

COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2017, 6:00 P.M.

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Thursday, September 28, 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 Gonzales to approve the minutes as presented.

Vote: 5 For 0 Against

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Chief Ayala reminded everyone of National Night Out on Tuesday, October 2nd, and stated that we had five parties scheduled and provided a list and address of the parties.

Chief Ayala advised that Office David Reyes has resigned and was going to work for Spring ISD.

Chief Ayala advised that we had many helpers out during the storm but that an amanus donor picked one out of 10 responders and our Officer Don Castillo, who's house flooded during the storm and his wife and child had to be rescued, while Officer Castillo was here working in the City, he received a blank check to repair his home and we were very proud of him.

Chief Ayala invited everyone to come by and see the progress on the new police station.

Public Works Director, Kyle Reed, reported that the city looked good but that we still had a lot to do and ask them to call public work or city hall if they have storm debris to be picked up and to please separate the debris from garbage.

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Mayor Diaz advised that she had a lot of calls thanking us for cleaning up so fast and she commended public work for doing a great job.

Kyle ask that they put insulation in a clear plastic bag so they could keep it separated from other trash, he advised that the Air Force and public Works were continuing to spray for mosquitoes and that FEMA was buying the chemicals.

Ivan Rojas, Parks and Recreation Director reminded everyone that the Pumpkin Fest was coming up on October 21st, that we would have the hay ride, pumpkin decorating contest, costume contest and games for the kids and we would also have a movie and vendors and ask everyone to come out and enjoy the night.

Mayor Diaz advised Ivan that she had approximately 15 to 25 kids coming to help out from the Inter Active Club and the Gents.

Mayor Diaz ask Ivan how it was going in the gym with the Disaster Recovery and how long were they going to be there.

Ivan advised that they had people coming in all day long and she was advised that they would probably be here about two months.

Mayor Diaz stated that she had talked with some of the teachers at Galena Park who got flooded and they didn't know where to go so she told them to come over here.

Ivan advised that they were there 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 12:00 Noon to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday.

Mayor Diaz stated that she was glad that our citizens could see them there as well as the ones in the surrounding area.

Elizabeth Flores, Heritage Hall Director, advised that all was going well at Heritage Hall.

Ms. Avezuela, Jacinto City Library, thanked everyone at Parks and Recreation for all of their assistance after the storm to help them get up and running, that they have computers at the Library and will help anyone that needs help with application to FEMA and they would be participating in the Pumpkin Fest.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Squyres stated that we talked about the DRC which was a big thing for the city to have, they were very scarce, that he and the Mayor met with the FEMA folks on Sunday afternoon, they liked the gym site and would be there for two months or longer.

He reminded everyone of the Spay and Neuter Clinic at Town Center on October 7th and that they would spay, neuter, chip and vaccinate the dogs or cats for free but that you did have to make an appointment and the information was all on the website in two places.

Mayor Diaz thank Kyle Reed and Public works for all they did when we had hurricane disaster here because they didn't know how many calls she had gotten complimenting us on how good our city looked and we talked at the last council meeting about Houston Mayor Turner saying that they wouldn't be cleaned up for 6 to 8 months and she was so proud to say that we live in a city that we have our public works, our police department, council and everybody here; we take care of our town, we care, she didn't want to be driving down the street and seeing trash and she thanked them all for their hard work.

There was no Unfinished Business:

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Resolution 2017-7R setting the 2017 tax rate for Jacinto City, Texas for the FY 2017/2018.**

Mayor Diaz polled the Council as follows: Rivas – For, Robinson – For,

Lee – For, Garcia – For, Gonzales – For; 5 For – 0 Against.

2. Council to consider short term use of RV's and Pods during recovery from Hurricane Harvey

City Manager Squyres advised that he and Ms. Raines attended John Sharps Commission on Hurricane Harvey Relief meeting the other day at University of Houston and in representing the city and he just wanted to mention that we were one of just three small cities that were represented there and they were really disappointed in the lack of small cities, that Seabrook, South Houston and Jacinto city were the only small cities represented and they were glad to see two of us there to do that and they had one point that they wanted to make to us that was for the recovery of the individuals they wanted us not to wait until game day to make a decision as could they put a trailer or pod there but to make that decision ahead of time as that gave them one more tool they could use to help people stay not in their home if it was heavily damaged but they could stay in front of their homes, keep their kids in the same school and keep their routine life as normal as possible. He stated that obviously we had been here before, had done that and he would recommend that if they decide to allow it, he would suggest that we tie it to the building permit, that they have a building permit that is directly related to the storm and they have it clearly placed on the side of the street side of the RV that you can see it is approved to be there and that 30 days after the final inspection on the home the trailer has to be gone and that there is only one permit renewal so if they don't finish their home by the time the permit expires, which is a six month permit, their one and one only renewal for that. He stated a big question, and he didn't have a preference, it was something the council would have to decide, if FEMA or GLO wanted to put a trailer there was that ok but what if this individual has flood insurance and he has an RV and he wants to live out of it, do we allow that, and if council does allow this, we would insist as a city that that there be an electrical and plumbing inspection to make sure that it is a safe situation and that they be place so there will be no site

distraction when backing out of driveway etc. and it was not just an issue of RV's or trailers, it was an issue of whether or not to allow pods or containers and the recommendations would be the same, that we would have to put the very strict requirements on them and the one thing that he would suggest was not to allow privately owned shipping containers because we sometimes have a hard time getting rid of that sort of thing.

Mayor Diaz ask if we have had any request for these and was advised that we have had a few.

There was general discussion between the Mayor and Council concerning the length of time trailers were here before and how hard it was to police these trailers, where they put them in the yard or driveway and where would they park their cars and would FEMA remove the trailers.

Council Member Rivas made a motion that we refused to allow RV's, trailers or pods and Mayor Diaz polled the council for a vote: Rivas – Against, Robinson – Against, Lee – Against, Garcia – Against, Gonzales – Against. Vote: 0 For – 5 Against.

- 3. Ysmael Corvera to address Mayor and Council regarding city Services.**

Mr. Ysmael Corvera was not present.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Raul Rodriguez, 1410 Jennifer Lane, stated that he wanted to thank, from the bottom of his heart, the good job that they had done during this hurricane, he stated that he saw somebody coming down the street and it was the Mayor, there was a lot of water and during that time there was someone there who had a harsh surgery and thanked the Mayor for making sure they had plenty of drinking water

and there was more, one with four children and they also got water. He saw the good job our city did coming together with everybody helping each other out and anytime something happens in our city everybody is there to help out. He thanked Chief Ayala for his officers that were there giving out water and taking water and food to people and he saw team work when something like this happens this city stays together and works together and we make things happen. He stated that there was something else he wanted to mention that he saw, there was a lady that had no food and that officer reached into his pocket and took them groceries, this person was from the Jacinto City police department and he saw this person do that, and behind that badge is a person that cares for you. Mr. Rodriguez stated that he was very proud of everyone for helping out.

Mayor Diaz stated that we all work together and do what whatever is needed.

Ms. Aleida Arguilles, 10921 Oswego, stated that she need help from someone, she passed out pictures of the tree she was talking and copies of letters that she had sent to her neighbor. She stated that the tree was half on her property and half on the neighbors and that the neighbor had cut all around the tree and it was dead and she was afraid that it would fall on her house, that she was willing to pay to have the tree taken down but the neighbor would not talk to her and she needed to know what she could do.

City Manager Squyres advised her that this was a civil matter that it was private property and the city could not do anything. Lon suggested that maybe he and Chief Ayala could go over and try to get them together and come up with a solution.

Mayor Diaz ask her to give Chief Ayala her number so that he could contact her and they could try to talk with the gentleman and get this resolved.

Mayor Diaz stated that she was going to speak for Mr. Cortez, that as everyone knew, he had two daughters who were in the Galena Park High School Band and they were selling popcorn in containers and if anyone would like to purchase some please see him after the meeting.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Mayor Diaz congratulated Mr. and Mrs. Rivas for their son joining the service and to thank their son for his services.

Council Member Rivas stated that he really didn't have anything to add, the things that had taken place and the things that we had overcome, he stated that he worked all over town and the state and when he saw other people brag and boast about their master plan community , look at how old Jacinto City is and we look a lot better than a lot of other places, our debris is picked up while some places are stacked almost as high as the houses, we have done a lot better than a lot of places, here you can pick up the phone and get something done.

Council Member Robinson stated that like Mr. Rivas said, everyone did a good job and he wanted to thank all of them again and to have a good weekend.

Council Member Lee thanked everyone for coming out, we appreciated them and God Bless everyone.

Council Member Garcia thanked Mr. Rodriguez for all the good comment he made about Jacinto City, thanked everyone for coming out and they didn't say it enough but they appreciated everything all the departments do, that no one person can do it all, it takes team work.

Council Member Gonzales thanked everyone for coming out and reminded them to not forget about National Night Out.

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Mayor Diaz encourage to everyone to come out and enjoy National Night Out.

Mayor Diaz adjourned the meeting at 7:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joyce Raines". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Joyce Raines
City Secretary**