

COUNCIL MEETING, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2014, 6:00 P.M.

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, November 25, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Diaz, Council Members Rivas, Robinson, Lee, Garcia, Gonzales and City Manager Squyres. City Attorney DeFoyd arrived after roll call and City Secretary Raines on vacation.

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

A motion was made by Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Garcia to approve the minutes as presented. Vote: 5 For 0 Against

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Lt. Longrigg wish everyone a safe and happy Thanksgiving from the Police Department and if there was anything they needed to call them, they were open 24/7.

Kyle Reed, Public Works Director, reported that they had been busy putting up Christmas Lights and the Christmas Parade would be next Saturday.

Mayor Diaz ask that he thank his guys, that the lights were on and looked wonderful.

Ivan Rojas, Parks and Recreation Director, advised that all was going good at Parks and Recreation and wished everyone a Happy and Safe Thanksgiving.

Cindy Miller, Heritage Hall Director, stated that their December Calendar was out so they could see all of the activities they had going on and they were also selling tamales, flyers were available if anyone was interested.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Diaz welcome everyone and wished them a happy Thanksgiving and fellowship with their families and like Lt. Longrigg said, if you need anything call the police department, they are there 24 hours a day.

City Manager Squyres stated just a couple of quick things, they remembered that a few weeks or so ago the Council gave us the authorization to start using credit and debit cards and we had already started that and Kathy was just about ready to sorted out and knows where the money is coming from and going to, that it was a little tougher than we thought

It was because of the way it hits the bank but we have just about got that mastered and are starting another step in the process which is online payments for court and we had trained for that this past Saturday morning and we are live with it right now. He stated the name of it was Traffic Payment.com and explained how it worked. He stated that he would like to commend staff members Joyce, Kathy, Anita and Nancy for volunteering for that training on a Saturday morning.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Second and Final reading of Ordinance 2014-4 Revised Juvenile Curfew Ordinance.

A motion was made by Council Member Garcia and seconded by Council Member Lee to approve Ordinance 2014-4 Revised Juvenile Curfew Ordinance on the second and final reading. Vote: 5 For 0 Against

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Comments from members of the Public.

There were no comments from the public.

2. Comments from Council Members:

Mayor Diaz reminded everyone of the tamale sale the Heritage Hall Seniors were having, that this was a new thing for them and encourage everyone to help support the senior programs and they were \$12.00 per dozen.

Mayor Diaz stated that Council Member Rivas had talked to her about something he wanted to start and she was going to let him discuss it.

Council Member Rivas stated that his neighbor that drives by his house tells him that he used to decorate for Halloween and he used to do a harvest type decoration and he didn't do that either and wanted to know if he was going to be able to see some Christmas decorations and he promised her he would and one of the things that he was telling Lon was that Jack would drive around and look at Christmas lights and one year he did a Texas Flag on his house with Christmas lights and Jack

drove by and he liked it and he was going to do it again but bringing this up he would like to have it, he didn't want to say as a contest but to get the community in the spirit of decorating and showing off their talents on that and maybe they could come up with something for the winner on that.

Mayor Diaz stated that she remembered when they used to do that, Mr. Nichols on Lane Street won every year.

Council Member Robinson stated that we used to have a Christmas Decorating Contest and have a first, second and third place winner and Mr. Nichols would usually always win and we actually had a three judge committee and that was years ago and he was like JJ, he had people ask him about why we didn't do it, we would actually buy plaques for them and present it to them at council meetings.

Mayor Diaz stated that we could do yard signs and recycle them the next year.

Council Member Robinson stated that he didn't know if there was enough time to do it this year or not.

Mayor Diaz stated that we could put it on the marquees about bringing back the yard decorations.

Council Member Robinson stated that he would get the yard signs for first, second and third place decorations.

Mayor Diaz ask if the Council was ok with this and everyone was in agreement.

The consensus was that the Mayor and Council would be excluded and there was discussion about judges.

Council Member Rivas stated that the Christmas lights brought him up to the other part or flip side of that, residents leaving Christmas lights up all year long.

Mayor Diaz stated maybe we could do something where they had to be taken down.

Council Member Garcia suggest someone like State Representative Ana Hernandez or

Senator Sylvia Garcia or someone from Capital Bank.

There was discussion on the availability of people to do this and whether they needed to live outside of the city.

Council Member Rivas stated that he liked living in Jacinto City, the thing he hears a lot of times and they were touching on it was getting a ticket and someone saying hey I know so and so or I'm friends with the chief. He stated that he had eaten dinner with a lot of them but what difference did that make, none absolutely none, they have a job to do and they do it good and there was a process in which all that gets fixed, take the ticket, see the Judge and hope for the best outcome and that also goes for public works, those guys are busy there is a lot of stuff here they have to take care of why is it that these guys get hammered with well I'm making a call, I am unsatisfied with this, I am going to call somebody, that is not good, it is great that we are small and people can contact you like that but there is a point when we have to say hey let me look into it, not promising you anything but don't take it too far because he knew that some people get really dependent on that and say I'm making that phone call each and every time, the city has to continue going, we can't just cater to whomever and when he leaves this position and he knew that day was coming and when that day happens, he would go back to being that citizen that they didn't know anything about and he wouldn't be violating the law, he didn't before and he wasn't going to do it after here, he was not going to be asking for special favors because he used to be a councilman but he would just like for them to have some consideration and belief in these guys that they were doing absolutely what they were paid to do and he appreciated all of them.

Council Member Rivas advised Ivan that the parks looked great and he knew that he received a lot of stuff from people who demand and want stuff but like he told him before there was a lot of things to take care of, not just the parks, that he gets involved with, not to step on any of their toes but people come to him and he was pretty sure that they came to them saying the parks look bad and I want this and that but that was the thing about being here and one more thing, some people say hey JJ you are full of it and he was. He wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

Council Member Robinson wished everyone a safe Thanksgiving.

Council Member Lee thanked everyone for coming out and wished all a happy Thanksgiving.

Council Member Garcia welcomed Mr. Roy, advising that we were considering using him for our collections. She wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

Council Member Gonzales wished everybody a happy Thanksgiving and advised that December was going to be a real busy month and hopefully everyone could participate, that it would be a lot of fun.

Mayor Diaz advised that December 4th would be the Mayor's Story Time at the library, December 6th would be the Christmas Parade and December 13th Santa on the Fire Truck, to be sure and check their calendars, that Joyce had something almost every other day for December.

Council Member Robinson stated that he wanted to thank Congress Woman Shelia Jackson Lee for providing over 40 turkeys for our seniors today.

Mayor Diaz adjourned the meeting at 6:23 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 typed name and title.

Joyce Raines
City Secretary