

COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY, MAY 9, 2019, 6:00 P.M.

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Thursday, May 9, 2019 at 6:00 p. m. in the Council Chamber at 10301 Market Street with the following members present: Mayor Diaz, Council Members Robinson, Lee, Garcia and Gonzales; City Manager Squyres, City Attorney DeFoyd and City Secretary Raines. Council Member Rivas absent due to work.

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

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

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Chief Ayala stated that they were now operating in the new building and until the front of the building was finished, the public would be using the back entrance to enter the building and hopefully before too long they would be able to have an open house.

Chief Mier passed on her report.

Kyle Reed, Public Works Director, advised that the Annual Tire Roundup would be on May 18, 2019 and discussed what they would be able to put out. He cautioned that it was going to be a bad mosquito season and they needed to get rid of anything that would hold standing water. He stated that the rabies clinic was a success, that they issued 172 city tags and there were a lot of animals brought in from surrounding areas.

Mayor Diaz stated this was a good program, people from all around come and she understood that Galena Park was having one next week.

Elizabeth Flores, Heritage Hall Director, advised that the center would be celebrating Mother's Day on Friday and if they knew of any one who needed homebound meals to please let her know.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Squyres advised that Ivan was not here because they had started lifeguard training this week and the pool would open on Memorial Weekend, that they had a problem with the splash pad due to lighting but it was repair and back open again.

Mr. Squyres stated that he and the Chief had been discussing there were a lot of memories at the old police station and before it was torn down, we thought people might like to go through the building one last time have their picture make behind the bars in the jail cells if they wanted to.

Mayor Diaz stated that there were probably good and bad memories and ask if we were going to have swimming lessons this year, that she had been getting a lot of calls on it.

City Manager Squyres stated that we would be having them but did not have a schedule in place yet.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Diaz stated that she was happy to finally be in the new police station and was ready for the old one to go.

Mayor Diaz stated that we have a good council here, that they didn't always agree on everything but that was a good thing. She thanked the Council, stating that she enjoyed working with them and thanked the citizens for their support.

There was No Unfinished Business.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Administer Oath of Office to unopposed Candidates declared elected to office by Ordinance 2019-1 on February 28, 2019.**

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Mayor Diaz introduced Judge George Risner, stating that he had been administering the Oath of Office to Mayor's and Council's for many years and we appreciated him taking time from his busy schedule to do this for us.

Judge Risner administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Diaz who was joined by her family.

Constable Chris Diaz congratulated the Mayor and Council for the good job they were doing and the many improvements they had made in the city, that in the past he had been Mayor of the city for a few years and could appreciate what they were doing.

Judge Risner administered the Oath of Office to Carmela Garcia, Council Member Position #4 who was joined by Kyle Reed and Javier Duran.

Council Member Garcia thanked the community and Mayor and Council for their support.

Judge Risner administered the Oath of Office to Mario Gonzales, Council Member Position #5, who was joined by his wife and children.

Council Member Gonzales thanked everyone for the support they had given him as a Council Member, he thinks they have made a lot of progress and hope to continue it.

Mayor Diaz ask how many years had we done without having an election and how much money did we save by not having one.

City Manger Squyres advised that it was the fifth year and each year we saved between \$15,000 and \$17,000.

Judge Risner stated that he was happy to see the new police station but thought he would pass on having his picture made in the old one.

He congratulated the Mayor and Council on not having an election in five years and being able to save that much cost each year that obviously the citizens were pleased with what they were doing.

2. Council to appoint Mayor Pro Tem

A motion was made by Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Gonzales to appoint Council Member Garcia as Mayor Pro Tem. Vote: 4 For 0 Against

3. First Reading of Ordinance 2019-2 Setting Salary for Mayor and Council.

A motion was made by Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Garcia to leave the salaries as they were, Mayor's Salary at \$400.00 per month with a car allowance of \$300.00 per month. Vote: 4 For 0 Against

A motion was made by Council Member Gonzales and seconded by Council Member Garcia to leave the Council's salaries as they were, Council's salary at \$350.00 per month with a car allowance of \$225.00 per month. Vote: 4 For 0 Against

4. Council authorization to issue RFQ for engineering service related to CDBG Harvey Recovery Project.

A motion was made by Council Member Garcia and seconded by Council Member Robinson to table Item 4. Vote: 4 For 0 Against

There were no Public Comments.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Council Member Robinson congratulated the Mayor and Council Members, stated that he enjoyed working with them, wished everyone a Happy Mother's Day and have a safe weekend.

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Council Member Lee stated ditto for what Council Member Robinson said .

Council Member Garcia wished everyone a Happy Mothers Day and would see them at the next council meeting.

Council Member Gonzales thanked everyone for their support, wished everyone a Happy Mother's Day and a safe weekend.

Mayor Diaz adjourned the meeting at 6: 28 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,



**Joyce Raines
City Secretary**