

**COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2017, 6:00 P.M.**

**The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Thursday, April 13, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Diaz, Council Members Rivas, Robinson, Lee, Garcia and Gonzales; City Manager Squyres and City Secretary Raines. City Attorney DeFoyd absent due to illness.**

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

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

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:**

**Chief Ayala passed on his report.**

**Chief Mier advised that the new ambulance was outside, they were still in the process of stocking it and that it should be on the street in a couple of weeks.**

**Bernardo Perez, Public Works Department, reminded everyone of the Rabies Clinic next Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Public Works Facility. He advised that the Water Line Project was finished but they had a little clean up still to do.**

**Ivan Rojas, Parks and Recreation Director thanked the Mayor and Council for coming out and participating in the Parade and Opening Day Activities for the ball leagues, that everything well very well.**

**Mayor Diaz stated that it was a pretty day and every was really good.**

**Elizabeth Flores, Heritage Hall Director, advised that they were wrapping up everything for Senior Olympics which would start the last Monday of this month. She stated that she was working with the Houston Food Bank to get boxes of food for the Congregate and Home**

**Bound seniors at Heritage Hall. She advised that the seniors had taken a trip to the Kemah Board Walk on Monday and had really enjoyed it.**

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:**

**City Manager Squyres advised that the Police Station was moving along, the foundation and parking area had been poured and the steel would be delivered in about 10 days and we were moving ahead with the pool and bath house.**

**Mayor Diaz ask about the status on the pool.**

**City Manager Squyres stated he couldn't remember the date but he thought it was around 16 week that he didn't know what but we were going to do something this summer, that he couldn't promise them anything but we were going to open that pool this summer and have some kind of event.**

**Mayor Diaz ask if everyone wanted to have some kind of big grand opening for our pool and everyone was all for it.**

**Mr. Squyres advised Mayor Diaz that he would promise her that we would swim in 2017.**

**Mayor Diaz introduced Erika David Rouse.**

**Ms. Rouse advised that she was running for San Jacinto College Board, she discussed some of the issues that she felt would benefit the college and that she would appreciate their support.**

**Mayor Diaz advised that they would be able to vote at the Jacinto City Town Center and thank Ms. Rouse for coming and speaking with us.**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

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

**Council Member Rivas ask if we had considered reviewing our fees for pipelines, that at some point and time we were going to run out of space in the pipeline easement. He discussed some fees that pipelines charge in other areas and felt that we should look at our fees.**

**There was general discussion on the matter.**

**A motion was made by Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Lee to approve Ordinance 2017-2, granting the permit to Magellan Pipeline on the second and final reading. Vote:**

**5 For – 0 Against**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1. Proclamation proclaiming the Month of April 2017 as National Safe Digging Month in Jacinto City.**

**Council Member Rivas stated that he does this kind of job and they do this every year to try and impress on everyone how important it was to call before digging.**

**A motion was made by Council Member Rivas and seconded by Council Member Robinson to approve the Proclamation proclaiming the Month of April 2017 as National Safe Digging Month in Jacinto City. Vote: 5 For 0 Against**

- 2. Officer of the Quarter recognition to Patrolman Dennis Martinez**

**Chief Ayala stated that he was very proud of our Police Officers, they do a tremendous job and he felt they needed to recognize our officers and he was going to start out with the first Office of the Quarter Award and ask Patrolman Dennis Martinez to step up. Chief Ayala recognized Officer Martinez's family, his wife, two sons and father. He stated that he was very proud to present Officer Martinez with this award, that he had been exceptional in his duties, he was always staying busy and quick to respond and he worked the night shift so he could sleep good at night when he knew he was out and about. He stated that he began his career with the Jacinto City Police Department in January of 2015 and started as a police reserve and on July 22, 2015 he became a full time officer with the department and besides working patrol, he worked telecommunications dispatcher as well and was always available when needed. Chief Ayala presented the Officer of the Quarter Award to Patrolman Dennis Martinez.**

**Mayor Diaz thanked Officer Martinez for his services, stating that we really appreciated it and if he ever needed anything from them to let them know.**

**Officer Martinez stated that he appreciate everyone and all the support from the Chief and all of his fellow officers. He stated that he protected as much as he could and he planned to stay here in Jacinto City until he retired, hopefully and he appreciated the Chief giving him the opportunity to work for this city and thanked the Council for giving him the opportunity as well and his family for supporting him.**

**Mayor Diaz stated that we thanked him for choosing Jacinto City.**

- 3. Resolution 2017-5R Opposing Legislation presented for Property Tax Cap.**

**City Manager Squyres gave a brief background on the Tax Cap Resolution stating that they might have noticed that there had been a lot of press about the State wanting to take power away from cities and if that happens things that this council has done would be undone and the classic example, and he thought everyone on this council was here when it was done, passed an ordinance stating that convicted pedophiles on the sex registry Could not live within 2000 feet of a gathering place for children and since that time we have lost a lot of pedophiles in Jacinto City, some are grandfathered and we can't make them move but the Chief tells him that we have been able to turn them away because there is no place in our city that is 2000 feet away from where children gather. He stated that we were a Home Ruled city and our Ordinance allows us to do that and General Law cities don't have the ability to do that. He advised that there were individuals at the State legislator that wanted to take that power away, that wanted to say that cities don't have the right to have their own Ordinances and control their own budgets, that they as a State want to do that instead, they wanted to micro manage the cities, the State didn't want to be managed by the Feds but they wanted to manage us. He stated that this resolution was addressed to the financial part take over that they like to do, he explained how the Property Tax Cap would work and how it would affect the city, that the cap was now 8% and if the city went over that the citizens has the right to ask for a roll back election but the State wanted to lower that cap to 4% and if you went over that the State would require you to have an separate election on a separate date from our regular election and we would have to pay for that election which would have to be a November election at a cost of thousands of dollars and the Texas Municipal League, Harris County Mayor's and Council's association all feel and he thought that our city feels that there is no body closer to the tax payers and citizens of this city than the ladies and gentlemen that sit at this table and if you don't like their decision you have the ultimate control over them, how**

**much control did they have over the State Representative and Senators and with that said he read Resolution 2017-5R by caption.**

**A motion was made by Council Member Garcia and seconded by Council Member Lee to approve Resolution 2017-5R as read.**

**Vote: 5 For 0 Against**

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

**Donna Dailey, 1701 Chazen, stated that she was on the Variance Board and they had something come up about the parking over on Holland for the little blue restaurant and they are parking over there where we have already talked several time about they were not going to park there, that they were going to put a chain across it to keep people from parking there and they were still parking there and she was here because Mr. Moreno couldn't be here and they would like to see it enforced, if we are going to have rules and variance hearing and things are passed then lets make sure they are done right.**

**The second thing was congratulations to Officer Martinez, now if you are a magnet for crime like he said he was, she thought we should send them to Galena Park.**

**Ms. Dailey stated the third thing, was that she had been here since 1973 and had been active with a lot of things the kids, little league, etc., she stated that we do these things for our kids and she found out the other day and she thought this was already handled, that sometimes people put their hands in the pot and take money and it was supposed to be handled, they were supposed to do something about it and she understands that these people are back with our kids again. She stated that she thought that if Jacinto City cared about their kids and they want to see the programs work and somebody takes money from the children, they should not be allowed back into the programs. She**

**stated that was just her opinion but she wanted to put it out there so it would be on record, she didn't care who's friend they were, if they were a thief, they were a thief.**

**Mayor Diaz advised that two of those things had already been solved and ask Lon to discuss this.**

**City Manager Squyres stated that he would be happy to, that the first thing that she had mentioned was the restaurant and she was right, the second lot was residential not commercial and that was suggested by the variance Committee and voted on by the Council, that there was a chain and someone cut the chain and that took care of that. He stated that the morning that we received the e-mail complaint, we checked it and there were five cars there, we immediately talked to PD and they are updating their guys and reminding them to enforce it and he knew that the Chief personally went and talked with the owner of the property and reminded her who could and could not park there. He stated that the owner of the property or anyone related to the owner could park there and their employees and customers could not park there and were subject to citations if they do, he ask them to understand that we have numerous citizens comes to this council and remind them how important it is for officers to patrol streets all over the city so we can't keep an officer sitting on Holland Avenue watching this parking lot but if they pass by there and see cars in that lot they were going to start citing them.**

**He stated that on the third issue about the ball fields, it was brought to our attention and we reached out to that league and explained what happened and discussed the situation and the League Board, because they are a contractor only, made the decision to ask that person not to return in that capacity but ask that everybody please remember that they have civil rights, they were not charged or convicted with that crime so they can come**

**as a spectator, they can't go on the field, they can't go into the dug outs, coach or be a board member or participate in any official capacity.**

**Mayor Diaz stated that if anyone did see that person to please call and let us know.**

**Ms. Dailey said that she appreciated that.**

**Ms. Dailey said that she had one more quick thing, that the other day she was walking out of her house at 3:30 p.m. and she got to the back of her vehicle and she saw a man, not a child, a man, it kind of scared her and she screamed out asking what he was doing there and when she looked over, there was another one up against the house and he was grabbing her lawn mower and running toward the road and she told him that the police were on their way and he dropped the lawn mower and jumped into the vehicle, she stated that they found out who it was but she really couldn't prove who it was because he left her lawnmower but they did talk to the parents about it and their attitude was our kids are back on drugs again and they were not giving them any money so that was probably what they were doing so we need to watch these people pretty close because if the mother will tell you their kid is a thief they need to be watched and she cautioned everyone to be alert.**

**Becky Gammage, Representative of Jacinto City Dog Pound Rescue gave a financial report for the organization for the month of March just to let them have an idea of what they do and stated that they had spent \$1,742.38 and this was put together by Brenda Kocian and Judy Clark for the post part, they had a few donations but not that much. She stated that they were able to totally vet 16 dogs out of the pound and if anyone would like to see the records they were welcome to review them. Ms. Gammage reminded everyone of the BBQ fund raiser on May 13<sup>th</sup> and encouraged everyone to come out and support this event.**



**Robert Hernandez, 10245 Chadwick, wished everyone a Happy Easter and congratulated Officer Martinez and he looked forward to more recognitions of Officers of the Quarter. He stated that he had a great time at the Easter Egg Hunt, stating that he wanted to compliment Ana, Ivan, Elizabeth, Gregg, Peanut, Joyce, Reverend Lee, Mario, Carmela, Mr. Rivas, Chief Ayala, Chris Diaz and everyone else as well, he thought they did a Fantastic job and he was honored to have been a part of it as a Volunteer.**

**He stated that he had a question about the pipelines coming through Jacinto City and ask what kind of insurance did they need.**

**City Manager Squyres stated he believed it was \$2,000,000 if he remembered right.**

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

**Council Member Rivas thanked Officer Martinez for his service and congratulated him on receiving the award. He wished everyone a Happy Easter.**

**Council Member Robinson thanked Officer Martinez for the good job he does. He wished everyone a Happy Easter and thanked everyone for coming out and helping make the Easter Egg Hunt a success and thanked the Easter Bunny, stating that he was a very busy bunny.**

**Mayor Diaz ask how many eggs and was advised 6100 eggs.**

**Council Member Garcia ask Elizabeth if she said Monday for Kemah Board Walk and did she need any assistance, that she was off on Monday.**

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**Elizabeth explained that the bus only held so many and they had a full load.**

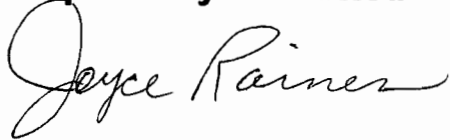
**Council Member Garcia congratulated Officer Martinez, and ask him if he didn't say that he planned to stay with Jacinto City, that was his goal, that this was April 13, 2017 and she was going to hold him to that. She encouraged him to take as much training as he could. She wished everyone a Happy Easter**

**Council Member Gonzales thanked Officer Martinez for the job that he does and also thanked the other officers for the service they do for us and thanked Moe for his service. He wished everyone a Happy Easter.**

**Mayor Diaz reminded everyone that the children would be out of school for Easter Holiday and cautioned that they look out for them.**

**Mayor Diaz adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m..**

**Respectfully submitted**

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

**Joyce Raines  
City Secretary**