

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
APRIL 23, 2020
6:00 P.M.**

Prayer – Allen Lee

Pledge of Allegiance – All

Mayor Diaz called the meeting to order, pointing out that it is physically closed to the public but open via Zoom Conferencing.

Roll Call by City Secretary Raines: Mayor Diaz, Council Members Rivas, Robinson, Lee, Garcia and Gonzales; City Manager Squyres, City Attorney DeFoyd via Zoom and City Secretary via Zoom.

Mayor Diaz called for a motion for approval of the minutes of the previous meeting.

Motion – Robinson

Second – Rivas

Vote – 5/0

Council Member Garcia ask that the minutes be corrected, they showed her absent and she was present , just on her phone.

City Manager Squyers advised we would take care of it.

Reports of Officers, Employees and Committees:

Chief Ayala advised they were staying busy and they appreciated everything that the community was doing for them. He stated that Detective Walker and other Officers had participated in a drive by surprise for Brice Brown's 6 year old birthday.

He asked that anyone needing their assistance to please call.

Kyle Reed advised that the only thing he had to report was that they went Over the sewer plant with a fine tooth comb this week.

Ivan Rojas advised that he had talked with the Food Bank and was told that they were evaluating all the sights that they usually do and would get back with him.

Mayor Diaz advised that the Food Bank cancelled this month. That we had been having the food bank every month, they cancelled it this month and went to another city and we would try to get it back. She discussed other sites they could go to.

Chief Mier advised that they were still getting help from Settrack and they were very grateful, supplies were hard to come by.

Elizabeth Flores Advised that they continue to contact the seniors each day, deliver Meals on Wheels as well as five pack meals to regular members.

City Manager Squyres advised that a few weeks ago the Federal Government had hired a private corporation to set up a testing site Town Center, they had tested 180 people and 60 came back Comprimized and the Corporation would be calling the 60 people to advise them that they will set up at Town Center on Saturday to retest the 60 at no charge.

He stated that we were anxious to get small business back open and Discussed how this could be done so we would be ready. He stated that We also wanted to be sure the businesses were aware that the Federal Government will provide a grant (which they did not have to repay) to Business owners who pay their employees while they are closed.

He discussed doing court by Zoom and how it would work and that we Were working out the details, that we had already postponed court until May and it looked like we may be later than that and conducting court by Zoom would not be mandatory due to a lot of people not having the equipment to participate.

Mr. Squyres discussed how all the closures, etc. would effect the city; stating that sale tax would be effected due to all the closures but that property tax was already 98% collected.

Public Comments:

Wayne Nichols thanked everyone for getting the Easter Bunny out at the Police Department.

Mayor Diaz thanked everyone who volunteered and Council Members Robinson and Rivas for volunteering to be the Easter Bunny.

Luisa Perez thanked them for having the Easter Bunny on the street and thanked Chris and Ana for delivering food to the elderly on Saturday and hoped that the Food Bank situation gets fixed. She asked If we had to wear the mask and Mr. Squyres advised that yes, starting Monday we were required to wear the mask. Ms. Perez stated that since the seniors would not be able to have graduation this year would it be possible to have something for them at Town Center later in the year and they would also like to do a parade to let them drive in their cars.

Mayor Diaz said maybe some time in May, that Lon would talk with the School and we would see what we could do.

No Unfinished Business

New Business:

Discussion related to Juvenile Curfew Ordinance which is required to be Readopted every three years.

Lee made a motion to Re-Adopt the Juvenile Curfew Ordinance as is.

Second – Gonzales

Vote – 5/0

Comments by Mayor and Council Members:

Mayor Diaz reminded everyone that starting Monday everyone had to wear mask and the city will give them out at the City Hall drive through window

as long as they last.
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Lee – Wash your hands, social distance and God Bless

Gonzales – Thanked Council Members Rivas and Robinson for their help as as the Easter Bunny and he thought the parade for all the the Galena Park Seniors was a great idea.

Garcia Encouraged everyone to get out and enjoy the beautiful weather and that GPISD had already said No to a parade.

Diaz - Stated that we were doing this for the Seniors and would like For them to decorate their cars.

Rivas - Continue to follow the recommendations of CDC, take care of Yourself, enjoy the great weather, social distance and God Bless

Robinson - Try to comply with recommendations, that he and his wife are Walking two miles each day in the park.

Diaz - Thanked everyone for being patient with them.

Garcia - Ask about getting a list of people who need food.

Diaz - Thanked everyone for all the donations.

Squyres - Advised that the city gets a reports each day of new positive cases in the city and it is only people that have home addresses and that is so that the dispatchers can advise the officers if they receive a call to that address.

Diaz - Ask that everyone please support the restaurants in the city that J. C. Café was now open.

Mayor Diaz adjourned the meeting at 6:41 P.M.

**Joyce Raines
City Secretary**

