.2%	23.7%	



Negative

Employee Health Benefits Fund accounts for all health related claims paid from the City's partial self-insured fund. Overall, revenues are 14.2% higher than forecasted and expenses are 23.7% higher than forecasted. Revenues reflect higher than expected premium payments, and expenses are higher than forecasted due to higher than expected claims.



City of Rowlett
Staff Report

4000 Main Street
P.O. Box 99
Rowlett, TX 75030-0099
www.rowlett.com

AGENDA DATE: 12/09/14

AGENDA ITEM: 5B

TITLE

Update from the City Council and Management: Financial Position, Major Projects, Operational Issues, Upcoming Dates of Interest and Items of Community Interest.

STAFF REPRESENTATIVE

Brian Funderburk, City Manager



City of Rowlett
Staff Report

4000 Main Street
P.O. Box 99
Rowlett, TX 75080-0099
www.rowlett.com

AGENDA DATE: 12/09/14

AGENDA ITEM: 7A

TITLE

Consider action to approve minutes from the December 2, 2014, City Council Meeting.

STAFF REPRESENTATIVE

Stacey Chadwick, Deputy City Secretary

SUMMARY

Section 551.021 of the Government Code provides as follows:

- (a) A governmental body shall prepare and keep minutes or make a tape recording of each open meeting of the body.
- (b) The minutes must:
 - (1) state the subject of each deliberation; and
 - (2) indicate each vote, order, decisions or other action taken.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

N/A

DISCUSSION

N/A

FINANCIAL/BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

N/A

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Move to approve, amend or correct the December 2, 2014, City Council Meeting.

ATTACHMENT

12-02-14 City Council Meeting minutes



City of Rowlett

Meeting Minutes

City Council

4000 Main Street
Rowlett, TX 75088
www.rowlett.com

City of Rowlett City Council meetings are available to all persons regardless of disability. If you require special assistance, please contact the City Secretary at 972-412-6115 or write 4000 Main Street, Rowlett, Texas, 75088, at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

Tuesday, December 2, 2014

5:40 P.M.

Municipal Building – 4000 Main Street

As authorized by Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code, this meeting may be convened into closed Executive Session for the purpose of seeking confidential legal advice from the City Attorney on any agenda item herein.

The City of Rowlett reserves the right to reconvene, recess or realign the Regular Session or called Executive Session or order of business at any time prior to adjournment.

Present: Mayor Gottel, Mayor Pro Tem Gallops, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Pankratz, Councilmember van Bloemendaal, Councilmember Dana-Bashian, Councilmember Bobbitt and Councilmember Sheffield

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Gottel called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.

2. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Convened into Executive Session at 8:54 pm following Item 8C.

- 2A.** The City Council shall convene into Executive Session pursuant to the Texas Government Code, §551.087 (Economic Development) and §551.071 (Consultation with Attorney) to receive legal advice from the City Attorney and discuss the Rowlett Public Library transition plan. (60 minutes) (THIS ITEM WILL BE DISCUSSED FOLLOWING THE REGULAR PORTION OF THE MEETING)

This item was tabled until the December 9, 2014 Council meeting.

- 2B.** The City Council shall convene into Executive Session pursuant to the Texas Government Code, §551.087 (Economic Development) and §551.071 (Consultation with Attorney) to receive legal advice from the City Attorney and to discuss and deliberate the offer of financial or other incentives to business prospects that the City may seek to have locate in or near Elgin B. Robertson Park. (30 minutes) (THIS ITEM WILL BE DISCUSSED FOLLOWING THE REGULAR PORTION OF THE MEETING)

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Pankratz, seconded by Councilmember Dana-Bashian, to approve the amended Letter of Intent with Donahue Investments pursuant to City Attorney approval. The motion carried with a unanimous vote of those members present.

3. WORK SESSION (5:40 P.M.)* Times listed are approximate

3A. Discuss Kids Kingdom Strategy. (15 minutes)

Jermel Stevenson, Director of Parks and Recreation, provided the background information on this item. Spoke concerning the project strategy and timeline.

Concerns were voiced regarding the timetable for the Design Day, fundraising, and community involvement.

3B. Discuss and receive direction from City Council on enhancing public notification for zoning cases by increasing the notification radius from 200 feet to 500 feet. (15 minutes)

Garrett Langford, Principal Planner, provided the background information on this item. Stated the City Council's adopted Work Plan included a strategy to increase the notification radius from 200 feet to 500 feet.

With that, Staff brought forth three options for consideration.

Option 1 - Establish a policy directing Staff to send additional notices to all property owners located outside of the 200-foot public notice radius but within 500 feet.

Option 2 - Amend the Rowlett Development Code to require additional notices for those properties between 200 feet and 500 feet of a subject property. (Do not include in super-majority calculations)

Option 3 - Amend the Rowlett Development Code to require additional notices for those properties between 200 feet and 500 feet of a subject property. (Include in super-majority calculations)

A majority of Council directed staff to proceed with Option 1.

3C. Discuss Verizon PEG Fund Contribution. (15 minutes)

Alan Guard, Chief Financial Officer, provided the background information on this item. Stated the City of Rowlett collects fees from its cable franchisees to provide funding for capital expenditures associated with the Public, Educational and Government programming on the cable network. This is designated as the City's PEG Fund. When originally established in 2006, the City elected to receive \$0.50 per subscriber. This fee is passed on directly to the subscribers. In reviewing their files, Verizon found a 2006 letter, which referred to changing to the one percent (1%) starting in

June 2010. Based on the intent of that letter, Verizon has determined that a payment totaling \$296,004.34 would true up the remittance for the period June 2010 – June 2014. In order to pay this however, the fee would need to be collected from Verizon customers going forward.

Council was questioned as to how they would like to proceed.

Consensus was reached to decline the \$296,004.34 true up and provide direction to Verizon to begin collecting the one percent fee for the PEG Fund.

- 3D.** Discuss a proposal accepting the bid of and awarding a contract to Dowager Utility Construction, LTD for the total bid amount of \$1,491,698.76 plus 10 percent contingency in the amount of \$149,169.88 plus up to \$25,000.00 for an early completion bonus, resulting in a total award amount of \$1,665,868.64 for the North Shore Sanitary Sewer Project and authorizing the Mayor to execute the necessary documents for said services. (15 minutes)

Tim Rogers, Director of Public Works, provided the background information on this item. Stated the purpose of this project is to eliminate the need for two pumping stations to provide service to the Huffines Development. It will also provide sewer capacity for the remaining undeveloped areas in the North Shore, opening this area up for future economic development, and it will leverage private investment dollars with taxpayer dollars for a more cost efficient solution.

- 3E.** Provide Council with an update and discuss and receive feedback on the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) as it relates to the Public Facilities, Public Services and Housing Rehabilitation Program. (45 minutes)

Marc Kurbansade, Director of Development Services, provided the background information on this item. Stated Staff has been working to understand the requirements for each program and have begun setting up policy guidelines as required by HUD. In doing so, there are several areas that require Council feedback prior to proceeding. Specifically between the Housing Rehabilitation Program, the Public Facilities Program, and Public Services Program. Upon receiving direction from Council, it is Staff's goal to have these programs initiated by February 2015.

Housing Rehabilitation Program:

1. Should mobile homes be eligible for repairs?
Council consensus: Only in instances of emergency repairs.
2. Should the funds be allocated by way of a grant, partially forgivable loan or fully forgivable loan?
Council consensus: To provide a fully forgivable loan with a stipulation that the property could not be sold within 18 months of the repairs; however, emergency repairs up to \$2,000 maximum would be provided as a grant.

3. Does City Council want to set aside a portion of the funds for eligible emergency repairs?
Council consensus: All grants will be on a first-come, first-serve basis, based on availability of funds.
4. Should property owners who owe back taxes or liens be eligible for repairs?
Council consensus: To limit to emergency repairs only.

Public Facilities Program:

Pavilion - \$40,000

Fencing - \$6,000

Outdoor fitness area - \$17,000

Council consensus: To move forward with the pavilion and fencing but to substitute landscaping for the outdoor fitness area.

Public Services Program:

1. Animal Adoption/Veterinarian Assistance through Friends of Rowlett Animals
2. Kayak Rental Assistance at Paddle Point Park
3. Character programs tuition assistance through Men of Honor
4. Community Garden Project through Keep Rowlett Beautiful
5. Equipment/Fee Assistance through Rowlett Hockey League

Council consensus: To continue supporting Life Message for the 2014 Annual Plan and to consider additional recipients for the next year.

4. DISCUSS CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

No items were removed from the Consent Agenda to be considered individually.

CONVENE INTO THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS (7:30 P.M.)*

Convened into the Council Chambers at 7:35 p.m.

INVOCATION

The invocation was led by Chaplain Steven Leatherwood.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

TEXAS PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledges were led by the City Council.

5. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

- 5A. Presenting a proclamation to the Rowlett High School Band for their placement at University Interscholastic League (UIL) Texas State Marching Band Contest at the Alamodome in San Antonio, Texas.

Councilmember Dana-Bashian presented a proclamation to the Rowlett High School Band for their recent accomplishment.

- 5B. Update from the City Council and Management: Financial Position, Major Projects, Operational Issues, Upcoming Dates of Interest and Items of Community Interest.

Mayor Gottel presented the following update: The next Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 9th and there will be no special work session for the month of December. The Planning and Zoning Commission will meet on Tuesday, December 9th in the Annex Conference Room and there will be no meeting on Tuesday, December 23rd. The next Community Investment Program Task Force meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 9th and there will be no meeting on Tuesday, December 23rd. Read about the newest developments coming to Rowlett in the November Issue of the Mayor's Message. The Stop A Cop Toy Drive has begun. From November 29th – December 20th, you may wave down any officer and if they aren't responding to a call, they will be happy to take your donation. Toys may also be dropped off 24 hours a day at any of the four Fire Stations or the lobby of the Police Station. Other collection sites include Rowlett Community Centre, City Hall, Fire Administration and the Chamber of Commerce. Toy donations accepted in the Wal-Mart parking lot on these Saturdays: December 6th from 10am to 2pm; December 13th from 2pm to 6pm; and December 20th from 10am to 2pm. Twice a month watering resumed on November 1st. Check out our web page for Seniors at www.rowlett.com, go to Departments, Parks and Recreation then click on Seniors. There is always something at the Library for Seniors – call 972-412-6161 or come by to see what's going on. The Rowlett Animal Shelters is maintaining a 100% live release rate for FY2015! Remember to have your pet vaccinated. A Low Cost Vaccine Clinic will be held at the Animal Shelter on Saturday, December 13th from 1pm – 3pm. The Animal Shelter is located at 4402 Industrial Street. The Parks and Recreation Department has several upcoming events: Main Street Fest and Holiday Parade - Saturday, December 6th from 3:00pm-7:00pm (Downtown Rowlett on Main Street); Senior Holiday Luncheon – Thursday, December 11th, 11:30am at the Rowlett Community Centre; and the New Year's Noon Toast for Seniors – Wednesday, December 31st, 11am at the Rowlett Community Centre. Also check out all the Fall & Winter programs, including programs for Seniors, listed in the Lakeside Leisure or at www.rowlett.com on the Parks Department page. The Rowlett Library has several upcoming events: Holiday Crafts – Saturday, December 6th – All day; Trip to the North Pole – Saturday, December 13th, 2pm; Holiday Movie – FROZEN – Saturday, December 20th, 2pm; Winter Reading Club – December 22nd-January 2nd; and the Arts and Humanities 14th Annual Young Artists Contest & Exhibit, for more information, visit the Arts and Humanities Commission webpage at www.rowlett.com. The Arts and Humanities Commission offers grants. Applications are due this Saturday, December 6th; applications and information are available at www.rowlett.com. The Library will have early closings before the Holidays: Closing at 6pm on

Tuesday, December 23rd; and closing at 6pm on Wednesday, December 31st. City offices will be closed the following days for the holidays: Christmas – Wednesday and Thursday, December 24th and 25th and New Year's – Thursday, January 1st. Trash and recycling pickup will be delayed one day and Waste Management will not pick up on the following holidays: Christmas Day – Thursday, December 25th; and New Year's Day – Thursday, January 1st.

Mayor Gottel introduced Animal Control Officer Monica Patterson and Elsa. Spoke regarding the Animal Shelter's live release rate and their hopes to find Elsa a forever home.

6. CITIZENS' INPUT

Three people spoke during Citizens' Input.

1. Darrin Hedges – 6617 Creek Bend, Rowlett – Spoke regarding FC Dallas and the Parks and Recreation contract renewal.
2. Becky Brunsen – 2012 Chiesa Road, Rowlett – Spoke regarding youth soccer in Rowlett.
3. Scott Montgomery – 3201 Indian Trail, Rowlett – Spoke regarding soccer field usage in Rowlett.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

No items were removed from the Consent Agenda to be considered individually.

- 7A.** Consider action to approve minutes from the November 18, 2014, City Council Meeting.

This item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

- 7B.** Consider action to approve a resolution awarding the second and final one year renewal option for screening wall repair and maintenance services to Ratliff Hardscape LTD in the unit amounts bid and in an estimated annual amount of \$50,000 and authorizing the Mayor to execute the Standard Public Works Construction Contract for said service.

This item was approved as RES-119-14 on the Consent Agenda.

- 7C.** Consider action to approve a resolution to amend the City's Sick Leave Payout Policy in order to reduce the City's liability rate.

This item was approved as RES-120-14 on the Consent Agenda.

- 7D.** Consider action to approve a resolution authorizing the final acceptance and release of retainage for the Downtown Improvement Project in the amount of \$184,796.09 to Phillips May Corporation and authorizing the Mayor to execute the necessary documents.

This item was approved as RES-121-14 on the Consent Agenda.

- 7E.** Consider action to approve a resolution accepting the bid of and awarding a contract to Dowager Utility Construction, LTD for the total bid amount of \$1,491,698.76 plus ten percent contingency in the amount of \$149,169.88 plus up to \$25,000 for the early completion bonus, resulting in a total award amount of \$1,665,868.64 for the North Shore Sanitary Sewer Project and authorizing the Mayor to execute the necessary documents for said services.

This item was approved as RES-122-14 on the Consent Agenda.

- 7F.** Consider action to approve the purchase of an additional set of Personal Protective Ensemble gear for each firefighter.

This item was approved as RES-123-14 on the Consent Agenda.

Passed The Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Gallops, seconded by Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Pankratz, including all the preceding items marked as having been approved on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried with a unanimous vote of those members present.

8. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION

- 8A.** Conduct a public hearing and consider a recommendation regarding Major Warrants for property located at 6800 Scenic Drive, and located within the Healthy Living, Urban Village Form Based District, related to the following Form Based Code standards in order to develop the subject property: roadway dedication, open space, continuous building frontage, ceiling height requirements and primary entry location.

Marc Kurbansade, Director of Development Services, provided the background information on this project. Spoke regarding the five proposed major warrants. Council discussed the issues regarding the ceiling height requirement and the exemption of the 80% continuous building frontage requirement.

The public hearing opened and closed at 8:36 pm with no one speaking.

A motion was made by Councilmember Sheffield, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Gallops, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried with a unanimous vote of those members present. This item was adopted as ORD-038-14

- 8B.** Conduct a public hearing and consider an ordinance approving a Special Use Permit to allow a licensed massage establishment in a Planned Development District Ord. 3-5-96D located at 8809 Lakeview Parkway, Suite 100, within the Lakepoint Shopping Center. (SUP14-745)

Marc Kurbansade, Director of Development Services, provided the background information on this project. Stated the Special Use Permit shall be limited to licensed massage therapy establishments only.

The public hearing opened and closed at 8:44 pm with no one speaking.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Gallops, seconded by Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Pankratz, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried with a unanimous vote of those members present. This item was adopted as ORD-039-14

- 8C.** Conduct a public hearing and take action on a request to amend Planned Development Ordinance #28-04 to allow additional land uses at a property located at 1800 Dalrock Road further described as Lot 1, Block A, Shafer Plaza Addition to the City of Rowlett, Rockwall County, Texas. (PD14-737)

Garrett Langford, Principal Planner, provided the background information on this project. Stated the existing planned development limits allowed uses to retail and restaurant. The proposed planned development would allow for office space use and would establish parking for office use.

The public hearing opened and closed at 8:50 pm with no one speaking.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Gallops, seconded by Councilmember Sheffield, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried with a unanimous vote of those members present. This item was adopted as ORD-040-14

Following Item 8C, the City Council convened into Executive Session.

TAKE ANY NECESSARY OR APPROPRIATE ACTION ON CLOSED/EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTERS

Item 2A was tabled until the December 9, 2014 Council meeting. Please see Item 2B for action results.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Gottel adjourned the meeting at 9:30 p.m.



City of Rowlett Staff Report

4000 Main Street
P.O. Box 99
Rowlett, TX 75080-0099
www.rowlett.com

AGENDA DATE: 12/09/14

AGENDA ITEM: 7B

TITLE

Consider action to approve a resolution supporting use of the Sporting Goods Tax for funding Texas State Parks and the Texas Recreation and Parks Account for local park grants.

STAFF REPRESENTATIVE

Jermel Stevenson, Parks and Recreation Director

SUMMARY

The Texas Recreation and Parks Society (TRAPS) is seeking support for the use of the Sporting Goods Tax for funding Texas State Parks and the Texas Recreation and Parks Account for local park grants. TRAPS has requested Parks and Recreation Directors to ask our respective City Councils to pass a resolution in support of this funding. TRAPS officials intend to show legislators the widespread support from communities across the state to utilize the Sporting Goods Tax revenues as they were intended.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Texas Recreation & Parks Account Program (TRPA) was created in 1993 by the Texas Legislature to provide financial assistance to local governments in the acquisition of land and development of both outdoor and indoor recreation facilities. The revenue for the program comes solely from a portion of the sales tax on designated sporting goods in Texas. Grants from this account are a 50/50 match between the state and the local sponsor. Over time, the funding for this tax began to be utilized to balance the state's budget. Now that this practice is in place, funding for local park grants are not available. Communities that pass resolutions have been asked to send a copy to the TRAPS office in Austin. TRAPS will use these resolutions when they walk the halls at the Capitol in Austin on January 28, 2015.

DISCUSSION

The TRPA is an important funding source for the Parks and Recreation Department. Funding has been utilized in the past from this account. By way of long-term strategy, the Parks and Recreation Department has attempted to position itself to meet the requirements for funding. These include becoming nationally accredited, having an up-to-date master plan and having a sustainability program. An issue relative to TRPA is that there has been no funding to apply for since the tax is being utilized for other financial reasons by the state. Passing this resolution will assist in putting back in place another possible funding source for the Parks and Recreation Department.

If Council desires to support this measure, then it will be added to our overall 2015 Legislative Priorities agenda.

FINANCIAL/BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The TRPA is funded through a portion of Texas sales tax received on select sporting good items. TRPA is administered by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's Recreation Grants Branch and funds five grant programs. These grant programs include: Outdoor Recreation, Indoor Recreation, Small Community, and Community Outdoor Outreach Program. Grant limits can range from \$500 to \$1 million, restrictions do apply. A resolution of support will assist in possibly restoring the funding and taking them out of suspension status by the state.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

The City staff recommends City Council support the effort to utilize the Sporting Goods Tax for funding Texas State Parks and the Texas Recreation and Parks Account for local park grants by passing a resolution.

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROWLETT REQUESTING THE MEMBERS OF THE 84th LEGISLATIVE SESSION OF THE STATE OF TEXAS TO SUPPORT LEGISLATION THAT INCREASES FUNDING FOR THE TEXAS RECREATION & PARKS ACCOUNT AND LARGE COUNTY AND MUNICIPALITY RECREATION AND PARKS ACCOUNT LOCAL PARK GRANT PROGRAMS, AND THE TEXAS STATE PARK SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department ("TPWD") administers the Texas Recreation & Parks Account Local Park Grant Program ("TRPA") and the Large County and Municipality Recreation and Parks Account (Urban Account) and manages 94 State parks and historical sites in Texas; and

WHEREAS, TPWD has separate accounts in their general revenue fund referred to as the TRPA and Urban Account for the purpose of providing matching grants to political subdivisions for parks and recreation projects, and for outreach grants to introduce new populations to outdoor experiences; and

WHEREAS, the matching grants provided by the TPWD are utilized for the planning, acquisition, and development of local park, recreation and open space areas to be owned and maintained by political subdivisions; and

WHEREAS, funds granted to political subdivisions under the TRPA and Urban Account guidelines have funded 1629 projects of the 3,470 submitted over 30 years delivering over \$800 million to the local Texas economy; and

WHEREAS, political subdivisions throughout the State of Texas depend on grants from TPWD through the TRPA to stimulate the acquisition and development of parks and recreational areas for the benefit and enjoyment of their citizenry; and

WHEREAS, the TRPA, Urban Account, and State parks are funded from sales tax on sporting goods and that the development of new parks stimulates the purchase of sporting goods; and

WHEREAS, the TRPA, Urban Account, and State parks are partially funded from federal dollars used for parks, recreation, open space, trails, and tourism from the United States Department of the Interior Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), the Sport Fish Restoration Boat Access program and the United States Department of Transportation Recreation Trails; and

WHEREAS, the maintenance and improvements of State park and historic sites and the addition of new parks is a priority to Texans due to the State's expanding population and extensive tourism industry; and

WHEREAS, the development of parks encourages and promotes public health, economic development, job creation, education; corporate relocations, an improved quality of life, and juvenile crime prevention; and

WHEREAS, funds are needed for major repairs at Local and State parks and for the acquisition and development of parks and facilities; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of this City Council that a copy of this resolution with appropriate names affixed be presented to the Governor of Texas and the leadership of the 84th Texas Legislature.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF ROWLETT, TEXAS:

1. That members of the 84th Legislature of Texas seek passage of legislation maximizing the use of revenues from the sporting goods sales tax and federal funds to increase funding for parks and recreation programs for both Local and State parks and that all TRPA and Urban Account funded park projects be subject to the established TPWD competitive scoring system.
2. That members of the 84th Legislature of Texas restore funding to the TRPA and Urban accounts in the amount of at least \$15.5 million per year.