

COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2017, 6:00 P.M.

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Thursday, October 26, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Diaz, Council Members Rivas, Robinson, Garcia and Gonzales; City Manager Squyres, City Attorney DeFoyd and City Secretary Raines. Council Member Lee 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 Garcia to approve the minutes as presented. Vote: 4 For 0 Against

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Chief Ayala announced that the Police Department had fire arm qualifications at the gun range today and would be having them tomorrow at the public works facility. He discussed the construction that was going on with the pipeline and the bridge, that everyone needed to be aware of this, especially at night and they needed to be aware of drunk drivers, that they have had five DWI arrests. He also cautioned everyone to be aware of scams, and related some of the problems we were having where people pay for repairs upfront and the contractor never comes back. He reminded everyone that Halloween was coming up and to be sure and watch out for the kids.

Chief Mier advised that everything was going well at the fire station and also cautioned everyone to watch out for the trick or treaters.

Kyle Reed, Public Works Director, stated that he had talked with the contractor about the way they had the construction barricades placed at the bridge, that it was very dangerous but they were following TEXDOT requirements so we could not do anything but we needed to caution everyone about the construction especially at night time.

Council Member Rivas ask if he had any recommendations.

Kyle stated that they met TXDOT recommendations so there wasn't anything he could say but he would be watching it and if they saw anything to tell him or stop and talk to the contractor, they were nice people.

Mayor Diaz ask how long it was going to be like that and was advised by Kyle that once they completed the side they were working on they would move to the other side so he would say at least six months or longer weather permitting but it would be well worth it once it was done. He advised that they were spraying for mosquitoes constantly and last night he was out here about 7:30 and the mosquitoes were terrible. He advised that they would spray before the Halloween Fest and the hay ride and all would be ready.

Chief Ayala stated that he wanted to say something concerning the traffic one way, that he would have one of the officers to just sit out there once in a while and they would have their overhead lights on so you would see them and this was for a cautionary measure.

Elizabeth Flores, Heritage Hall Director, advised that the center would have the opportunity of selling the drinks as a fund raiser for the seniors. She stated that next week they would be having their Halloween Party for the seniors and a costume contest and also for those that did not know about the loss of one of Heritage Hall's dear members, Mr. Frank Haney and they would be having a Memorial for him at the center.

Mayor Diaz stated that every Christmas as soon as Kyle's Guys would decorate the tree at Town Center and leave, Frankie would go out there and redecorate it.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Diaz stated that Ivan was not here today and we were having our Pumpkin Festival this Saturday at 5:00 p.m., that we had

reschedule it from last week and if it did happen to rain, we would move it inside and this was also the date for the community garage sale.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Squyres stated that as a city we had our first scoping meeting with FEMA to identify problem areas in the city and the local DRC at the gym is functioning well and they are bringing in additional staff for that, it has been a huge success and they are at just the level that they want to be. He stated that we were dealing with a lot of flood issues for individuals since we as a city are a co-sponsor of that and it was all governed by our Ordinances as the rebuilding work has to make sure that it is in keeping with our ordinances and the flood ordinances. He advised that the only Jacinto city Residents that are in the flood zone is the lower part of Jacinto Oaks around Serpentine.

Mayor Diaz ask the City Manager to give us an update as to what was going on with the swimming pool.

City Manager Squyres advised that Council Member Rivas had the color chart with him right now for the color selections for the spray park and council was welcomed to look at that with him after the meeting. He stated that they went back after the hurricane and looked again at the soils because it really scared them after the hurricane because it was so much clay they were worried about it not being stable so they went back and did some additional testing and at first they actually came to us with a proposal that we add \$50,000 to the budget to put a 4" slab down several feet below what would be the bottom of the pool and 5 ft. beyond the perimeter of the pool to keep clay from coming up and eventually pushing the pool up, so they went back and got a second opinion because we were not real eager to spend \$50,000 and just today they told us they were not going to have to do that and they were back on the fast track and Kyle had been working with the pool company and had really done a nice job.

We were looking forward to a new pool, it might be a little later but it would clearly be well ready for spring.

Mayor Diaz stated that she had another question that she wanted to ask, that she had not been able to get with the council on this but call attention to the event we had to spay and neuter the animals, stating that she would like to order a plaque for that organization to let them know how much we appreciate what they did here in the city and that Ms. Gammage said she would call them to come to our council meeting and we could present it to them.

City Manager Squyres stated that was an outstanding idea and we would certainly take care of it, that he would get with Becky to make sure he had the correct spelling of all the names.

There was no Unfinished Business.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. A motion was made by Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Rivas to change November 23rd Council Meeting to Tuesday, November 21st due to Thanksgiving Holidays. Vote: 4 For 0 Against**
- 2. A motion was made by Council Member Garcia and seconded by Council Member Gonzales to change the amount of Water Deposits to \$150.00 per deposit. Vote: 4 For 0 Against**
- 3. Resolution 2017-13R Council to appoint Members to serve on the Charter Review Commission**

**Council Member Rivas nominated Donna Dailey
Council Member Robinson nominated Linda Smith
Council Member Lee nominated Vickie Lee
Council Member Garcia nominated Robert Hernandez
Council Member Gonzales nominated Arthur Guerrero**

A motion was made by Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Rivas that the nominations to the Charter Review Commission be approved. Vote: 4 For – 0 Against

- 4. Council to consider the adoption of an EMS Collections and Write Off Policy.**

City Manager Squyres stated that what this involved was something that we had been working on for about two years now, that two years ago we split the Fire Department and the EMS Department budget get and this was suggested by Medicare, Medicaid, etc. where we could carefully evaluate our cost for every single ambulance call independent of the fire service. He explained the benefit of adopting this.

A motion was made by Council Member Garcia and seconded by Council Member Robinson to adopt an EMS Collections and Write Off Policy. Vote: 4 For 0 Against

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Becky Gammage, 1319 Belin, complained about the gun range being right next to the dog pound and how the gun fire during qualifications affected the dogs, not only in the pound but also in the surrounding area and ask if something could not be done about this.

Mayor Diaz ask if they could go to HCC and use that gun range.

Chief Ayala stated that he would look into it and get the cost.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

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Council Member Rivas stated that temperatures were going to start changing and so was the time, daylight was escaping quicker than it use to with fall coming around so watch for those kid with Halloween coming up and if something was to occur on that bridge, if the barricades were down would they have an officer sitting there.

Chief Ayala advised that they have someone there during the day while they are working but not at night.

Council Member Robinson wished everyone a safe and fun Halloween.

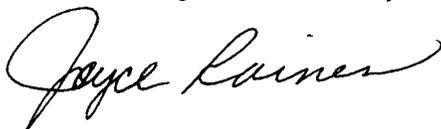
Mayor Diaz advised that they have Halloween at their house, with hot dogs, drinks, etc. to come by and see them.

Council Member Garcia advised everyone to stay warm and ask Robert Hernandez to come up after the meeting and write down his address and e-mail address and Lon would send him a copy of the charter for review.

Council Member Gonzales advised that Council Member Lee ask him to remind everyone that Calvary Baptist Church would be having their BBQ benefit at the church on November 4th at 11:00 a.m., to please come by and join them.

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**