

## COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2015, 6:00 P.M.

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Thursday, February 26, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Diaz, Council Members Rivas, Lee, Garcia and Gonzales; City Manager Squyres, City Attorney DeFoyd and City Secretary Raines. Council Member Robinson absent.

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

A motion was made by Council Member Garcia and seconded by Council Member Rivas to approve the minutes as presented. Vote: 4 For 0 Against

### DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Chief Ayala passed on the report for the police department.

Chief Meir reported they have had 71 call to date in February, no major fires and since the last council meeting they have had a State Inspection and there were no problems. She reminded everyone that the time would change on March 8<sup>th</sup> and ask that they change the batteries in their smoke detectors.

Kyle Reed, Public Works Director, advised that the annual rabies clinic would be held on April 8<sup>th</sup> and reminded everyone that the city ordinance required that all dogs wear their city tag and rabies tag. He reported that the sidewalk the county put in on Holland looked really good and that we had finished the side walks at Wilke Park and poured the slab for the Jack Maner Memorial Bench and would install it as soon as weather permitted.

Mayor Diaz stated that she had received a lot of comments on the sidewalks.

Ivan Rojas, Parks and Recreation, reported that the Opening Day Parade for baseball and softball was on Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup> and ask that they come out and support the kids and their fund raisers.

Mayor Diaz advised that her son, Nicholas, was selling raffle tickets.

### CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Squyres reported that that we had already met with the Flood Control a couple of times on our cave in on Turkey Run gulley, the contract had already been issued and we were waiting on Cherry Demolition to clean it out as a temporary solution and now they were engineering the larger fix and hopefully before hurricane season we would get that taken care of and if not it could cause some flooding problems for anyone that lives West of Kirby basically. He stated that he wanted to mention something, there had been a comment or two on face book lately about dog adoptions and it was mentioned that we don't do a lot about getting dogs adopted and he would argue that point. He stated that we had actually dealt with over 300 dogs just on licensing and tag issues over the last few months and we have gotten very aggressive and we have also gotten very aggressive about stray and wild dogs that were actually pursuing people and we had captured three of those and he thought there was about three of them and we were working hard to capture them and we are not going to give up the fight on that. He stated that on the adoption of dogs, we work with local businesses and have two of them that work with us and a poodle parlor that will actually clean up animals and he wanted this captured in the minutes, fu fu up the dogs where we can make them more presentable and adoptable because when we find them, they are just not presentable so Snuffy's Poodle Parlor will fix them up for free and then we shop them around to several of these organizations that promote adoptions so we do everything in our power not to euthanize dogs and in the future we were going to be doing some web work on that as well and everyone here was on board that we didn't want to euthanize any more dogs than was absolutely necessary and we had also make a concerted effort earlier this year to get tires picked up because of mosquitoes and we were Very aggressive about that and we had picked up 241 tires to date this year out of people's yards and laying around and we were still going to do the tire roundup later in the year, he thought in late April or May and it would be in the news letter.

There was no Unfinished Business.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

1. Resolution 2015-3R of the City Council of Jacinto City opposing Senate Bill 343 and other legislation which would erode the authority of a Home Rule Municipality; finding compliance with the open meeting law; and providing an effective date hereof.

Council Member Garcia ask City Manager Squyres to please explain the bill to the audience, which he did.

A motion was made by Council Member Gonzales and seconded by Council Member Garcia to approve Resolution 2015-3R opposing Senate Bill 343. Vote: 3 For 1 Against (Rivas).

2. Chris Schion to address Mayor and Council about concerns in the city regarding the police department.

Mr. Schion was not present

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Constable Chris Diaz, Precinct 2, 101 S. Rickey, Pasadena, Texas, thanked all the citizens for being here to day to be involved in their local government and to reach out to their Legislatures and talk to them a little bit and tell them that we need to keep our power in our cities to make sure that we operate our cities because we did have a competent Mayor, Council and City Manager and we make sure it is taken care of.

Constable Diaz announced that on March 7<sup>th</sup> they were going to be conducting a State wide warrant roundup and if they had anyone they might know who had a warrant please contact your Judge, JP, and just let them know that you are interested in taking care of that warrant, set up a payment plan, etc., He stated that Precinct 2 Harris County Constable's office would have two men teams out working and they might come see them On March 7<sup>th</sup>, their efforts were to serve their tax payers and their vision was too make sure that they got every bit of their investment out of them., they wanted to continue to serve them and do an excellent job.

Robert Hernandez, 10245 Chadwick, stated that he had observed that the outer set of door here at the city chambers that the right hand door had always been locked and ask if it was a requirement that it be open to push from the inside to go out in case of a fire, etc. because he noticed that businesses were required that their door open outward and this had been locked for many many years.

City Manager Squyres ask if he was talking about the one with the thumb latch where one was open and he was advised yes that was the one. Mr. Squyres stated that it depended on the crowd, if we were at near capacity we had to have absolute egress and it probably wouldn't be a bad idea to do it when in use, that he could check and give him exact number when it needed to be done.

Mr. Hernandez stated that sometimes he go confused as to whether he was at a council meeting or a convenience store.

Raul Rodriguez, 1410 Jennifer, stated that he was from LULAC and was voted back in as Vice President this month and he just wanted to let them know that they were celebrating 15 years of service this month to helping out the city of Jacinto City and Galena Park and they would be celebrating this 15 years. He stated that during this time they have provided school supplies, cloths, backpacks, etc. and sent a lot of kids to college and it took all of us working together to accomplish this.

Chief Joe Ayala stated that he just wanted to let everybody know that we have a very fine Council and Mayor here and a City Manager tht we were very fortunate to have and he also wanted to mention, in honor of Jack Maner, we miss him and would continue to run the city the way he would want it done, that he did an excellent job while he was here but he wanted to tell them that he was very honored to work for the Mayor and City Council and he had all the respect for them.

Ms. Katherine Roses, 9701 Market St., stated that she had her God Child in softball for 5 years but was not able to pay for it this year, that she thinks it is a very good thing and helps keep the kids out of trouble. She stated that the cost seems to go up each year and wonders if they could possibly bring the price down, that she really wanted to play.

Mr. Luis Gonzales advised Ms. Roses that he would like to sponsor her God daughter and provide, the registration fee and what ever equipment she needed, to please get with Ivan Rojas, Parks and Recreation Director and provide him with her name, address and phone number so they could see if they could get her in since registration had already closed.

Ms. Roses stated that she really appreciated that.

Mayor Diaz advised Ms. Roses that the person sponsoring her was her brother.

Mr. Isaac Menendez advised that they had 230 registered and they had dropped the fee \$20.00 if they pre registered, they were trying to be flexible and you could make payments and reminded everyone that March 7<sup>th</sup> was opening day.

Mayor Diaz advised that Ms. Jean Garey was in the hospital and ask that everyone keep her and her family in their Prayer, that Denise had been reading them to her from face book and she feels so loved by all her friends.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

Council Member Rivas stated that he just wanted to say that if you park in a handicapped spot and you are not handicapped and he sees them he is going to call the police that he didn't like it, he wouldn't stand for it and if he told them to move and they didn't they better jump back in that car and leave because he was going to get a JC police office to come over there and write you a ticket, not because he was a councilman. He was a citizen here, he loved this city and he loved his handicapped folks, that he had two people in his family that were handicapped and if they thought he was just going to stand by and watch them, who was willing and able, get out of that car and walk in that store when he told them to move it, they had another think coming.

Mayor Diaz stated that he meant business too and it was a minimum fine of \$500.00.

Council Member Rivas stated to not shrug your shoulders at him and tell him what ever because that didn't work. He stated that he appreciated JC police for their quick response getting there, checking the situation out and doing what they had to do.

He stated that on top of that, we did need a couple of things around the city, that we all know things that need to get addressed, street lights, street work, a lot of maintenance issues and we would address them one by one and get to them, that Rome wasn't built in a day, it was slowly coming around they could see improvements. He wished everyone a good weekend.

Council Member Lee thank everyone for coming tonight and we appreciated all of them, that nice weather was coming and he hoped that they all stayed well until it got here.

Council Member Garcia thanked everyone for being here and thanked each department member and city hall stall, that we all work as one big family and thanked all the extra set of eyes watching out for our city and because of their concerns that was how we know of certain things that need to be addressed. She addressed the Jacinto City Library staff, who arrived after reports and ask if there was any thing going on at the library that we should know.

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Council Member Gonzales thanked everyone for coming out and it was good to see that the baseball league was doing good and it was always good to know that Spring was just around the corner,

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

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joyce Raines". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Joyce Raines  
City Secretary