

COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2022, 6:00 P.M.

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Thursday, December 8, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Diaz, Council Members Rivas, Robinson, Lee and Gonzales; City Manager Squyres and City Secretary Raines. Council Member Garcia arrived after roll call and City Attorney DeFoyd absent.

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 REPORTS:

Thomas Rogers reported on the wastewater treatment plant and had received the lift for the garage and were getting ready for Santa on the Fire Truck.

Ivan Rojas, Parks and Recreation, stated the Christmas Parade had a good turn out for the parade and also for the Tree Lighting.

Rebecca Mier, Fire Chief, stated she had nothing new to report and they were ready for Santa on the Fire Truck.

Elizabeth Flores. Heritage Hall Director, advise that they were trying to keep the seniors happy.

Mayor Diaz stated that she was sure one of the problems was transportation, that she had gotten calls about the bus not picking seniors up in Galena Park.

There was general discussing about the transportation problem.

Chief Ayala stated that they were having problems with shop lifting and were looking for two dispatchers and was working on the application for another officer and he was experienced, that there was nothing major going on.

Mayor Diaz advised that the officers were doing a good job.

City Manager Squyres advised that we had gotten rid of the pit at Public works where the mechanic worked underneath the vehicles, that it had been filled in and our insurance carrier loved it. He stated at budget workshops we discussed the price of diesel and we had been picking up 3 people in Galena Park to come to Heritage Hall, and discussed how much it cost as opposed to just picking up in Jacinto City and because we needed to cut cost, the Council decided that we as a city couldn't afford to go to other cities and pickup people, he stated that on average, the city spends approximately \$5,500 per year on each senior per year, that if the City of Galen Park wanted to chip in we could possibly enter into an MOU. He stated that they were more than welcome to come to Heritage Hall and participate in the programs.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Dale Pollock stated that his mother has passed away and the service would December 11th at 12:00 noon at Calvary Baptist Church.

There was no Unfinished Business.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Council to discuss, consider and select Administrative/Project Delivery Service Provider(s) to complete project implementation for the Community project funding grant program Administered and funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.**

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City Manager Squyres advised there two grants, one for the North Side and one for the South Side and the rules and regulations are so strict we are going to hire someone to manage them, that we have 6 or 7 now and don't have time. He advised that we had only received one RFQ on the project and it was from Grantworks that they scored 98 out of a hundred and we were familiar with them and recommended that the Council hire Grantworks.

A motion was made by Council Member Rivas and seconded by Council Member Robinson to hire Grantworks as the professional service provider for the Community Project Funding (CPF). Vote 5 For 0 Against

- 2. Council to discuss, consider and select Engineering/Surveying Service Provider(s) to complete project related Engineering/Architecture Services for the Community Project Funding Grant Program administered and funded by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.**

City Manager Squyres advised that this was basically the same one as the previous one except it was to hire an engineer and we had only received one RFP on this and it was from LJA Engineering and they had scored 92.25, we were familiar with their work and we recommended that they hire LJA Engineering.

A motion was made by Council Member Garcia and seconded by Council Member Robinson to hire LJA Engineering for the project. Vote: 5 For 0 Against

- 3. Council to consider Resolution No. 2022-9R authorizing the hiring of Project Management firm for the CPF HUD project.**

A motion was made by Council Member Robinson and Seconded by Council Member Garcia to hire Grantsworks as project Management Firm for the (CPF) HUD project. Vote: 5 For 0 Against

- 4. Council to consider Resolution 2022-10R authorizing the hiring of an Engineering Firm for the (CPF) HUD project.**

A motion was made by Council Member Gonzales and seconded by Council Member Robinson to hire LJA Engineering Firm for the (CPF) HUD project. Vote: 5 For 0 Against

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Council Member Rivas advised Dale that he was very sorry to hear about his mother, great things come during this season, but a lot people have to struggle with things and need someone to talk with during this time and he is always available to talk with him as well as a lot of people in this room and he was looking forward to Santa on the Fire Truck that it was a lot of fun.

Council Member Robinson thanked everyone for all the did to make the Parade a Great event, be careful and have a great weekend.

Council Member Lee stated they had a great time at the parade, wished everyone a happy holiday season and God Bless All.

Council Member Garcia thanked Mayor Diaz for bringing the GPISD singers to Town Center, that we had some great talent. She ask if we had an update on the family at 1405 Jennifer and City Manager Squyres advise that Joseph House and Red Cross are helping them and they were fully insured.

Council Member Rivas stated that he spoke with them last Friday, gave them his card and ask them to let him know if they needed anything.

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Council Member Garcia thanked Lon for working on all these grants.

She stated the Holiday Season was here and ask about the Senior's Christmas Party and stated that she would be there and also ask if the other department were having anything,

Chief Ayala stated they had nothing planned at this time and Thomas From Public Works advised they were looking at the 19th but would have to see who all would be there.

Council Member Gonzales thanked all the city employees who helped make the Christmas Parade a success.

Mayor Diaz stated that we were looking at possibly having the parade at night next year where we could have the entries with lights, that we had an excellent crowd and all the vendors sold out and were ready to come back next year.

Mayor Diaz adjourned the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

**Joyce Raines
City Secretary**