

COUNCIL MEETING, FEBRUARY 9, 2017, 6:00 P.M.

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Thursday, February 9, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Diaz, Council Members Rivas, Robinson, Lee, Garcia and Gonzales: City Manager Squyres, City Attorney DeFoyd and City Secretary Raines.

The meeting was opened with Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Lee to approve the minutes as presented. Vote: 5 For 0 Against

REPORTS OF OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES AND COMMITTEES:

Chief Ayala advised that they were staying busy and reported that for the month of January they had 105 arrest, 380 calls for service, 731 citations and 50 plus ordinance violations.

He reported that a long time Resident, Ms. Ann Campbell had passed away, that she was a great supporter of the city and the police department and she would be greatly missed and to please keep her family in their thoughts.

Chief Ayala stated the were working on three separate grants to upgrade equipment at the police station and wished everyone a happy Valentine Day.

Kyle Reed, Public Works Director, stated that Ms. Campbell would greatly missed, that she was a sweet lady.

He called attention to the water outage due to the 14" line that broke down by the dialysis center last Thursday, that it was very dangerous when this happed that we had to go to the water plant and cut the pressure for the whole city, we were looking into new valves for that

line and it would be very expensive, that to cut the valves in would be approximately \$30,000 each. He reported that we were finally back to normal on water pressure.

He stated that we were working on the water system, we were replacing 12,000 ft. of water line over on the south side , the job is going good but it has turned out to be a nightmare, they are running behind on the job but it was not really all their fault , you could expect water outages over there and when something happened we can't go door to door and knock, it is an emergency that we shut that water down but we do our best, we try to let the citizens know .

Mayor Diaz ask how long was it out today on Munn Street, she knew hers was out for quite a while and she was still getting brown water.

Kyle stated they were working on tie in over there, that it should be cleared up by morning and he would come by there.

Ivan Rojas, Parks and Recreation Director advised that the opening day for baseball might be moved due to low enrollment and he would keep them advised as soon as he knew anything. He stated that they could sign up on the website.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Squyres stated that on the water line break, a lot of businesses were effected and we heard about that right before we closed and we manned the phone there until water was restored, we took about 500 calls and he would like to commend, not only the public works guys because they worked very hard but who he was impressed with was the citizens, out of about 500 calls not one person Screamed or cussed, they were worried that maybe they didn't pay their bill or were concerned about the guy, telling them to be safe, etc., it was nothing but positive feedback from the citizens and he really appreciated the patient attitude from the residents.

He advised that there was a grant we were participating in as a sponsor and Harris County was the primary lead on it, if you own a home or rent a home and have children there 60 days or more a year, they will come in and inspect your home for lead based paint, primarily on the exterior but if you think it is on the interior they will do that as well and for example, if they find lead based paint on the exterior of your home, they will, for free, as long as you meet the income requirements they will install new siding on the outside of your home to seal off that lead based paint, you don't even have to own the home, if you are a renter and your tenants want to do it , it works under their income. , if you are the owner of a home and you live in it you are eligible as well. He stated that it was already on the website in red .

He reminded everyone that we had a hazmat waste collection on March 25th and went over the different things that could be disposed of And that they wouldn't have to get out of their vehicle, they could drive through at the fire station and they would have volunteers to unload it for you, it would be in the morning and they take the first 100 cars or so, we were the largest one in the county and Harris County is the co-sponsor. He stated this was household waste only, not commercial.

He reminded everyone that the rabies clinic would be on April 22nd.

There was no Unfinished Business.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Recognition of Jacinto City Winners of the Food Fest.

Council Member Lee stated this was something new that we had embarked on this past year to have a contest with restaurants in the Jacinto City area hoping to get the citizens or anybody involved in what they thought was their favorite food items and we were hoping that we would get more people involved in the competition. He

recognized and welcomed Dairy Queen in the audience as one of the winners in the competition, stating that Dairy Queen in Jacinto City was just a cut above other Dairy Queens.

Mayor Diaz presented certificates to Dairy Queen for the best milk shakes and smoothies and French fries in Jacinto City.

Mayor Diaz read the names of the other restaurants receiving certificates for various foods.

2. Resolution 2017-2R Setting General City Election for May 6, 2017

A motion was made by Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Gonzales to approve Resolution 2017-2R setting the General City Election for May 6, 2017 and naming Wayne Nichols as Election Judge and Matthew Shuptrine as Alternate Judge. Vote 5 For 0 against

3. Resolution 2017-3R Creating Early Voting Ballot Board for General City Election on May 6, 2017

A motion was made by Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Gonzales to approve Resolution 2017-3R Creating the Early Voting Ballot Board for the May 6, 2017 Election. Vote: 5 For 0 Against

4. Council action on Variance Board's recommendation on variance requests at 10122 Flaxman and 10203 B Market Street

City Manager Squyres stated that the Variance Board had met on Tuesday, February 7th to hear the following variance request.

Mr. Jose Laguna, Jr., 10122 Flaxman, had requested a variance to replace a porch that did not meet the building code.

City Manager Squyres advised the board had heard Mr. Laguna's request and voted unanimously to allow the porch to be built at 10122 Flaxman.

Mayor Diaz thanked Mr. Laguna for following the rules and applying for the variance hearing.

A motion was made by Council Member Garcia and seconded by Council Member Rivas to accept the Variance Boards recommendation and approve the variance at 10122 Flaxman. Vote: 5 For 0 Against

Mr. Laguna thank the Mayor and Council.

Council Member Rivas stated that we needed more front porches and swings.

City Manager Squyres stated the next hearing request was from Mr. John Dutt at 10203B Market Street and this was in the Business Complex in the 200 block of Market Street and he was wanting to rent Suites A & B and he wanted to open up a tire store in that location and sell used tires and he was here tonight.

Mayor Diaz ask Mr. Dutt if he would like to come up to the podium and tell them what he planned to do.

Mr. Dutt stated that he wanted to start with used tires and migrate to mostly new tires and as he looked around at the other tire shops in the city he understood why they had problems with them, that when he closed at night, everything was on the inside and he had enough room to store his waste inside and he had a contract with a tire recycling facility here on old 90 and they would pick up as little as one tire if he ask them to and he would set it up for pickup once a week when he opened, that old used tire took up space for new tires.

Mayor Diaz thanked him for going through proper channels that we want to keep Jacinto City clean.

Mayor Diaz advised the Council that the Variance Board also voted unanimously to allow the variance for the tire shop.

Council Member Gonzales ask Mr. Dutt if the used tires he was having removed would be done in a timely manner.

Mr. Dutt stated once a week or if need more often and he would be self contained but during the day he might roll out his display which would be new tires but it would go inside at night.

Council Member Lee ask if he already had a crew or was he going to be hiring anyone.

Mr. Dutt stated that it looked like he was going to be needing three bilingual , that he had two other businesses and he would need part time for them as well and he would be looking within the city.

Council Member Rivas stated that at the hearing he had mentioned a couple of his other ventures he had out there and ask if he could tell them a little about those.

Mr. Dutt stated that he was a core buyer and explained what that involved and that he also buys vehicles but they would not be stored here.

Council Member Rivas stated they went over this at the hearing and that the space the hearing was on would be for tires only.

A motion was made by Council Member Garcia and seconded by Council Member Lee to accept the recommendation of the Variance Board and approve the request for a tire shop at 10203 B Market Street. Vote: 5 For 0 Against

- 5. Becky Gammage to address Mayor and Council regarding the Jacinto City Dog and Cat Rescue Program and the BBQ fund raiser.**

Ms. Gammage stated she was not a public speaker but she was a talker and she was here tonight representing Jacinto City Dog Pound Rescue efforts. She stated this city was really growing and moving in a positive direction, there was so many people working to insure that we are known as a welcoming, helpful and law abiding city, that changes were happening all around the city and she, for one, was happy to see our city thrive. She stated that new programs for assistance and lots of activities to be enjoyed by all are just some of the things that have changed in the last few years and now she would like to tell them about a change that happened about three years ago. She stated that this city had a responsibility to the residents to have animal control to pickup stray or loose dogs, they do this and they do a very good job at keeping our residents safe, one never knows how a dog may act and having said this brings her back to change. Change happened when Brenda Kocian and Judy Clark decided to make a difference for Jacinto City Pound dogs. All dogs that were picked up prior to three years ago, regardless of what they looked like or how many kisses they could give, they would still be killed if no one claimed them after three days, that is sad but that was the way it was and that is the way it still would be to day if not for rescue. Because of the hard work and dedication of this rescue it saves lives, in just the past year and half over a 100 plus dogs have been given second chances at loving homes and as far as anyone can tell her there has only been about three dogs put down at the pound. Now after the three days are passed the dogs are vetted, this means they are spayed or neutered, heart worm tested, receive shots and are micro chipped before they can be adopted or send to other rescues and this all cost money, it averages about \$100.00 per dog. Brenda, Judy and Rachel Limos have their hands full trying to find places for the dogs to go and went over some of the things involved in find a place for them of cleaning kennels, bathing dogs or just spending time with the dogs trying to get a dog to calm down and on weekends they spend time with adoption events all over Houston trying to find them a loving home. She stated these three ladies have never had the time to ask

the public for help or do a fund raiser, instead these ladies pay needed vet bills out of their own pockets, that she was told yesterday that just from the beginning of this year there had been \$ 2,300.00 spent which went for medicine, vets, etc. . She stated that Judy had set up a Go Fund Me account and it was true that they have had some donations on that but it was not nearly enough to cover the expense that reoccurs week after week. Ms. Gammage advised that on May 13th at Town Center they would have a BBQ and raffle to raise money for the rescue and to educate the public for the importance of registering your dog with this city and making sure that tag is worn at all times, they would stress the leach laws , no dog should be allowed to run free except in a fenced yard , there would be flyers for low cost spay and neutering . They would like everyone to help them, get involved and donate whatever they can, be it money or item for the fund raiser or raffle items, what every it takes to make this a great success. She advised that Petroleum Express, here on Market, had pledged\ \$100.00 to help get them started, and ask that we all help make a difference in Jacinto City by supporting the rescue program. She stated that without the hard work and dedication of the three ladies she would hate to think what might still be happing in this city. She ask Judy Clark, Brenda Kocian and Rachel Limas to stand and be recognized, she stated they were appreciated very much and she also recognized Erick Jones, the city's animal control officer and thanked him for all that he does, that he was a great partner in the rescue and they thanked him for working with them.

Constable Chris Diaz advised Ms. Gammage that he would like to match that \$100.00 and that Cecil McBroom would also like to match it and also Chief Ayala would like to match it . City Attorney DeFoyd Matched \$100.00 along with Mr. John Dutt.

Ms. Gammage thanked them saying they were going to make her cry.

Mayor Diaz advised Ms. Gammage that she and the Council were going to work hard to try and make this fund raiser a great success, we were going to kick butt.

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Ms. Gammage thanked everyone for supporting them.

Council Member Garcia ask Ms. Gammage if they still had the jar at the police station and was advised that they did and she had one right here if anyone wanted to drop anything in it.

Mayor Diaz thanked her for her compassion for animals and to keep coming to us before May 13th and we could help promote it.

Ms. Gammage advised that she would be putting out flyers.

6. City Manager Squyres presented the City of Jacinto City Investment Report by type and Fund Holding Investments For FY 2015/2016. (copy Attached)

7. City Manager Squyres presented the City of Jacinto City Investment Policy

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Debbie Martinez advised that she was here supporting the Girl Scout Cookie Sale and Boy Scout Troop 1301 who were selling coupon books and they appreciated the Mayor and Council allowing them to be here and supporting them and they would have cookies for sale after the meeting.

Ms. Hazel Buck, Boy Scout Troop 1301, discussed how long she had been in scouting, how good this was for the boys and that they only had one fund raiser a year which was the coupon books and went over some of the coupons in the book.

Mayor Diaz stated that she bought them every year and really used them for a lot of things.

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Council Member Rivas thanked everyone for coming and wished them a great weekend.

Council Member Robinson wished everyone a Happy Valentine and good weekend.

Council Member Lee wished everyone a Happy Valentine and God Bless.

Council Member Garcia wished the Boy Scouts a happy belated Boy Scout Day and thanked everybody for being here today.

Mayor Diaz stated that there were Boy Scout Coupon Books and Girl Scout Cookies for salif anyone was interested..

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 6:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joyce Raines". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.

**Joyce Raines
City Secretary**