

FIRST PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FY 2019/2020

The Mayor and City Council met for the first public hearing on the proposed budget for FY 2019/2020 on Thursday, September 12, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Pro Tem Garcia, Council Members Rivas, Robinson, Lee and Gonzales; City Manager Squyres and City Secretary Raines. Mayor Diaz and City Attorney DeFoyd absent.

City Manager Squyres went over the proposed budget, stated that since our workshop on September 3rd the good news was that we would be able to leave our tax rate the same as it has been for the last three years. He stated there were a couple of changes the council has ask for, changing the longevity from \$36.00 dollars a year to \$70.00 a year and he discussed the changes we were having to make in computer expenses due to being forced to go from Microsoft 7 to Microsoft 10 and the piece of computer equipment we were having to replace at the police station in the amount of \$19,000 and it was good that the cost of computer equipment was a lot less than it use to be.

He advised that we had a lot of infrastructure and equipment budgeted in public works, parks and recreation was getting a big mower and we were getting a grant for 3 police vehicles. He stated that he did add 2 flag poles, one for the police department and one for the fire department.

There was general discussion on the flag poles and Council Member Lee ask why we could not install them now.

City Manager Squyres advise that they were not ready to install the one at the police station and we could get a better price if we bought them at the same time, but if they wanted to we could install the one at the fire station out of the current budget.

There was discussion about being able to get the same price if we did one now and one later, the consensus was that they would like to go ahead and install the flag pole at the fire depart in the present budget.

Robert Hernandez, 10721 Lane St., ask how much money in this budget was dedicated to flood control in Jacinto City.

City Manager Squyres stated that Our main problem was Turkey Run Gulley and Hunting Bayou which was the Flood Control District. He explained the non improved channel on Hunting Bayou and how it zig-zags before it reaches the ship channel and that we had suggested ways they could improve this and were told it was in the plan. He stated this would help the water run off better.

Mr. Hernandez stated that there was a history of flooding in Jacinto City on the 200 block of Cheston to Palestine and the high speed bumps seem to be causing flooding on LaCrosse.

There was discussion about Port of Houston and the spoil area being higher than our streets and the amount of water that comes from there into Jacinto City when it floods.

Council Member Robinson discussed the drainage project on the West end of the city year ago and the problems we have with the Port of Houston.

City Manager Squyres advised that the budget did contain capital outlay for a Vactor Machine which would enable us to clean out drains and we felt this would help some. He also stated that we had also increased Capital outlay code 19-6910 from \$150,000 last year to \$200,000 for storm drains.

Council Member Rivas stated that would be just to maintain what we have.

Council Member Lee stated that we have a big pipe pointing at us from the spoil area.

Council Member Gonzales stated that he thought the equipment we budgeted will help.

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Shelly Rivas ask where the water would go.

Council Member Robinson stated there was concrete everywhere, there was no place for it to go.

Mayor Pro Tem Garcia adjourned the meeting at 5:58 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 printed name and title.

**Joyce Raines
City Secretary**