

COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 2017, 6:00 P.M.

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Thursday, March 23, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Diaz, Council Members Robinson, Lee, Garcia and Gonzales; City Manager Squyres, City Attorney DeFoyd and City Secretary Raines. Council Member Rivas absent.

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: 4 For 0 Against

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Chief Ayala advised that they had submitted a list of 33 junk vehicle in the city, had a garage fire in the 10900 block of Verano, a minor accident on Holland and that at 11100 block of Verano a man had tried to scam an elderly couple, the lady advised him that she has call the police and he left. Chief Ayala cautioned to be aware of anything unusual going on in the neighborhood and call the police department to check it out.

He advised that Chief Reese of Galena Park had visited with him and they had discussed ways they could work together for the benefit of both communities.

Chief Ayala announced that they have an opening for a bi-lingual dispatcher.

Chief Ayala stated that they are planning to have a program helping people to understand and deal with people having dementia problems and he passed out a brochure dealing with this and advised that he would provide more information at a later date.

Chief Mier advised that it had been pretty quite except for the garage fire today and that they were supposed to take delivery of the new ambulance tomorrow.

Bernardo Perez, Public Works Department, reported that the CDBG water line project was complete, all the fire hydrants were in and they were doing clean up now. He discussed the bad water leak that we had on Sunday, that the valves for cut off had worked last year but did not work this year and they had put in some new valves.

Mayor Diaz stated that we appreciated all the hard work the Public Works Department had done.

Mr. Saperstein, Jacinto City Library, reported that they had their first computer class last week, they were going to be having citizenship classes and were getting ready for their summer reading program.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Squyres stated that he could not believe that Chief Ayala had not mentioned that they had poured the cement foundation for the new Police Station, starting at 4:00 a.m. this morning and the projected day to start building was April 22, 2017.

Mr. Squyres advised that S.B. 2 regarding the tax cap had passed the Senate and now goes to the House as H.B. 15, he discussed how they were trying to take local control from the cities.

He reminded everyone of the Hazardous Waste Collection site at the Fire Department on March 25th from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and went over a list of items that could be dropped off.

Mayor Diaz ask about the progress on the dugout and was advised that they would be finished in time for opening day.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- 1. Second and Final Reading of Ordinance 2017-1 declaring unopposed candidates in the May 6, 2017 General City Election elected to office; cancelling the election, providing a severability clause and providing an effective date.**

A motion was made by Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Lee to approve Ordinance 2017-1 declaring the unopposed candidates in the May 6, 2017 General City election elected and cancelling the election.

Ana Diaz - Mayor

Carmela Garcia – Council Member, Position No. 4

Mario Gonzales - Council Member, Position No. 5

Vote: 4 For 0 Against

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Belt Harris Pechacek, LLP to present Audit for FY 2015/2016**

Ms. Stephanie Harris with Belt Harris Pechacek, LLP presented the city audit for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016 issuing a clean unmodified opinion on the city financial statement and that was the highest level of assurance they could provide as the city's auditors. Ms. Harris went over the audit, stating that the city was in very healthy financial condition and ask if the council had any questions.

There were no questions from the Mayor or Council.

- 2. First reading of Ordinance 2017-2 granting Magellan Pipeline Company, LP a permit to install one 24 Inch pipeline transporting crude liquid across, or along and under certain streets in the city.**

A motion was made by Council Member Gonzales and seconded by Council Member Lee to approve Ordinance 2017-2 granting a permit to Magellan Pipeline on the first reading.

- 3. Keep Jacinto City Clean Committee Founder Allan Jamail to introduce Teresa Arzapala as the KJCC President and Irasema Salinas as Vice President and to ask the city to cut the wild weeds and wild trees from the good shrubbery along the South side of Market Street Road.**

Mr. Jamail thanked everyone for the good job they were doing, that he can see the difference in the city.

He commented on the program that Chief Ayala had talked about to educated people on how to deal with people with dementia.

Mr. Jamail discussed how KJCC operated the program when they first organized, stating that it was an informal organization. He stated that he has a problem communicating with some of our residents now and feels that we need more bilingual people involved because they can explain the ordinances, etc. to them and they feel more comfortable speaking with them.

He introduced Ms. Teresa Arzapala as the KJCC President and Ms. Irasema Salinas as Vice President and stated that he promised them he would work with them and they would continue to make suggestions to the Mayor and Council and he knew that Mr. Lon Squyres would see that the problems were taken care of. He said Joe and Rachel Munoz were members of the original KJCC and had wanted to work with them again.

Mr. Jamail called attention to some pictures that were passed out by Ms. Arzapala and Ms. Salinas. He stated that they were asking the city to clean the wild weeds and wild trees from the shrubbery along the south side of Market Street and gave the history of how the landscaping took place and how long it had been there and that the

pictures showed where the committee had marked the area where the weeds and trees were growing in the shrubs.

He discussed that the City has passed an Ordinance designating the Month of April as Keep Jacinto City Clean Month and suggested that maybe the city could take cleaning this area on Market Street on as a project, that their committee did not have the equipment it would take to do this.

Another picture he brought to the Mayor and Council's attention was at 10522 Flaxman, stating that this was the remains from a house fire and had been there for some time and the neighbors were complaining but had not called city hall to complain. He called attention to glass windows leaning against the fence in the back yard, stating that kids had thrown rocks, breaking the windows and there was glass in the yard where someone could get cut.

There was also pictures a picture of a dangerous building at 10502 Chadwick that he stated had been sited numerous times.

Mr. Jamail stated that he knew Lon would take of these and they had about 30 people who wanted to get involved with KJCC.

Mayor Diaz stated that we appreciated them bringing any complaints to us and we would try to take care of them.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Nicholas Diaz, 10826 Munn, stated that he was selling raffle tickets for the Little League if anyone would like to buy them.

Robert Hernandez, 10245 Chadwick, stated that he loved this place and he was looking forward to the upcoming ball season.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Council Member Robinson thanked everyone for coming out and announced that the Annual Easter Egg Hunt would be on April 8th at the Wilki Park ball fields starting at 10:30 a.m..

Council Member Lee stated that we have a lot of good things coming up, the Hazardous Waste Drop off, the Easter Egg Hunt, the baseball parade and opening day, rabies clinic, etc.. He thanked everyone for coming out.

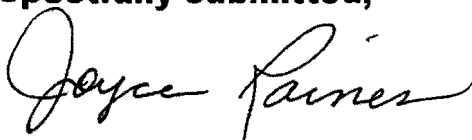
Council Member Garcia reminded everyone to be alert, watch for suspicious activity and contact the police department.

Council Member Gonzales thanked the Public Works Department for getting the water leak fixed as quickly as they did, that it could have been a lot worse.

Mayor Diaz advised that Lisa Banda had donated a lot of Easter items for the egg hunt and Constable Diaz was donating a 1000 eggs.

Mayor Diaz adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joyce Raines".

**Joyce Raines
City Secretary**