

COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 2021, 6:00 P.M.

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Thursday, April 8, 2021 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 arrived after roll call.

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 of the previous meeting as presented. Vote: 4 For 0 Against

DEPARTMENT HEAD RPORTS:

Kyle Reed, Public works Director, advised we were going to have a late mosquito season this year but they were ready to go that they needed to call if they need spraying.

Mr. Reed stated that one of our employees that had retired a few years ago, Mr. Ramiro Perez, that he was a wonderful guy, had passed away and that Mr. Saul Trevino, who also retired a few years ago had been in the hospital for about 1 ½ months and both had COVID-19. He also advised that Mr. Oscar Salinas, a former resident of Jacinto City, had passed away from COVID and that his wife Sandra also had Covid and ask that everyone remembered these families in their prayers.

He advised that every thing else in the city was going good and the city looked good.

Elizabeth Flores, Heritage Hall Director had no report.

Ivan Rojas, Parks and Recreation Director advised they were staying busy cutting grass and getting ready for baseball which started April 17th, that they were practicing now and would have the parade at the end of the season.

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Mayor Diaz thanked Ivan and Elizabeth for the work they did on the Easter Drive thru event and they had about 500 cars drive through and ask that we keep the Perez, Trevino and Salinas families in our Prayers.

Chief Mier advised the Mayor, Council and citizens that April 11th through April 17th was National Public Safety Telecommunications week and commended Jacinto City's dispatchers and EMS.

Chief Ayala stated that our communication staff does a great job, but we can always do better and gave some suggestions on additional training and was thankful for the work they do working with the fire department.

City Manager Squyres advised that there was an elevation in cyber crimes, that they were filing false employment reports and that if you receive one you need to respond or you may receive a 1099 and have to pay taxes on something you did not receive. He advised that the city had received them on two of our employees. We have no idea where or how they got the employee's information but we are taking care of it.

He advised the Mayor and Council that they would be receiving an invitation to opening day for the baseball and softball leagues.

Chief Ayala advised that Mr. David Smith, the gentleman that had disappeared from the Nursing Home had been found in Crosby and was fine.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Rebecca Mier reminded everyone about Market By Night on Saturday, April 10th and that they had a new vendors and new entertainment to be sure and come out.

There Was no Unfinished Business.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Council Authorization to advertise for bids on Northside Water Mains and Fire Protection Project with bids due back on May 13, 2021.**

A motion was made by Council Member Rivas and seconded by Council Member Robinson to authorize advertising for bids on the Northside Water Mains and Fire Protection Project with bids due Back on May 13, 2021. Vote: 5 For 0 Against

- 2. Council to consider joining The Associations of Rural Communities in Texas.**

City Manager Squyres advise that this organization provided guidance on Federal requirements related to grants and with new scrutiny on purchasing requirements and issuing of RFQ's & RFP's this would help us, they pick up where TML stops and it only cost \$395.00 to join. A motion was made by Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Garcia to join the Association of Rural Communities in Texas. Vote: 5 For 0 Against

- 3. Council to authorize the contracting of LJA Engineering for the development of a required Risk and Resilience Plan.**

City Manager Squyres stated this this addressed a requirement for cities our size to develop a Risk & Resilience Plan which was a very in-depth and extensive document and after getting price quotes that he and Kyle felt that for what we do today and what we will be doing down the line it would be wise to go with LJA Engineering for \$25,000, that the low bid had been from Trinity Engineering at \$24,500 but with LJA familiarity with the current and future plant would allow them to develop a more accurate plan.

Council Member Lee ask if this was a county requirement and Mr. Squyres advised it was an EPA requirement.

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Council Member Gonzales stated this was a two part plan and did the \$25,000 include both parts and was advised by Mr. Squyres that it did.

Council Member Rivas stated he thought this was the best plan.

Council Member Lee ask if we were bound to this plan for 5 years, and Mr. Squyres stated that we were not.

A motion was made by Council Member Rivas and seconded by Council Member Garcia. Vote: 5 For 0 Against

- 4. Council to consider authorization for the city of Jacinto City to issue request for proposals (RFPs) for Administrative Services and request for Qualifications (RFQs) for Professional Services for the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.**

City Manager Squyres stated that GrantWorks suggested taking this proactive step on housekeeping items that will allow us to meet any requirements related to the new COVID funding to be sure that we maintain compliance with all CFR-200 requirements on the 2.3 M that it was going to be complicated and we could get ahead of the program and not be faced with a quick deadline and this did not authorize spending funds or commit us to any specific purchases or vendors.

A motion was made by Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Gonzales to authorize issuing RFPs and RFQs. Vote: 5 For 0 Against

- 5. Council Discussion on Jacinto City's 75th Anniversary**

City Manager Squyres stated that Chief Mier, Joyce and Kathy came up with the idea of hosting a meet & greet in conjunction with the May Market Night event. They suggested a slideshow of

historical pictures from Jacinto City and the idea was to have this inside Town Center starting around mid afternoon and expand the event to include the invitation of guest such as past elected officials and appointed officials, former employees and other dignitaries and if the Mayor and Council approved it could include tours of new city facilities and other events they might suggest and the timing on this was tight so we would need to hit the ground running.

There was general discussion on the event.

Council Member Robinson stated that he would like to see this happen.

City Manager Squires stated that if this was ok with the Mayor and Council we would move forward with this, that they could appoint a committee if they would like or move forward using the people he had named.

Mayor Diaz stated to use the same people.

City Manager Squyres stated if they had any questions or suggestions to please feel free to contact him.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Council Member Rivas stated he thought this was a great idea and wished everyone a great weekend.

Council Member Robinson ask that we all remember the families in our Prayers and thanked everyone for coming out.

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Council Member Lees stated God Bless everyone.

**Council Member Garcia discussed the 75th Anniversary and ask
If it would be possible to have some type of souvenirs for the
event.**

Council Member Gonzales thanked everyone for coming out.

**City Manager Squyres advised that East Harris County
Empowerment Group would be hosting an event at Town Center
on April 24th from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. to see if you qualify for
assistance for help with repairs from damages from frozen pipes
during the winter storm.**

**Mayor Diaz thanked Dina Gonzales and the Jacinto City
Elementary staff for the great job they did with the open house for
the new building.**

Mayor Diaz adjourned the meeting at 6:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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

**Joyce Raines
City Secretary**