

COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY FEBRUARY 27, 2020, 6:00 P.M.

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Thursday, February 27, 2020 with the following members present: Mayor Diaz, Council Members Rivas, Robinson, Lee, Garcia and Gonzales; City Manager Squyres, City Attorney DeFoyd and City Secretary Raines.

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 been very busy, chasing a lot of juveniles with guns, had caught them and now they were back on the streets and he cautioned everyone to be observant of things going on around them. Chief Ayala ask that anyone having someone in their home or a neighbor who was suffering from dementia to please let the police department know, that they were working on a program to locate them should they wonder off.

Kyle Reed, Public Works Director, advised that City of Houston had a 96" water line break today and as soon as we were aware of it, we cut them off our system and we were now on well and to please let us know if they see any water leaks. He stated that we do not have to boil our water and before we switch back to surface water Houston will have to guarantee that the water is safe and we will also sample the water. He stated that TCEQ has the boil water requirement as a safety measure but the city's water is safe and we did not have to boil it.

He stated that since this involved such a large area that had no water this was an opportunity for people to come into the city and fill up trucks, etc. from our water and we didn't have water to lose and ask

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that if anyone sees a water leak to please let us know and explained that we have a generator at the well so if the power goes out we still will have water.

Robert Hernandez stated he was glad that we were on well water that it had less minerals in it.

Dee Maner stated that she loved well water to drink it while you could.

Council Member Rivas ask Mr. Reed to keep them posted when we switch back.

Ivan Rojas, Parks and Recreation Director advised that the Food Bank would be at Town Center tomorrow from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and the Little League Parade for baseball and Little League would be March 21st.

Elizabeth Flores, Heritage Hall Director, advised that all was good at the center, they were staying busy with activities for the seniors.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Dee Maner stated that she saw on the news today that they were Doing a news broadcast about the water line break and flooding and Mayor Turner, Galena Parks Mayor and Adrian Garcia were there and she wanted to know if our Mayor was invited and she was advised that she had not been invited. Ms. Maner stated that she was disappointed that she had not been included, but she was going to deal with that.

Mr. Stiles, 10706 Oswego, stated that he wanted to speak with someone that could help him in regard to the shrubs next door to them which made it unsafe to back out of their driveway. He stated that he came up here a short time ago and they advised that they would talk with Mr. Schmidt about removing the shrubs and he had removed one on each side of the drive way which did not help, that he had that building forced

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on him when they approved the variance to let them build it there and went over a lot of the issues that he had with this building. He stated that he had lived here over 30 years, this was a good little town and he felt safe here but this needed to be taken care of.

Council Member Rivas stated that he brought this issue up when the building was built, with the hedges being that high, there was no way it was safe and this had gone on long enough we needed to do something about it.

Mayor Diaz advised Mr. Stiles that we would go out and look at this tomorrow.

Council Member Gonzales stated that we had an ordinance about fences that obstruct the view, so he had a ligament complaint.

City Manager Squyres stated that when it was brought before, Chief Ayala had gone by and spoke with Mr. Schmidt and they agreed to take care of it but they would check this out tomorrow.

Constable Chris Diaz thanked the Mayor and Council for the good job they were doing running the city and did they think they could do something about the train noise. He advised that their department had helped with the flooding from the broken water main today, that there was a lot of traffic to be careful, that it had taken him two hours to get from Sam Houston toll way. He advised that early voting was over tomorrow and Tuesday was election day and he would appreciate their support.

There was no Unfinished Business.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Council to confirm Abdel R. Newisar as a Jacinto City Police Officer.**

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Chief Ayala stated that he had know Mr. Newisar for three years, he gave a short bio of his qualifications and experience and recommended that the Council hire him.

A motion was made by Council Member Lee and seconded by Council Member Garcia to confirm Abdel R. Newisar as a full time Jacinto City Police Officer. Vote: 5 For 0 Against

Mayor Diaz administered the Oath of Office and present Officer Newisar with his badge and welcomed him to the City.

- 2. Council to approve issuing RFQ for engineering services related to CDBG-DR – Jacinto City Waste Water Treatment Plant improvement project.**

City Manager Squyres advised this was in regard to Harvey Recovery and was the 5.35 million that would go 100% toward the Waste Water Treatment Plant.

A motion was made by Council Member Garcia and seconded by Council Member Gonzales to approve issuing the RFQ. Vote: 5 For and 0 Against

- 3. Council to approve auction of attached used vehicles.**

City Manager Squyres advised that this would be our first set of things that would test the online auction that was approved at a recent meeting.

A motion was made by Council Member Rivas and seconded by Council Member Lee to approve the auction of the used Vehicles. Vote: 5 For 0 Against

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

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Council Member Rivas ask Kyle was Longhorn was able to use our water and he advised that they could but he would be talking with them about this.

Council Member Rivas welcome Office Newisar aboard and thanked the other officers for coming out.

Council Member Rivas stated that he thought someone turned 29 today, wished Council Member Robinson a happy birthday and ask everyone to sing Happy Birthday to him.

Council Member Robinson welcome Officer Newisar and advised him that he would be working with a good group. He questioned when the landscaping was going to be finished at the police station.

Council Member Lee stated that Kyle needed to slow down a little bit, Welcomed the new officer and cautioned everyone to be safe.

Council Member Garcia welcome the new officer, his family and friends and ask him to stand up and turn around and see all the officer he would be working with and that she would like to get a picture of him and the officers present after the meeting.

Council Member Gonzales welcomed officer Newisar and advised him that he would be working with a good group of officers.

Mayor Diaz adjourned the meeting at 6:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

**Joyce Raines
City Secretary**