

**COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2017, 6:00 P.M.**

**The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Thursday, October 12, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Pro Tem Robinson, Council Member Lee, and Council Member Garcia; City Manager Squyres and City Attorney DeFoyd. Mayor Diaz arrived after roll call, Council Member Rivas absent, Council Member Gonzales absent due to illness in family, City Secretary Raines on vacation.**

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

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:**

**Chief Ayala passed on his report.**

**Chief Mier advised that they were out in the schools this week doing Fire Prevention and if the children come home and want to talk about a fire prevention plan, that was what they had been teaching.**

**Kyle Reed, Public Works Director, stated that they were finally getting back to normal, not quite yet, but getting closer. He stated that they lost a lot of mowing equipment, but were now in the new budget and would get back on target with making the city look better. He advised that they were spraying for mosquitoes every night for four to six hours and would continue that until we get them under control and hopefully we would have a nice cool front come through and run them out.**

**Ivan Rojas, Parks and Recreation, reminded everyone that Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup> was the Pumpkin fest, that it started at 5:00 p.m. and they would have games for the kids, pumpkin decorating contest, costume contest and would have vendors out there. He encouraged everyone to come out and enjoy the fun and there would also have a movie at dusk.**

**Elizabeth Flores, Heritage Hall Director, advised that things were going well at Heritage Hall and they would be selling water and sodas at the Pumpkin Fest.**

**Mayor Diaz ask Elizabeth about having them sign up for next Friday for the third luncheon at the GP Community building that Constable Diaz was hosting it and the seniors could go over there and eat, that maybe we could get a bus load to go, that it was the third Friday of the month.**

**Ms. Flores advised that they would announce it tomorrow and put out a sign up sheet.**

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:**

**Mr. Squyres stated that if you happened to be at Town Center this past Saturday, you would have sworn that this town had gone to the dogs, 374 animals were either spayed or neutered that day, it was absolutely amazing. He stated that the primary sponsor was the Empty Shelter Project and they had about 100 volunteers and our own shelter, Becky Gammage and her group looked like an animal shuttle service, the city caught a bunch of cats and it was an amazing event and we have already talked to them on the phone and they are eager to do it again next year and it looks like it is going to be an annual event for us, not only did they spay and neuter your dog or cat for you, they also put a chip in the animal and they gave it a rabies vaccination and they also showed up with truckloads of animal products like food, litter, collars, leashes and kennels and gave every bit of it away, it was stuff that had been donated to them for Harvey and were not used and they were having to store those things and it was an outstanding situation and if you ever got a chance to see that to do it.**

**Mayor Diaz stated it was like an animal hospital in there and Lon advised there was 25 operating stations at one time. Mayor Diaz stated it was actually like a hospital and Lon stated they actually had an emergency room too, that they actually had an older animal die on the operating table and they administered CPR and revived the animal and send him home that afternoon, that they really did some advanced procedures. Lon stated just think that is 374 animals that would not reproduce in the city.**

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**Mayor Diaz stated that was an excellent idea, she stated that the man that helped her out, Mr. Miller, gave her a tour, that she had taken her dog, they had a 3 month old boxer she thanked Ms. Rebecca for getting those people out here and they ask if they could have this again next year.**

**Mr. Squyres stated that we had a standing invite from them and vice versa.**

**Mr. Squyres stated another thing he wanted to mention was that he got to visit the FEMA and DRC in our gym this morning just to check on them and they had no plans of going anywhere and if they knew of anyone who needed**

**FEMA or SBA help or any government assistance because of the flood or Hurricane Harvey that was a great place to go and get it taken care of and we think they will be there at least another month.**

**Mayor Diaz stated that you hear people complain that they had been on hold with FEMA for hours, just go there and sit down with them and they will explain everything to you.**

**Mayor Diaz stated that as Ivan advised, next Saturday was the pumpkin fest and then the next Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup> was the free garage sale and she knows everybody loves that free garage sale and we would advertise it on the marquee and this would be our 4<sup>th</sup> annual community garage sale, just go by city hall and sign up.**

**No Unfinished Business.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1. Resolution 2017-11R Nominating a candidate for a position on the Board of Directors of Harris County Appraisal District.**

**City Attorney DeFoyd read Resolution 2017-11R.**

**A motion was made by Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Lee to Nominate Mike Sullivan to serve on the Board of Directors of Harris County Appraisal District. Vote: 3 For 0 Against**

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- 2. Resolution 2017-12R Appointing a representative and alternate to Houston-Galveston Area Council.**

**City Attorney DeFoyd read Resolution 2017-12R.**

**A motion was made by Council Member Lee and seconded by Council Member Robinson to appoint Council Member Carmela Garcia as Representative and Council Member Mario Gonzales as Alternate. Vote 3 For 0 Against**

- 3. Council to confirm Christopher Perez as full time Jacinto City Police Officer.**

**Chief Ayala advised that Christopher Perez has passed all the requirement and gave a short bio of Mr. Perez and recommended that the Council Confirm him as a Jacinto City Police Officer and recognized his family members.**

**A motion was made by Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Lee to confirm Mr. Perez as a full time Jacinto City Police Officer. Vote: 3 For 0 Against**

**Mayor Diaz administered the Oath of Office, presented him with his badge and welcomed him to the city.**

- 4. Former Police Chief Allan Jamail to present commendation award to Jacinto City Police Detective B. J. Silva for her apprehending a dangerous child predator.**

**Mr. Jamail paid his respect to the Mayor and Council for the fine job they did when our city was flooded, that he knew that the Mayor personally got involved as well as Council Members Carmela, Allen and Gregg and Mario were out on the streets passing out food, etc., Lon, our City Manager, Joyce, our City Secretary and Kathy Greiner our Bookkeeper put in 24 hour a day shifts consecutively up at city hall monitoring the conditions of the city, it was not very often when a storm come through this city that he could rest at ease but he did in this one because he knew that we had good people watching what was going on and was going to protect the citizens and he was very thankful to be a citizen of Jacinto City and thanked each one of them for what they did.**

**He stated that he wanted to make a brief statement, that he was on the agenda to present our Detective B. J. Silva with an award for her apprehension of an ex-convict child predator but before he did that he couldn't help but say it was 40 years ago when John Charles Zimmerman, they called him John the Butcher, when he kidnapped a little girl, he was the same mentally deranged person as this person**

**but he kidnapped his own niece and stabbed her 37 times in the back, brutally raped her and cut off her head; he was indicted for mistreating him, which he didn't and neither did his two officers, later on they stood trial and the courts found them not guilty and said it was all political and it was political but he wanted to just set the record straight, that there were still people in this city wanting to say things that were not true, God knows better and the Jury knew better.**

**He stated that Detective Silva and the Jacinto City Police Officers got a call from Sellers Grocery Store saying there was a mother there complaining about a customer that had come in and showed hard core pornography to her 9 year old daughter, the mother let the daughter get out of her sight and probably this wouldn't have happened if the mother had kept the daughter in her sight but that was beside the point, the crime was committed and so the Jacinto City Police Department went to work, they started looking at the videos that were taken that evening and looking at those videos and comparing them with mug shots and pictures of people who had already been convicted of crimes like this Detective Silva and some other officers recognized the person that committed the crime in Jacinto City and B. J., being a mother herself at one time, told him her antennas went up when she looked at the face of that person because she remembered months before another similar incident happened at Sellers but that person got away so her instincts told her to find him and try to make a case and with the help of the Jacinto City Officers and her they found out where he lived and of course he was having to report on the website and they found out that he lived in Galena Park but the story didn't end that simple. Detective Silva, on her own and unassisted went and put that address on stakeout, she was determined to get that child predator off the street; she knocked on the door but no one came to the door but she didn't leave she stayed there for hours and finally vehicles pulled up to that address and she knocked on the door again and this time there was an answer, she talked her way into the house where she spotted the suspect, she confronted him and he denied it, so she got him to come out of the house and at that point he refused to be taken into custody and she talked him into letting her put the handcuffs on him and she brought him to the Jacinto City Police station and later on he admitted he was the one that did it and checking his record it was found that he had spent time in prison in 2012 for the same thing so**

**this lady was deserving a award and deserving to be recognized by this city for doing an outstanding job and it was people like her that we need working in our city and he was thankful that Chief Ayala had the foresight to keep good officers in this city.**

**He stated that we needed to understand that our children were out here being preyed upon we need to keep our eyes on them, there was 50 more people in this area with the same mixed up mind that needs mental treatment.**

**He ask Detective Silva to come up so that he could present her award**

**Mayor Diaz stated what could she say, Ms. B. J. loves what she does.**

- 5. Keep Jacinto city Clean Vice-President Irasema Salinas, President Teresa Arzapala and Secretary Linda Jamail to present Detective B. J. Silva an award for service to the city.**

**Irasema Salinas, Vice President of Keep Jacinto City Clean Committee, President Teresa Arzapala and Secretary Linda Jamail stated they would like to present Police Detective B. J. Silva with a service award of 28 years of faithful service in law enforcement and 18 years with Jacinto City Police Department.**

**Detective Silva stated that first she wanted to thank her Chief who had put up with her and second she hadn't done all of this work by herself, we have wonderful officers working at Jacinto City and their foresight and being attentive to some of the things that happen here is one of the reasons why it was easy for her to solve this case because without information from them she can't investigate and she thanked our officers, stating that they were the most bravest officers she had ever known.**

**Mr. Jamail advised there was cake and punch for everybody after the meeting.**

**Mayor Diaz thanked B. J. for all that she does and we were glad that she was here with us. She thanked all the officers that were there for**

**serving and protecting us.**

**There was a comment made by Chief Ayala that was not picked up the Sound system.**

**Mayor Diaz ask the Council if we could table Item 6 and Item 7, that we were not completely done with all the information that had been given to us and our City Manager has ask that we table these items.**

**City Manager Squyres advised that both of the items had to do with contract debris removal and right now the city was virtually clean, we had been through it several times following the storm and even though the city was clean we still have what we call mount trash more down at our public works facility and it was a licensed site by TCEQ to store all of this stuff that we picked up off the street and it was so expensive to get rid of that right now because the lines at the dump are hours in length so you would be paying truck drivers hours to sit in that line so we had decided to put the hold button on this if it was agreeable with council.**

**A motion was made by Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Lee to table Items 6 and 7 until a later date. Vote: 3 For 0 Against**

**Council Member Lee ask if he could introduce a new family to our city, that he had just met them yesterday and invited them to come to the council meeting and they actually showed up, he introduced Pastor Arlando Ramirez And his wife.**

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**Mayor Diaz welcomed them to Jacinto City.**

**Pastor Ramirez stated that they had just moved into town, they had been working in this area for about four years and he felt the Lord wanted him in this town and yesterday Pastor Lee invited him to this meeting and he was glad that he could meet all of the wonderful people here and they would like to work with the city and the people, they worked with alcoholics, etc. and anything they could do for the city they could count on them. (11003 Munn)**

**Raul Rodrigues, 1410 Jennifer Lane, stated that on Monday, about 3:45 in the morning his daughter-in-law was having a baby so he had to rush himself over**

**to Munn Street and he called the police department and the dispatcher was so good, she stated she would call the ambulance and send them over and it took less than seven minutes and they were there, that is how fast it is for Jacinto City police and the fire department, they all work together as a team in getting things done for the safety of the people, they ask what hospital she wanted to go to and they told them Ben Taub and they didn't ask a lot of questions, and took her there and they had to hurry, they had a baby girl and that was one more for Jacinto City. He thanked Detective B. J. Silva for all the work she has done and all the rest of the officers.**

**Becky Gammage stated that she just wanted to thank the city for allowing the Empty Shelter to come, that it was Canine Angels of Houston, Mary Tipton that organized that and they thanked her, that she does so much for the city dog pound, she was the first one they call with all of their litters, if it wasn't for them they didn't know what they would do with all the little ones, that this week our pound was full and overflowing but thank goodness Canine Angels came to their rescue and took seven so they wanted to thank the city for allowing the Jacinto City Dog Pound Volunteers and explained the reason they were not a rescue. She stated that their funding was very low and anyone who would like to donate could contact Judy Clark, who was in charge of their finances. (1318 Belin)**

**Mayor Diaz stated that Galena Park High School Band was selling popcorn and if anyone would like to help them out to see Mr. Cortez after the meeting.**

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

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**Council Member Robinson thanked everyone for coming out and welcomed Officer Perez to the Jacinto City Police Department. He thanked Detective B. J. Silva for what she does and stated that he appreciated all the police department and fire department for the job they do as well as all the staff, he was like Mr. Rodriguez, we have a good bunch of city people here that he had been here a long time, he loved it and he appreciated them allowing him to serve them.**

**Council Member Lee stated that Gregg had told him several times how it was out here before cars were invented and he wanted to thank all of our department heads for all that they do, all of our police officers and first responders. He advised Detective Silva that we appreciate what she had**



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**done but it was part of her regular job and we appreciated her already and we just wanted her to know that. He thanked everybody for coming out and welcomed Officer Perez aboard and God Bless everyone.**

**Council Member Lee announced there would be a food distribution at Calvary Baptist Church, 10346 Fairfax, this Saturday starting at 10:00 a.m.**

**Council Member Garcia stated that Kyle mentioned mosquito control going around every night and if mosquitoes continue to be a problem please call it in so that we can have a record in case they ask if we are just spraying for nothing. She stated she believe that she was told that Empty Shelters or Canine Angles would have another program in December but she was not sure what city. She was advised that they were doing one in La Porte in December. She welcomed Officer Perez to the team that he didn't know what kind of good thing he had gotten himself into, we were a family here. Council Member Garcia thanked Detective Silva for all of her good work. She stated that she knew that all of the officers out here put their lives on the line to please be careful when they were out there and thanked them for their service.**

**Detective Silva stated that the day that she was over at the suspect's home she had a lot of backup, she had two Galena Park Officers and she had Lt. Walker and his officer that he was training and they all got calls and had to leave and since the guy wasn't answering she left to and when she got to Lane Street the neighbor call her and told her the pickup truck was there so she went back and was waiting for her backup from Galena Park because she ask the next door neighbor who call her to call a Galena Park backup unit and they never came so when the pickup drove up she told her self that ~~she was just going to have to get him, his son was the one in the truck and~~ he took her inside and the rest had already been told and she didn't want the officers to look like they didn't help her because they did.**

**Council Member Garcia stated that as Chief Mier had mentioned, it was National Fire Protection Week, to be sure that all your family was aware of what to do in care of a fire. She thanked everyone for coming.**

**Mayor Diaz adjourned the meeting at 6:45 p.m..**

**Respectfully submitted,**

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

Joyce Raines, City Secretary