

COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 2015, 6:00 P.M.

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Thursday, June 25, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Diaz, Council Members Rivas, Robinson, and Lee; City Manager Squyres, City Attorney DeFoyd and City Secretary Raines. Council Member Garcia arrived after roll call and Council Member Gonzales on vacation.

The meeting was opened with Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Council Member Lee and seconded by Council Member Robinson to approve the minutes as presented. Vote: 3 For 0 Against

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Chief Ayala passed on his report.

Fire Chief Meir reported that their call volume remained the same as last year and they were getting ready for the 4th of July and they needed to remind everyone to leave the fireworks to the professionals please, that the fireworks would be at 9:00 p.m. on the 4th and they hoped that everyone comes out for that.

Ivan Rojas, Parks and Recreation Director, reported they were doing good in the Parks and Recreation Department and he just wanted to remind everybody that the 4th of July was coming up and we would have our pool party on Saturday, July 4th, the bike parade would be at 12:00 noon and the pool party would be from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. and we would have pizza, lemonade and snow cones for the party and they also have senior swim from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. for any senior and also water aerobics. He reminded everyone that the We Care Program by MD Anderson Center was next week if anyone still wanted to register and they also had CPR classes for the kids, they would have two classes next month and if they wanted to sign up they could come to the gym, it would be for the first 20 kids. He also congratulated the JC Junior Division which won the District Championship last night and we still had a lot of games going on for the All Stars and they would be playing in different places. He reminded everyone there was a blood drive at the Town Center on Tuesday from 12:00 to 4:00.

Mayor Diaz ask if the fitness camp started next week and how many did we have registered for it.

Ivan advised that it started on Monday and he was not sure how many they had registered at this time.

Mr. Reed was on vacation and Mr. Candelario Aleman was present for the Public Works Department and reported that the asphalt job was complete on Verano and they would be on call all weekend if they needed anything.

Cindy Miller, Heritage Hall Director, reported that they had several seniors win at the Garden Party and she would get back with them at the next council meeting and let them know who that was. She advised that Game Night was Monday, June 29th from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. and that Councilman Robinson and his wife Mary was going to supply the meat and all they needed to bring was the side dishes. She advised that their July 4th party would be July 1st and Christmas in July was on the calendar and she forgot to bring a list but she would e-mail it tomorrow.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Squyres stated that Chief Meir neglected to tell us a couple of things going on, stating that one was congratulations to her, she took her test today to become a certified code enforcement officer in addition to her regular duties so now for the first time to his knowledge Jacinto City now has a certified code enforcement officer. He stated that we also took delivery on the signs the council ask us to have made for heavy trash and they would be seeing those on the streets in the very near future and hopefully they had been seeing our mosquito truck, that it had been going round and round the neighborhoods, with all the rain they were very bad, we were going to ask the Port to please put pressure on their vendor that cares for the disposal site to do spraying as well. He stated that the other big training that was taking place was that we had two of our city hall staff that was going to be taking on new duties, that both Kathy and Joyce were becoming the snow cone venders for city functions now, we had a little extra money in the budget for the 4th so we bought a snow cone machine and they were going to do all the snow cones for the 4th and be our snow cone queens.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Diaz stated that she got a request sent to her yesterday asking when were we doing free garage sales again, community garage sales so maybe we could look on the calendar and set up another one.

City Manager Squyres suggested in the fall when it was a little cooler and ask if he could propose a date for council approval.

Mayor Diaz stated that would be fine, that we did one at the Pumpkin Fest and she thought we did two a year, one they could have at their homes and one at the pumpkin fest, to let her look around, that she had a couple of calls on that. The stated that mosquitoes were bad and thanked the public works guys for spraying and apologized for not making Public Works appreciation dinner, that she was working and ask Candy to pass her apology along to the other public works guys and thank them for all they do for us.

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. First reading of Ordinance 2015-5 Amending Chapter 3 "Building Regulations" at Sec. 3 "Housing Code" establishing new criteria for the regulation of sex offender residency within the city.

Mr. Allan Jamail ask if there was something said about current sex offenders that live in our city and City Attorney DeFoyd stated that they were excepted if it was before this ordinance.

Council Member Garcia referred to the section about prior to renting property in Jacinto City that all persons must be check by calling the police department and was there a form for this that the homeowners should have filled out in advance. City Attorney DeFoyd advised that all they should have to do was contact the police department and the dispatcher should be able to get that on line with the Texas Department of Public Safety and that you could get it on line yourself, that any resident could get on line and each city would have the name and address of registered sex offenders.

City Manager Squyres stated that we could also put a link on the city website to make it very easy for anyone to click onto the DPS website.

Chief Ayala stated that concerning the residency, that before they actually move in they had to notify them at the police department, make an appointment and then they would tell them if it was ok to move into a certain area and once the new ordinance is approved,

they would let them know what the regulations are, whether they qualify or not.

Council Member Lee stated that he had a question about the description of the facility, was this the State's wording or was it ours, that he would like to see the word church in there himself.

City Attorney DeFoyd advised that it was the State's working.

There was discussion about the interpretation of where children gather.

Chief Ayala stated that he just wanted to be clear, this also included where children gather at school stops and City Attorney DeFoyd stated yes, anywhere they gather.

City Manager Squyres advised that Chief Ayala was discussing this with him before the meeting and brought a map and they had a copy of that map and there would be very few places where individual could live in this city.

A motion was made by Council Member Garcia and Seconded by Council Member Rivas to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2015-5 Amending Chapter 3 "Building Regulations" at Sec. 3 "Housing Code" establishing new criteria for the regulation of sex offender residency within the city. Vote: 4 For 0 Against

2. Mr. Walter Taylor was not present to address the Mayor and Council. City Manager Squyres advised that the matter he wished to discuss had been resolved.
3. A motion was made by Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Lee to approve issuing a request for qualifications for Architectural Firm to design a new police station. Vote: 4 For 0 Against
4. Allan Jamail of Keep Jacinto City Clean Committee to discuss next year's 2016 Keep Jacinto City Clean Week and concerns in the city.

Mr. Jamail stated that he had been unusually function at some of our meetings and that was not his norm but he had good news to report (he passed out some pictures) and an gentleman from the audience ask for a copy and Mr. Jamail advised him that he could get one from the City Manager that he didn't have

enough (the gentleman made a comment about not making enough copies) and Mr. Jamail stated that he had to pay for these and everything he did to keep this city clean on the committee (the gentleman stated that he thought the audience needed to know what he was talking about). Mr. Jamail stated that if he could continue he had good news to report, that at the last council meeting he brought up the dangerous condition at Flint St. with the open hole that was deep enough that a child could fall into it and referred to two photo's on the front page and that the next day after the council meeting the situation was corrected, that was very fast action and it just goes to show you the benefit of living in a city like we live in and that was why he was glad to be a resident of this city. He stated that he did report things sometimes that were not of an emergency nature and they take time in getting them corrected and he understood that. He stated the other things he wanted to point out here, if they would look at photo's #1, #2 and #3 on that page where we had a situation at the Kirby Apartments with a dumpster being close to a fire hydrant and the street and this matter had been taken care of as they could see in the pictures. Mr. Jamail stated that we had been having flooding on Norvic at Kerby and he got out in the rain one night to investigate some of the things in the city that was having a lot of high water to see if he could see something that might make an improvement he discussed the photos stating that he had contacted the public works department the next morning and they have taken care of the problem which should relieve that street flooding quite a bit. He stated that he had another recommendation that he was going to bring to the Mayor and council that he thought would relieve that problem quite a bit that he hadn't had time to work on that to put it on paper where he could present it in a way that would warrant their study of it. He stated the last thing he had on this piece of paper that he wanted to talk about, but he did want to say something else after this, he stated that today he was contacted by a man that lives on LaCrosse and he was complaining and as they could see, there was a gaping hole in that sidewalk and at one time public works had barrier tape there and while he was talking to him about that and this was the man's words, not his words, was that it had been that way for 6 months and was that way during the school year and Mr. Jamail discussed the children having to walk out on the street to get around this hole and the people picking up there kids parking on that shoulder and the kids actually having to walk in between the parked cars could be pretty dangerous. Mr. Jamail stated that he talked to the public works director and he told him that we had about six to eight places in the city that needs concrete poured, however, the concrete companies no longer want to deliver a small amount of concrete. He discussed the possibility of renting a concrete mixer to take care of these small problem instead of letting them accumulate. He stated that it might be in the cities best interest to buy one.

Council Member Rivas ask the Mayor how long did Mr. Jamail had to speak and she replied about 2 minutes left.

Mr. Jamail stated that they did have the concrete mixers that you could pull behind a vehicle.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Jose Cortes, 1721 Kerby, said his statement on this matter was that it was four times that someone had been coming and taking pictures on his dogs and making false statements about his dogs not having the proper tags, Mr. Cortes showed the old city tags and rabies tags and the current tags and he was quite frankly getting tired of somebody taking pictures and making false statements about his dogs and something needed to be done about this or he would hire an attorney to file suit against the individual doing this, it needs to immediately stop, if he needs to do something, do it somewhere else, he needs to mow his own grass instead of worrying about other people's yards and dogs and stop making false statements, he was getting very tired of this, he had things to do instead of running back to the city every time this individual makes false statements about his dogs and he had the tags and paperwork if they wanted to see.

Mayor Diaz advised him that we did not need to see it, we believed him.

Mr. Cortes stated that this individual might be trying to do a good job but he needed to take proper measures and statements instead of making false statements.

City Manager Squyres advised that he had confirmed it today and Mr. Cortes was fully in compliance.

Mayor Diaz advised Mr. Cortes that we appreciated him complying with all the city regulations and she did apologize and we would look into it.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Council Member Rivas ask Ivan about the movies and was advised that we had scheduled a movie but cancelled it do to the All Star games being played and not knowing what nights they would be using the fields, which would create a parking issue.

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Council Member Rivas ask about the dive-in movie and Ivan replied that we would have the problem because during games everyone parked in the parking lot at the swimming pool.

There was discussion about when we would be having the next movie night.

Council Member Rivas congratulated the new code enforcement officer and stated that he had a question, that at 2:00 a.m. in the morning it sounded like somebody beating on tin, He goes outside and looks around and Tinsel Town was taking their name off and putting Cinamark up there and from what he understood they were one and the same. He questioned if 2:00 o'clock in the morning was ok.

City Manager Squyres stated that it was absolutely not ok, that we have a noise ordinance , we can issue a citation to please call the police and let them know.

Council Member Rivas stated guess what the police was doing .

City Manager Squyres stated that if they get a complaint, they should address it and ask Chief Ayala if he would like to address it.

Chief Ayala advised that he would look into it.

Council Member Rivas ask if a business had to obtain a permit just like a resident do to redo the outside of their building and did they have one.

City Manager Squyres advised that was really not going to be a code enforcement issue, it was a building department issue and no they didn't need a permit to paint but any construction or signing on the side of it, roofing, etc. they would need a permit.

Mayor Diaz advised Council Member Rivas that next time to just go and knock on her door, she lived in the city and both the Mayor and Councilman ask her what her address was.

The code enforcement office advised that she would only give it out when she was at the podium.

Council Member Rivas wished everyone a good weekend and to call about those mosquitoes.

Council Member Robinson wished everyone a good weekend.

Council Member Lee said maybe Tinsel Town heard that Rebecca was going to take over and they got into a hurry . Mr. Lee stated that he took a ride with Kyle Reed during the rain we got and thank God we didn't get the rain they said we were going to get but we did get a lot and he saw our public works guys out there cleaning out the drains and he didn't realize until he saw it himself that most of the time the guys are just making a circle because they have to go back and clean it out again after they have already cleaned it and he appreciated what they did.

Council Member Garcia reminded everyone to keep calling on the mosquitoes and be sure and wear spray. She ask that everyone watch the marquee or get in touch with Ivan, that later on they were going to have Bricks for Kids Summer Camp and explained what this was about, stating there should be a flyer coming out pretty soon. She stated that we appreciate everything our city employees do for us.

Mayor Diaz thank everyone for coming to the council meeting and letting us know what we need to know and asked that they keep their eyes and ears open.

Mayor Diaz adjourned the meeting at 6:45 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,

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

Joyce Raines
City Secretary