

COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY, May 11, 2017, 6:00 P.M.

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Thursday, May 11, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Diaz, Council Members Rivas, Robinson, Lee and Gonzales; City Manager Squyres, City Attorney DeFoyd and City Secretary Raines. Council Member Garcia arrived after roll call.

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

A motion was made by Council Member Rivas and seconded by Council Member Robinson to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as presented. Vote 4 For 0 Against

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Chief Ayala advised that he had given each of them a copy of the April U.C.R. Reports, traffic & criminal arrest and went over the report. He advised that he had been in Austin on Wednesday for the hearing on SB 2, from 8:00 a.m. until 8:30 p.m., that they had allowed comments for an hour or so in the morning, had recessed and advised that they pick up again later in the day and had not reconvened at 8:30 p.m. and almost everyone had already left.

Chief Ayala advised that they had a lot going on in the city and were staying very busy.

Chief Mier stated it had been pretty quite, that they had a few problems with the new ambulance but it was back in service now.

Kyle Reed, Public Works Director, Advised everyone that the bridge on Market Street by the public works facility was being replaced and while they were working on this traffic would be one lane each direction and would create a traffic problem so they would need to be prepared for some delays and that the public employees were staying busy. He reminded everyone of the Tire Roundup on Saturday and also the JC Dog Pound Rescue event.

Ivan Rojas, Parks and Recreation Director, announced that they would be having a Summer Program that would run June 5th through July 28th for ages 7 through 12 and a We Can Program for ages 7 through 14 and parents on June 6, 7, 8 and 13, 14 and 15 to help children with healthy eating, physical activity and they would need to call to register.

Elizabeth Flores reported that the seniors had been busy with a lot of activities and thanked Constable Chris Diaz for getting food donated for their Cinco De Mio Celebration. She stated that they also had celebrated Mother's Day and were getting ready for their Garage Sale on Saturday.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Squyres advised that what Chief Ayala was talking about was the SB 2 bill that was passed by the Senate and heard by the House Ways and Means Committee yesterday and they played the usual games, let's delay, let's go back to the floor or let's keep you waiting all day. We would have liked to send a larger group of people but we also had a meeting with TML's Health Insurance folks about the possibility of changing the health insurance and we would be updating the council on that, probably at a workshop before long, we were not sure it was the smart thing to do yet, it was still in the early stages but we would keep the council up to speed on that.

He stated that TML had ask that primarily uniformed officers be represented in Austin and he heard there was a sea of badges and uniforms and he received a call from TML today thanking us for sending the Chief.

There was no Unfinished Business.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Administer Oath of Office to unopposed Candidates declared elected by Ordinance on March 25, 2017**

Mayor Diaz congratulated the officers coming back and thanked the citizens for another two years and hoped that they were happy with them, they try to do their best and if they weren't happy, they could let them know. She stated that she knew that it took a lot of work from all of them to get things done, they didn't always all agrees on everything but they worked together and she wanted to thank them for having her up here for another two years and thanked her husband and family for their support and putting up with her.

Judge George Risner administered the Oath of Office to:

**Mayor Ana Diaz
Council Member Carmela Garcia
Council Member Mario Gonzales**

Their families jointed them during the Oath of Office.

Constable Diaz stated that he would like to say a few words and thanked the Mayor, City Council and administration for being supportive, that we lived in a great city, that this city had raised him. He wished everyone a Happy Mother's Day.

Council Member Garcia thanked everyone for giving her another opportunity to serve them.

Mayor Diaz advised Judge Risner that we appreciated him coming out and administer the Oaths of Office.

2. Council to appoint Mayor Pro Tem.

A motion was made by Council Member Rivas and seconded by Council Member Lee to appoint Council Member Robinson as Mayor Pro Tem.

Vote: 5 For 0 Against

3. First reading of Ordinance 2017-3 setting salary for Mayor and Council.

A motion was made by Council Member Gonzales and seconded by Council Member Lee to increase the Mayor and Council's salary by \$50.00 and leave the car allowance as is, making the Mayor salary \$400.00 per month with a car allowance of \$300.00 per month and Council's salary at \$350.00 per month with a car allowance of \$225.00 per month. Vote: 4 For 1 Against (Rivas).

- 4. Approval of Budget Amendment for the Police Department to purchase patrol unit to replace Unit #28; a three year lease for 2016 Ford Explorer with first lease payment being \$12,368.57.**

A motion was made by Council Member Garcia and seconded by Council Member Robinson to amend the police department budget in the amount of \$12,368.57 for the first lease payment of a three year lease for the purchase of a 2016 Ford Explorer to replace unit #28. Vote: 5 For 0 Against

- 5. Council to authorize advertising for sale of PD Unit #28, 2013 Dodge Charger to be sold as is.**

Chief Ayala stated the city mechanic had found a good amount of frame and suspension damage to Unit 28 and he recommended that we sale the unit instead of trying to repair it.

There was discussion about what all would be taken off the wrecked unit before it was sold.

A motion was made by Council Member Garcia and seconded by Council Member Lee to advertise to sell the vehicle. Vote: 5 For 0 Against

- 6. Becky Gammage to address Mayor and Council about the Jacinto City Dog Pound Rescue Benefit.**

Becky Gammage, 1318 Belin, thanked the Mayor and Council for the opportunity to address them. She stated that time really did fly by very

quickly, that it seem like it was just a couple of week ago when she was here telling them about the Dog Pound Rescue and her dream and plans to have a fund raiser and that was February 9th, she thought she had plenty of time to do this and she didn't, she had been very busy every day but she did believe she had done the best she could and we were ready for this. She stated that she had never done anything like this before and one day the Lord just put it on her heart to tell the citizens there was a rescue here and she hoped this fund raiser would help do that. She stated that there were so many people that had played a part in donating their time, money, raffle items, food and many other items to make sure it was a great event and if she were to name them all they would be here a very very long time so she was going to say thank you very much for each one that has given and it was greatly appreciated. She stated that there were a couple of people that she would like to take time to thank and the first one was Ms. Joyce Raines, that she had gone beyond helping, that she had new tee shirts made for them and they would be wearing them on Saturday and she because is so crafty, the rumor got out and she had made baskets for the silent auction and they thanked her for having a kind and giving heart. She stated that this wouldn't be a BBQ without some meat and she would like to publicly thank STP Services, Mr. Jerry Kocian for donating all of the meat for the event and no one wanted to eat raw meat or burnt meat and fortunately we had Bernardo Perez from Public Works who was going to cook them some tasty BBQ and thanks to his wife TJ who was going to be in charge of the serving line and not to forget Mr. Kyle Reed and thanked him for everything. she thanked Lon and the Mayor and Council for donating the use of the building and Joe and Rebecca for all their help and encourage everyone to come out and support the benefit.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Mr. Jose Cortez thanked the Mayor and Council and Departments for all the donations they had made to the GPHS Bank. He advised that the parents and booster club of the band were going to work firework stands During July 4th and encourage everyone to come and buy their fireworks from them and the band would get a percentage of what they sell.

City Manager Squyres ask that he please advise the parents and students that in Jacinto City all fireworks were banned in the city and if caught shooting them, they would be given a citation.

Katherine Roses, 1213 Oates Rd. stated that what she was reporting related to the last council meeting, that where she lived there were 2 abandoned cars that had been there for months with no tags or inspection.

Mayor Diaz ask her to please give the information to Chief Ayala after the meeting and he would check it out.

Ms. Roses also reported that at the same address between Apt. 3 and 4 there was a broken sewer line that had been that way for about 5 months and the smell was very bad.

Mayor Diaz advised that Mr. Reed would check on this in the morning to see if it was our line or the property owners line.

Mr. Reed ask that anyone seeing something like this to contact Public Work immediately that this could be a serious health issue.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Council Member Rivas ask if in a situation like that when it isn't our where do we go from there.

City Manager Squyres advised that we could write them a citation and if they didn't take care of the problem, we could disconnect water to the location.

Council Member Rivas discussed cars parking on the sidewalks and children having to walk on the street and that was on Jennifer if they wanted to know where that was at.

Council Member Rivas ask for an update on the swimming pool and ask if there was any discussion on that.

City Manager Squyres advised that he could give him a brief update on it, that Kyle, Ivan and our electrical guy met with the designers on the swimming pool last week to make sure that we would have adequate electrical service for it, they are in the design phase of it now and hopefully in the very near future we will be in the building phase of it. We had a little set back because we looked the second time at vendors and tried to qualify a vendor that we were unable to qualify and if it was December, we were going to have a grand opening for our swimming pool.

Mayor Diaz stated that we had someone else that would like to speak and then we would continue with the council.

Reed Clark, Pct. 2's Constable Office, announced that on Friday, May 12th Constable Chris Diaz would have a fund raising event, a Spring crawfish boil at 14350 Wallisville Rd. from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., it would cost \$25.00 to get in and that included the crawfish and they would have a live band, live and silent auction, activities for the kids. He went over a list of the auction items they would have and if they had any question he would be here after the meeting selling tickets.

Mayor Diaz stated that one thing he forgot to mention was that it was also Constable Diaz's birthday tomorrow so please come on out and have some birthday cake.

Council Member Rivas stated that to the re-elected Officials, roll up your sleeves and get your hands dirty, things were out there for us to go over, He stated it was ruff, it really was, when he tells people he meets or guys at work ask him what he does with his free time and he tells them he is a council member, they say why would you do that and I tell them they are right, it ruins his life but he loves it and he will continue on until he can't go any longer, he congratulated the Mayor and Council Member

on being returned to office and that if it was ruining their life join the party because he loved it. He wished everyone a Happy Mother's Day.

Council Member Robinson stated that he just wanted to congratulate the Mayor and Council Members on their hard fought election and he would serve as Mayor Pro Tem with honor. He wished everyone a good weekend.

Council Member Lee stated that he was told one time that the greatest re-election was to be un-contested so he was very happy for all of them and glad that they were still with us. He thanked them for all being here and God bless them and thanked all the department for all the work that they do.

Council Member Garcia thanked the department heads for watching over the city and wished all the Mothers a Happy Mother's Day on Sunday. She ask an individual in the audience to introduce himself, where he goes to school, he stated that he goes to Furr High School and his name was Jordan (the sound system did not pick up his last name).

Council Member Garcia advised that Jordan lives at Challenger apartments and takes care of his mother who is unable to work and still goes to school and that if anyone could help the family out it would be appreciated.

Council Member Gonzales thanked Ms. Roses for pointing out those vehicles, that our police department does a good job of driving around but sometimes that are in places that are hard to see so it takes the public to point them out and we take care of them when they do.

Chief Ayala stated that at one time there had been 11 vehicles at that location, he had talked to the owner and he had removed nine of them.

Mayor Diaz adjourned the meeting at 6:45 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**