

COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2015, 6:00 P.M.

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Thursday, November 12, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Pro Tem Gonzales, Council Members Rivas, Robinson and Lee; City Manager Squyres and City Secretary Raines. Mayor Diaz out ill, Council Member Garcia representing the city at HGAC and City Attorney DeFoyd out of the country.

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: 3 For 0 Against

Mayor Pro Tem Gonzales called on the Department Heads for their reports.

Chief Ayala thanked all the veterans for what they do and what they have done for us; stating that we need to let them know that we appreciate them.

Chief Ayala went over some of the scams going on in the area and cautioned every one about giving out any personal information and to be aware of their surroundings at all times.

Chief Meir reported that the fire department and JC Elementary has joined in a fire prevention program and that the kids had really enjoyed it.

Chief Meir also advised that we had lost a fire fighter this passed week, Brandon McCartney had passed away and thanked Chief Ayala for providing escorts for the service.

Mayor Pro Tem Gonzales ask that everyone please keep the family in their Prayers.

Kyle Reed, Public Works Director stated that mosquitoes were very bad and they would have the mosquito truck on the street every night that weather permitted. He advised everyone that a company was going through the city leaving a bag with a water sample bottle in it and asking you to sample your water, that they were trying to sell water filters, etc. and in Jacinto City you didn't need your water sampled that we do this several time a month but if you did want to sample your water to please call us and we would give you the information on the lab that the city uses.

City Manager Squyres stated that the city has sent out a letter to the company to cease putting out the letters in Jacinto City.

Mr. Reed stated that during the recent heavy rains the public works guys had been out at all hours check the drains and checking for flooding. He advised that a couple of house had a little water and tht Discount Tire had gotten quite a bit of water but overall the city did well and cautioned people about putting out the garbage for pickup during heavy rains.

Elizabeth Flores, Heritage Hall Director, reported that the seniors did good with their booth at the Pumpkin Fest and had a good crowd at their Thanksgiving Dinner.

Sue Ellen, Jacinto City Library, advised that they had a veteran speak at the Library on Veteran's Day and had a good crowd for the program. She also advise that the computers were out at the library and hopefully would be up and running before long.

Mayor Pro Tem Gonzales thanked public works for being out working during all the heavy rains, that they did a great job.

Cit Manager Squyres stated that we had a lot of rain, that Discount Tire had about 3 1/2 to 4 ' of rain on the outside of their building and about 1' inside the building and they were already back open for business. He stated that public works was fantastic, they were everywhere pumping water from one place to another to help prevent flooding and that we had a couple of houses that got a little water and the theater parking lot looked like a lake. He advised that with the help of the police department they shut down the exit from the freeway to keep cars from going down the feeder and creating problems for the businesses in that area. Mr. Squyers stated that the first thing he did on Monday morning was walk every single business and meet every business owner and not one of those businesses had a drop of water in their store. He commended the public works and police department for their efforts.

He stated that at the same time all this was doing on they had all the arrangements with Brandon going on , a critical situation with him at the hospital at that time and everybody went above and beyond the call of duty and all working well together.

He commented on the issue Mr. Reed had discussed about the door to door people wanted to sample the water, that it was a scam, they wanted to sell you something and Channel 13 Was doing an investigative report on this, .

He stated that we had talked about being able to do our water bill payments on line, the system was in place but before we put anything our for the citizens, we want to be sure it works and we still have a few problems.

Mr. Squyres stated that a few months ago Council Member Garcia had ask for some help getting some information together to submit a small article to The Texas Town and City Magazine , they accepted that and her article, along with some pictures, was in the November issue of the magazine.

He advised that this Saturday morning all of the department heads would join him at Town Center, from 8:00 a.m. to 11-00 a.m. , they were going to offer doughnuts and coffee to anyone who wanted to come to allow people who work the same hours as our city offices to be able to come and ask question they might have about different operations in the city.

Mayor Pro Tem Gonzales ask about permits for going door to door and was advised that they were informed of this in the letter that we sent them and if we caught them out here again without a permit, we would do background check on each of them and cite them.

There was no Unfinished Business.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. City Manager Squyres advised that this involved basically a vote of city council, that we rolled the plan out about six weeks ago and it had not received one negative comment during that comment period , in fact one of the council members took it to Rotary and showed it off there .There was general discussion about the trail plan,

A motion was made by Council Member Rivas and seconded by Council Member Robinson to adopt the Master Trail Plan. Vote: 3 For 0 Against

2. A motion was made by Council Member Lee and seconded by Council Member Robinson to approve Resolution 2015-9R Creating a Keep Jacinto City Beautiful Committee: Vote: 3 For 0 Against
3. City Manager squyres advised that HGAC had advised they would need a Resolution for the appointment to HCAD Board after it was placed on the agenda so this item would be placed On the next agenda
4. City Manager Squyres advised that Ms. Rodriguez from 12146 Coulson Circle was not present to address the Mayor and Council.
5. A motion was made by Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Rivas to approve an agreement with LJA Engineering for a comprehensive evaluation of the City's Sewer Treatment Plant. Vote: 3 For 0 Against

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

The Administrator from Jacinto City Health Care stated that she wanted to come out and thank Lon for coming out when we had all the rain , that she appreciated their coming out and their response in case they did have to evacuate their residents, they didn't have to and they were happy to say that and they thanked them so much.

City Manager Ssqyres discussed the factors that led up to the possible evacuation and Kyle had the bus brought down to City Hall and staged there and he let everyone know that we might be opening up a clinic at Heritage Hall for the Health Care center's ambulatory patients and the center had a plan in place but realistically a small ambulance company could not handle that so they contacted SETRAC and started the plans rolling for task forces of ambulances to come in groups of five to transport them to other facilities along with long buses so all of this disaster planning that we have been participating in for years almost got deployed right here in Jacinto City, it was a nice chance to exercise the plans that we have on paper without actually having to do it and it worked out really well.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Council Member Rivas stated that during those heavy rains he and his wife and Council Member Robinson rode around the city and they did see a lot of spots that Kyle and his task force had already visited and like Kyle said, they did see trash float down and his wife would poke at the drain with a stick to try to keep everything going, she grew up here, loves the city and takes pride in it.. He stated that they visited with the folks and tried to assure them that the city was out there doing the best it could and at times it was more than any of the drains could handle but as soon as the rains stopped it drained off fast. He stated that we all needed to remember neighbors and friends, if you needed someone call someone, we were all close by.

Council Member Robinson thanked everyone for all the help and participation, there was a lot of water out there. He stated that he also wanted to thank Flo Flores and Joyce Raines , that yesterday we did our signup for food baskets and toys for tots and we were down a little bit from last year but it would be ok. He wished everyone a safe and happy Thanksgiving and commended Elizabeth on her first Thanksgiving at Heritage Hall.

Council Member Lee stated that he wanted to thank everybody also, all of our departments, that when we have situations like the flood all of our city works together and since it turned out not to be as bad as it could have been it was more like an exercise and it was good to know the people were ready. He stated that he called the Chief and he assured him that our military vehicle was ready and there was a driver there and he appreciated everything he did and every time he drove around the city workers were out there and everybody contributed which was very reassuring to him and he did thank them. He stated it was the holiday season and we need to be aware of all the people that take advantage of this and be observant . He stated that it was a great time to live in Jacinto City, seeing all the decorations going up and all of the departments doing what they do, he was very proud of that.

He advised that Calvary Baptist was having a BBQ fund raiser on Saturday and invited everyone to come by.

Mayor Pro Tem Gonzales stated that Ms. Selph had recently lost her husband and during the heavy rains she was just beside herself , terrified that the water was coming up and she wanted him to tell Kyle and crew thank you for what they did.

Mayor Pro Tem Gonzales adjourned the meeting at 6:40 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,



Joyce Raines, City Secretary