

**COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY, JUNE 28, 2018, 6:00 P.M.**

**The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Thursday, June 28, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Pro Tem Robinson, Council Member Rivas and Council Member Gonzales; City Manager Squyres, City Secretary Raines and City Attorney DeFoyd arrived after roll call. Mayor Diaz out of the city, Council Member Lee on vacation and Council Member Garcia in school training session.**

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

**A motion was made by Council Member Rivas and seconded by Council Member Gonzales to approve the minutes as presented. Vote: 3 For 0 Against**

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:**

**Chief Ayala advised that they were making progress on the new station and it wouldn't be long now.**

**He advised that they were working on unhealthy condition complaints in an effort to keep the city clean and a good place to live.**

**Chief Mier stated that 4<sup>th</sup> of July was coming up and they were predicting some rain for that day. She advised that the fireworks were scheduled at 9:00 p.m. and discussed the rescheduling if the rain became an issue.**

**Ms, Mier reminded everyone that the city had an ordinance prohibiting the use of fireworks inside the city and it would be enforced.**

**Kyle Reed, Public Works Director, stated that he wanted to discuss a couple of things about the bridge down by public works, that one side was complete but the switch was kind of confusing so please be careful going that way, that the safety people were supposed to out tomorrow to put lighted cones there. He stated there was not one incident during the work on the first side and he hoped that we didn't with this one but to encourage the kids to not be acting crazy down there and he had**

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**requested the Chief to put an officer down there between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. because he sees a lot of high speed vehicles go through there during this time. He also advised that they were spraying for mosquitoes.**

**Ivan Rojas, Parks and Recreation Director, advised that the pool would be open July 4<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 until 2:00 weather permitting. He stated that they were still playing All Star games at the fields and encourage everyone to go out and support them and that grass mowing was never ending with all the rain.**

**Elizabeth Flores, Heritage Hall Director, advised that all was going great at the center and that the July Calendar was on the website.**

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

**Mayor Pro Tem Robinson stated that we would be having the fireworks, that it was not going to rain that bad, he was putting a request in. He Reported that he understood the seniors had been using the pool a little bit and there has been a number of people go through the pool since we opened it and it seems like everybody is enjoying it.**

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:**

**City Manager Squyres stated that to reiterate on the illegal fireworks, it was a little bit of a dilemma because he knew that one organization at the high school makes a profit when you buy fireworks from a certain fireworks stand and with that said, whether they make a profit from buying fireworks or not it doesn't matter, they are absolutely illegal in the City of Jacinto City and we have standing orders to our police officers we have a 0 tolerance policy toward fireworks so if you get caught with fireworks you will receive a ticket so we would rather say that out front and prevent you from getting a ticket. He stated that every year people ignore that law and every year we have problems, we have children hurt, we have fires started and all of those kind of things happen, we don't want that to happen and we are almost at a drought stage here so we are really going to be enforcing that so please spread**

**the word to their friends and neighbors and do not, even if it helps their kids In the band or whatever, you can buy them or whatever you want, we don't stop you from having them in the city but we don't allow you to pop or light them here in the city so please take them somewhere else.**

**He stated that if they had been by the fire station, they had probably noticed some construction was under way and in a couple of weeks we were going to have a new foundation for the add on to the fire station.**

**He stated that the other thing he wanted to mention was that we have had three different meetings over the last few days with the Flood Control District and Precinct 2 Road and Bridge and through those meetings we had identified a couple of things that are already on the upcoming bond proposal for August. He stated that he thought everyone here was familiar with Turkey Run Gulley, that the pipes that come out of our streets into Turkey Run Gully, at least seven of those are on the bond proposal to be replaced, that they were old tin horn pipe and were so degraded they were no able to do it any more, they were undermining those concrete wall and that was why a couple of them had collapsed a few years ago, those should all be replaced and we were actually fighting flood control on some projects further north because we feel it will have a detrimental effect on the city but we did get them to look at Hunting Bayou below Jacinto City and we met with Galena Park and flood control at the same time and we are proposing that they add one more project and they have agreed to it so far, we met with them again Monday morning at 9:30 a.m. to establish a diversion canal and he explained what we have now when the water from Hunting Bayou leaves our city and goes south it goes through some very dense woods and does a snake back and forth several times and actually has to go the opposite direction of it's natural flow so we are asking for a diversion canal which would be a straight canal that would take it over near the Galena Park public works building and what used to be their dump and if they do that, he didn't want to say Jacinto City would never flood again but he would say that the base level of Hunting Bayou would be lowered and would be a God sent for us so they were excited about it, he didn't know why they never thought about it, we were looking at arial pictures**

**and thing saying what could we do about this squiggly bayou here and they all sort of had the same idea at the same time and the flood control was actually excited about it because it was going to help everybody upstream, he stated that Hunting Bayou goes way up stream, Lockwood and further and there were lots of things planned up there and if we don't do something to help it down here the flooding will get worse instead of better so they were going to hear a lot about flood projects, we have ask them once it is officially added to the flood map to give us one of the big copies of the map and let us present it to Council or even better why didn't they come and present it or have a public meeting here in Jacinto City was what we were asking for and if they want our support on this bond, they go before the ladies and gentlemen on the council first.**

**There was no Unfinished Business.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1. Chad Burke to present the annual report for the Economic Alliance.**

**Mr. Burke thanked the city for their engagement and support, stating they represented 25 miles of the 52 mile Houston Ship Channel, which was the World's second largest petrochemical complex and the Nation's busiest port in terms of foreign tonnage, 12 cities, Harris County, Port Houston and 250 private sector members in refining and petrochemical production, they were a non-profit organization and their mission was to grow and market a vibrant regional economy. He stated that he did provide some hard copies of a presentation and he would walk them through just to give them an idea where they had been the last year and what was going on right now.**

**He stated they support their mission with public policy work in Austin and in DC with workforce development work with our community colleges, industry and high schools in this region, with transportation**

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**work and they partner with all their stake holders and with quality alliance and each one of those things and each one of these things help make the case for companies to want to relocate here in this region.**

**He discussed transportation issues and the work they do with TDOT to try to address solutions to some of these problems.**

**He advised that their San Jacinto Historical District Quality of Life Committee came up with the idea last year to create a matching grant program for all of our communities to either participate in the mural program, or as he mentioned to Lon before the meeting started, Galena Park was using the matching grant program for tree planting down their main through fair and the committee was open to any of those programs for cities to beautify there place to live and show off their history or just plain beautification projects down the main thorough fair and he hoped that we would participate in that and named some of the cities that were participating right now.**

**He brought the Gulf Coast Industry Forum scheduled for September 19-20, stating this would be their 9<sup>th</sup> year for this and hoped that the city would participate and discussed the different speakers and issues addressed.**

**He stated they appreciated the support of Jacinto City and looked forward to working with them in the future.**

**Mayor Pro Tem Robinson stated that he had a question, did he say that they were supporting property tax caps.**

**Mr. Burke stated no, they were supporting the cities in opposition, standing right there with our cities and County.**

**Mayor Pro Tem Robinson stated that he just wanted to make sure we got it right on the record.**

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**Council Member Rivas stated that he had a question on transportation, On I-10 that it had been receiving some repairs and attention and ask if he could tell them anything about that.**

**Mr. Burke advised they had one project on I-10, the folks from TDOT were in their transportation meeting a couple of weeks ago and as he understood, there was an entire project on I-10, it had been approved and it was going to be a very extensive upgrade on our section of I-10, and that was already on the books when they started this and they really didn't put it down as one of their projects because they knew it was in the hopper. The one project they added on I-10 that was not already in there on their radar was where 330 and I-10 meet, that section was really bad and they lifted that one up on the priority list and that was really the only main ones on I-10, the other ones kind of come up 146 and around Belt Way 8 over on Federal. He stated that their biggest question for them was not 330 but what could they do to widen the bridge across San Jacinto river, it really chokes down right there and they were working on that, it was kind of an engineering problem for them.**

**Council Member Rivas stated that his other question was the mini mural program and who did they contact about that.**

**Mr. Burke advised him that he could shoot him an e-mail, that Christian Edwards was their Committee Chairman and Maricela in their office was also managing that program for their staff but if they didn't already have a copy of the grant application he could get it to them immediately.**

**City Manager Squyres stated that we already had one meeting about it.**

## **2. Recognition of Police Officers for recent accomplishments.**

**Chief Ayala stated he just wanted to say this was all the time, they do a tremendous job out there with the safety of the community and also put their life on the line all the time, he knew they didn't hear about**

**these situations but they did and they always hope for the best for the officers.**

**He stated this concerned two separate aggravated robbery cases which occurred at two separate business on East Freeway between April and May of 2018 approximately three weeks apart. He advised that some of the suspects were armed when they confronted the victims, the cases are still active in the court therefore he would not discuss names, details or businesses but he wanted to say that congratulations are in order for the investigating officers for the quick actions leading to the total arrest of 11 robbery suspects. He advised that in both incidents there was observation of the suspects as they fled scene and the apprehension resulted in the officers quick response and follow up investigation. He stated that the suspects had been involved in other robberies in the Houston area. He stated the investigation started early in the evening and extended until day break the next morning and the two cases involved the same officers, there was a lot to do and the team work resulted in the arrest and recovery of all property taken and fortunately the lives of the people turned out good, nobody was harmed seriously and he would like to thank all of his officers, detectives and even the dispatch personnel for their contribution to the safety of the community and all concerned and as public servants he wanted to commend them and thank them for the very good job they did out there. He presented accommodation awards to the following: Dennis Walker, A. J. Seydler, Terry Hodges, O. Elizando, J. Ramos, B. J Silva, Ali Kamali and TCO Ester Perez.**

**Mayor Pro Tem Robinson thanked them for their services.**

**3. Allan Jamail to address council about status of 10902 Lane Street and Building Permit not posted on house or website.**

**Mr. Jamail stated this was reported to him because he was the founder of KJCC, that work was going on there and there were no permits showing at the home or on the city's website. He had contacted Lon and he has gotten this nearly corrected.**

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**City Manager Squyres advised that the permit on this project had expired without being closed out and they had started another project without a permit, they have pulled a permit but must do whatever is required to close out the first project before they will be allowed to start Work on the new project.**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**Mr. Allan Jamail, 10710 Flaxman, commended all the police officers and dispatchers, stating they were all very important and it was because of them that he lives in the city.**

**He called attention to an article in the North Channel Star on preparedness for hurricanes and encourage everyone to read the article or go to the website, it was very important information that covered things you would need to prepare for in case of a hurricane, such as phone contacts, birth certificates, insurance papers, etc..**

**He thanked City Manager Squyres, Chief Ayala and Kyle Reed for the work they are doing to clean up this city and they can't do it also without the police officers. Our police officers are taking a very active roll in helping enforcing these ordinances that are cleaning up the city. This city was neglected for a lot of years and it went down in it's values but we are beginning to rise back up and it was due to people like Lon, Chief Ayala and Kyle and the officers and he just wanted to commend them for the job they were doing. He stated that he had been going to a lot of the meetings on the bonds and he wanted the council to listen, these people who are promoting the bonds, they are promising everybody, everything, anything they mention, they write it down saying they are going to do it and many times they don't deliver so hold their feet to the fire, if you can get Huntington Bayou enhanced like they just said, that was going affect so many people, he thought it would be the best thing out of the whole bond issue for the East End so hold their feet to the fire, before we vote we need to see that they have plans made and they**



**are a part of the package and he thanked the Mayor Pro Tem for allowing him to talk.**

**Raul Rodriguez, 1410 Jennifer, stated that he wanted to thank the officers and dispatchers, they have done a great job of keeping the city safe, the dispatchers were where the first call goes to. He stated that a lot of the children in the city look up to those officers. He stated that he had a daughter that was deaf and mute and Officers Walker and B. J. Silva and a lot of officers go by there and talk to her and that was what it take, for the officer to take the time and talk to the people to make them feel safe. He stated that we have a whole bunch of special children here in the city. He thanked them for the good job they have done.**

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

**Council Member Rivas commended all the officers and the sacrifices they make and all the situations they have to deal with and the worry their families have to endure and if we could put all of that on a plaque he would like to give it to them and he thanked them so much for what they do. He stated the 4<sup>th</sup> of July was coming up and to be safe out there.**

**Mayor Pro Tem Robinson stated that he wanted to thank the police department for the job they do and also all the employees, we do have employees that do a good job so he thanked them again and wished every one a safe weekend and enjoy the fireworks because it was not going to rain.**

**Council Member Gonzales stated that he would also like to thank the Police Department for the work they do, they do put their lives on the line like Councilman Rivas indicated and we respected them for that and we do keep them in our prayers also and he would like to thank the Public Works Department for what they do in keeping the city clean and he knew they take plenty of breaks to not get overheated and that goes**

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**for all of us when we mow our grass we need to be doing it in the evenings when it is cooler and wished everyone a wonderful 4<sup>th</sup> of July.**

**Mayor Pro Tem Robinson adjourned the meeting at 5:54 p.m..**

**Respectfully submitted,**

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joyce Raines". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

**Joyce Raines  
City Secretary**