

COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2018, 6:00 P.M.

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Thursday, September 27, 2018 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 absent due to death in family.

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

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

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Chief Ayala advised that they had a child locked in a vehicle and could not get it opened, he thanked the Fire Department and Galena Park for their help in finally getting the vehicle open. He stated that the new police station was looking good and they should be moving in soon. He advised citizens to be alert and watch for scams, there were a lot of them out there. He advised that the department was having a large call volume and they had a robbery at a local business today and were current working on it as well as unhealthy conditions.

Chief Ayala stated that they had 3 barrels of narcotics to destroy and had made arrangement to do this in October and were working on an auction.

Chief Mier reported that all was going well at the Fire Station and the construction was progressing.

Kyle Reed, Public Works Director, advised they were cutting trees where needed and spraying for mosquitoes and had ask Harris County to help us. He stated the water line project was complete on Palestine and they had installed five fire hydrants and this was a good contractor and they would keep the streets clean. He reported that they had installed two new solar school speed limit signs on Mercury

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Drive and were putting up new school signs to comply with State laws.

Ivan Rojas, Parks and Recreation, advised that the Food Bank would be at Town Center to morrow from 9:00 a.m. until Noon to pass out food and the Halloween Pumpkin Fest would be on October 27th.

Elizabeth Flores, Heritage Hall Director, advised that on October 4th the Food Bank would be at Heritage Hall passing out food to the seniors only and she would start collecting names of seniors who would be home alone on Thanksgiving so that they could be provided with a meal.

Mayor Diaz ask when we would have the marquee working on Market Street and was advised by Mr. Squyres that we made some progress today.

Mayor Diaz stated she hated to see a beautiful Marquee there and not working.

There was general discussion about the signs, all the rain and the problems with being able to mow grass in the city.

Mayor Diaz ask Chief Mier to see if she could get a couple of the food truck to come out for Halloween, wings or maybe loaded fries.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Squyres advised that the news letters would be going out next week and there was a small notice in there about our garbage fees as per contract, we see a small increase yearly if inflation causes that and the price index raised it by 3.45% and that means that the average residential garbage bill will increase by 42 cents, it was a small increase but we wanted to make the public aware of it.

He stated that as far as the police station, we resolved one of the issues about moving in so we will start our move in process this coming Monday, were coordinating all the IT stuff and we were finally seeing light at the end of the tunnel. He stated that while they were on the police issue, Chief Mier, Lt. Walker and he attended an event that HFPD hosted, a multi jurisdiction, everybody in Harris County, on how to deal with an active shooter and how we were going to work together, he gave some examples of incidents and how they would be handled.

City Manager Squyres advised that they met about the new elementary school, etc. and talked with them about the new water lines and placement of fire hydrants.

He advise that the County test for diseased mosquitoes and that our city tested clean so far.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- 1. Second and final reading of ordinance 2018-4 granting Magellan Pipeline Company, L.P. a permit to install a 20” pipeline transporting liquid petroleum across or along or under certain streets in the city.**

A motion was made by Council Member Lee and seconded by Council Member Gonzales to approve Ordinance 2018-4 granting Magellan Pipeline a permit. Vote: 4 For 0 Against

7. THERE WAS NO NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Trent Slovak stated that he worked on the debris for Hurricane Harvey and he commended them on improving their infrastructure.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

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Council Member Rivas commended Public Works on their efforts to take care of the mosquito and commented on the use of the program for the sewer plant.

Council Member Robinson cautioned everybody to watch the weather and as Council Member Rivas said we need to take care of our infrastructure.

Council Member Lee commented on a commercial he remembered from when he was a kid from Council Member Rivas comments, away goes troubles down the drain. He stated that Calvary Baptist had ask him to announce that they would be having a BBQ fund raiser on October 6th starting at 11:00 a.m. and they were inviting them all out to buy a lot of good BBQ.

Council Member Gonzales thanked everyone for coming out and ask that they say some extra prayers for Council Member Garcia on the recent loss of her dad.

Mayor Diaz stated that she would also like to mention again as Council Member Gonzales ask, to pray for their family, that she went to the service this morning and it was Carmela up there but she knew that later on it would hit her and we would need to be there for her.

Mayor Diaz adjourned the meeting at 6:31 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,

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

**Joyce Raines
City Secretary**