



**CITY OF RINCON  
OFFICIAL MINUTES  
RINCON CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2018  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
107 W. 17<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
7:00 PM**

**Councilmembers Present:**

Paul Wendelken  
Reese Browher  
James Dasher  
Ann Daniel  
Kevin Exley

**Councilmembers Absent:**

Levi Scott, Jr.

**Present:**

Ken Lee, Mayor  
John Klimm, City Manager  
Raymond Dickey, City Attorney  
Dulcia King, City Clerk  
Corey Rahn, Fire Chief  
Pete Smith, Asst. Fire Chief  
LaMeisha Hunter Kelly, City Planner  
Tim Bowles, Public Works Director  
James Jefferson, Finance Director

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM. The Invocation was given by Mayor Lee and Pledge to the Flag was recited.

**Approval of the agenda with the addition of new business item 7A:**

Consideration to cancel the regular scheduled Council meeting on December 24, 2018.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Daniel  
Second: Councilmember Dasher  
Vote by Council: Unanimous

**Approval of the November 26, 2018 minutes with the following correction:**

The Invocation was given by Councilmember Daniel and Mr. Metzger was spelled incorrectly.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Daniel  
Second: Councilmember Wendelken  
Vote by Council: Unanimous

**Approval of the December 3, 2018 minutes:**

Motion to approve: Councilmember Browher  
Second: Councilmember Dasher  
Vote by Council: Unanimous

**New Business**

**1. Presentation and request to approve the 2019 City of Rincon Health Insurance Coverage.**

Melissa Stille with Dewitt Insurance was present to review the insurance for 2019, which would go into effective January and moving from Humana to Blue Cross Blue Shield. The Humana rates came in at 16% higher than last year. She shopped around and BCBS had the best rates. Some of the rates were lower, there were comparable deductibles, lower max out of pocket, similar drug options and no deductible for prescriptions. The employee rates have gone down for primary care, the specialist rate is staying the same. This change in insurance will save the City approximately \$150,000 a year. Mayor Lee asked if the network is it comparable to Humana, Mrs. Stille said yes. Mrs. Still explained out of network, when you go out of network you have to meet your deductible and then you have to pay 50% co-insurance. Councilmember Wendelken asked if preexisting conditions were covered, they are covered. Dental and vision will stay with Humana. Mr. Exley asked if a doctor was out of network can we request that they be included in the network, Mrs. Stille said we can nominate that doctor. Councilmember Dasher asked Mr. Klimm if we are going to look at bids for 2020, he said yes. A motion was made to approve the 2019 City of Rincon health care coverage with Blue Cross Blue Shield.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Daniel  
Second: Councilmember Dasher

Councilmember Dasher asked if the go360 is part of BCBS, Mrs. Stille said no. BCBS does have a benefits program; she is looking at the benefits mall to see if a wellness plan will benefit the City. Mayor Lee thanked Mrs. Stille for her work.

Vote by Council: Unanimous

**2. Approval of 2019 City of Rincon Fire Fees.**

Mr. Klimm, said we have had several discussions about fire fund and along with the golf fund there have been several challenges. He has been talking with the fire department leadership about these challenges the first is an operational deficit, we are not taking in

enough revenue to cover the day to day operations, the second we have long term issues dealing with capital cost, where funds have not been set aside that needs to be addressed.

Chief Corey Rahn said this has been a challenge to come up with a formula. He said this year he wanted to thank Mr. Klimm for involving him in the revenue process, the fire department has never been involved. They know what the expenditures are and have put out the operational and capital budget, over the years he and Mrs. Kelly have worked on ten year plans and they thought it was there but the money was not being put aside for capital purchases. Looking at where they need to be because of maintaining the ISO they need to come up with funding sources. Last year they were a little in the red and did not know about it until this year. After looking at the formula they brought the fire load into it, which is what they are doing looking at the manpower and equipment needed to come up with the service they will need to provide. Continuing where they are, maintaining the fleet and replacing the aging fleet there is no capital money to replace the aging fleet. This will generate annually between \$150,000 to \$200,000.

Councilmember Wendelken said 17 years ago we were a Class 7. We went from a 7 to a 3 in 16 years. Chief Rahn said the equipment is costing more and we have paid staff now, back then we are all volunteers we are to a point where we can't maintain on the fees that we have. Attorney Dickey said the rate decrease with the ISO has made a difference in the insurance cost that the City of Rincon citizens pay. He said the committee had a lot of challenges with the formula. It is actually three different formulas combined to make up the fire fee. Attorney Dickey explained fire fee, it is a base of \$13.00 the base before was \$12.50, then the capital cost component, the extra hazard component and the fire load component which is in GPM. The ISO fire load formula was in the Cities past formula and you don't want to change that because it could affect the ISO information. Chief Rahn said ISO governs the buildings not the contents of the building. There is a sheet for all commercial buildings since 2012 and once a sheet is done you will not have to change it again unless the size of the building changes. Fire loads are based on gallons per minutes that it takes to pre plan a fire at that building. You are looking at assets to fight that fire and for staff to be on standby. As you go down the chart on the fire load the amount of assets that you need, personnel, equipment, increase and your cost increases. You also need capital cost factored into the formula, because the City buys equipment every year. The hazard formula may change also as you get different types of businesses come in the City. Attorney Dickey said one of the things people lose sight of is if you have hundreds of people coming through the buildings you have to ramp of personnel. You can change anyone of the components depending on what is needed. Your capital cost factor you can set from year to year, if you buy a ladder truck or pumper that will adjust because of that need but once you so that you can actually reduce another component. Something else that was no addressed in the old formula was hazard. Just about every restaurant in the city is charge the same rate of 12.50 no matter how large they were, how long they stay open or how many people eat there. Chief Rahn said for instance the Gate Gas Station is charged \$12.50, it is the busiest place in town and thousands of gallons of gas is pump there every day there are at least 3 or 4 gas spills a year. Attorney Dickey said the beauty of this formula is there is justification. Matthew Spacerelli said at Verizon they have lithium batteries, so you might want to look at DOT hazardous list to catch all of the businesses. Attorney Dickey said another thing he wanted to point out was church exemptions; they are non profit and

occupy a different category. Any church paying more than \$100 will receive 50% exemption for any amount over \$100 what that means is if a church's bill is \$140, they shall pay \$120.00. Councilmember Daniel said she appreciates the amount of work that went into this and commended staff. Mayor Lee said he is trying to relate totals to what is reflected in the budget, are the number final, Chief Rahn and Attorney Dickey said this is not a complete list. Councilmember Wendelken said he thinks this is consistent and fair. There was discussion on the owners of rental properties continuing to pay the fire fee if the property is vacant. Councilmember Wendelken said we need to stress that some will have an increase but we need to urge them to contact their insurance provided to make sure they are getting the right ISO rating. A motion was made to approval the City of Rincon fire fee formula.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Daniel  
Second: Councilmember Wendelken

Councilmember Browher asked when this will be implemented; Councilmember Daniel amended her motion to the approval of the City of Rincon fire fee formula to be implemented March 1, 2019. Councilmember Wendelken said we do need to contact the businesses. Councilmember Dasher asked how is this formula in relation to neighboring cities, Mrs. Kelly said 50% are in the property taxes and the others are solely square footage. The second was amended.

Vote by Council: Unanimous

### **Old Business**

#### **Second reading of the proposed FY 2019 City of Rincon Budget.**

Mr. Klimm said the proposal before Council is for 9.8 million dollars, it is a 40% reduction over last year's budget. The general fund proposal is 3.9 million, which is a decrease of 14% from last year, with over 2 million dollars going into fund balance. There was discussion at the last meeting about a salary adjustment for employees his recommendation was a for a 3% increase. The budget with the salary adjustment will be \$9,964,471. Councilmember Wendelken asked will there be an increase of fire fees for residential, Mr. Klimm said we are not recommending an increase for residential. A motion was made to approve the 2019 budget with the 3% salary adjustments.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Dasher  
Second: Councilmember Daniel

Councilmember Dasher thanked staff for their hard work and giving employees a much deserved raise, Mr. Klimm said thank every member of the Council.

Vote by Council: Unanimous

## **New Business**

### **3. HHNT Consulting Engineers requests approval of pay request #24 in the amount of \$1,355.00, for engineering services associated with the Lower Floridan Well project. LI# 505.4440.541231 and 505.4440.542113**

This is to close out this portion of the contract due to unforeseen issues with the well. Once the issues with the well have been resolved, HHNT to will work to update the agreements.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Wendelken

Second: Councilmember Exley

Vote by Council: Unanimous

### **4. Request to approve a contract with Geosyntec Consultants to provide professional and grant management services for the Coastal Incentive Grant.**

Mrs. Kelly said the engineer with Integrated Science, Wade Burchem wrote the grant application; he is now with Geosyntec out of Atlanta. We have to have a contracting engineering for the grant and she asking to contract with Geosyntec. Mayor Lee asked was the amount is \$62,065; Mrs. Kelly said yes and the majority of that is covered by the grant.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Dasher

Second: Councilmember Daniel

Vote by Council: Unanimous

### **5. Request to approve the 2019 LMIG project list.**

Mr. Bowles said each year we do a LMIG project list. 2019 we proposed the street will be Lexington Avenue from E 9<sup>th</sup> Street up to Zitterour Drive.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Wendelken

Second: Councilmember Dasher

Vote by Council: Unanimous

### **6. Request approval to repair the roof at the Vernon C. Hinely Community Center for the amount of \$8,975.00.**

Mr. Klimm said at Council's request he was asked to take a look at the Hinely Center roof. They received three quotes, Michael's Roofing, Ethan Hunt and Trim Master. Mr. Bowles recommends Michael's Roofing covers the most material and some replacement of plywood. It is a better price with \$8,975.00.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Daniel

Second: Councilmember Wendelken

Mr. Bowles said this is for three tab shingles.

Vote by Council: Unanimous

**7. Request to approve the City of Rincon's Workers Compensation Insurance with Georgia Municipal Association (policy period 1/1/2019 to 1/1/2020) at a total premium amount of \$126,167.**

Motion to approve: Councilmember Browher  
Second: Councilmember Exley

Attorney Dickey said mentioned this is \$20,000 dollar less than last year.

Vote by Council: Unanimous

**7A. Consideration to cancel the regular scheduled Council meeting on December 24, 2018.**

Motion to approve: Councilmember Wendelken  
Second: Councilmember Dasher  
Vote by Council: Unanimous

**8. Administrative Reports:**

**City Manager** – Mr. Klimm said on Wednesday he will be meeting with a party that is interested in the restaurant and grill at Lost Plantation; he will be meeting with the Mayor and the Coastal Regional Commission to discuss goals for the upcoming year; he has formed a staff committee to work with website vendor and the will meet in January; also a representative from GMA met with staff about the 457 Retirement Plan.

**Fire Department** – Chief Rahn said there was a question about brush fires at the last meeting. In 2018 there were 33 total 13 in city limits and 20 in the county.

**Building/Zoning Dept.** – Mrs. Kelly reminded Council that employee appreciation dinner is December 14<sup>th</sup> and the fire department asked if everyone will wear their ugly sweater.

**Finance** – Mr. Jefferson said the beginning of next year he will provide a regular monthly finance report.

**Mayor and Council** – Councilmember Browher asked about Plantation Drive, Mrs. Kelly said she has not gotten a response from the owners. Mayor Lee said the golf advisory meeting that he mentioned has been rescheduled; the Motorcade was last Wednesday and we did a very good job of participating. Joey Pilate takes on this project every year; he canvasses businesses in the City to solicit funds and products.

**9. Executive session to discuss personnel, pending litigation, attorney client privilege, and real estate.**

Motion: Councilmember Daniel  
Second: Councilmember Dasher  
Vote by Council: Unanimous

Motion to return to meeting: Councilmember Daniel  
Second: Councilmember Browher  
Vote by Council: Unanimous

**10. Follow the statutes of executive session, to put on file an executive session affidavit and resolution.**

Motion to approve: Councilmember Dasher  
Second: Councilmember Wendelken  
Vote by Council: Unanimous

**11. Take any action that is needed on the items from executive session.**

No action taken.

**Adjourn:**

Motion to adjourn: Councilmember Daniel  
Second: Councilmember Dasher  
Vote by Council: Unanimous