

COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY, AUGUST 28, 2014

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Thursday, August 28, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Diaz, Council Members Rivas, Robinson, Lee and Garcia; City Manager Squyres and City Secretary Raines. Council Member Gonzales absent due to work, City Attorney DeFoyd ill.

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

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Chief Ayala, Kyle Reed, Ivan Rojas and Cindy Miller all passed on their department reports.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Diaz stated that all was going well, that if anyone had a problem to be sure and let us know so that we could address it.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Squyres stated that there was not to much to report, that it was budget time and that was pretty much occupying him.

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. City Council to consider naming the tennis courts located within Wilke Park the "Jack Maner Tennis Courts"

Mayor Diaz advised that we had a citizen by the name of Joe Garza, also with the Morlock family, and Mr. Joe had made a bench, at no cost, done by him and the family and they would like to put it next to the tennis courts, that Lon had brought up the idea that Jack was the one that did bring up the tennis courts, he was the one that was always out there with his granddaughter playing tennis so we were seeing if the council could approve naming the tennis courts the Jack Maner Tennis Courts because right now it didn't have any name on it.

Page 2 – August 28, 2014

Council Member Rivas ask if Mr. Maner wasn't one of the people who said it could get away from us if we start naming buildings, facilities, streets and those things.

Mayor Diaz stated that he didn't want a building named after him, this was just the tennis courts and it didn't have any sign at all, we just wanted to do a little plaque saying Jack Maner Tennis Courts.

Council Member Garcia stated that she personally would like to table it because we had never even talked about it and to her this was a surprise being on the agenda without even having any kind of discussion and she would like to table it. She stated there was nothing against the suggestion it was just that they needed to get together and decide just like we did with Rachel Nunez, we talked about it.

Mayor Diaz stated that was what we were here for today, to talk.

Council Member Garcia stated that she would like to table it or call a workshop actually.

A motion was made by Council Member Robinson to table Item 1, naming the tennis court; the motion was seconded by Council Member Garcia.

Mayor Diaz stated she thought that was what we were going to do tonight was discuss it.

Council Member Lee stated he agreed that we should discuss things before it was put on the agenda but didn't think it was necessary to have a workshop, he thought we could discuss it among themselves.

Mayor Diaz stated she didn't think we needed a workshop.

City Manager Squyres ask if he could make a suggestion and suggested he send an information package out that we just got the information today about the bench and that type of thing and he would put a briefing package together for everybody and then if they feel the workshop is needed just e-mail or text us and we would call it for them.

Vote on motion: 4 For 0 Against

2. City Council to consider the approval of the Blue Cross Platinum PPO 010 #P600CHC health care plan from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas as the city's Employee health care plan.

City Manager Squyres stated for those who were not at the budget workshop, we were proposing that we actually change the health care benefits for the city, that the plan that we currently have until the end of September will expire in the near future, if we chose to we would be able to renew it this year and then that would be the end of it because of the affordable health act was going to exterminate that plan so we were going to have to change at that point and if we keep that plan now we are going to see an escalation in the cost of that plan by 12% and that plan will exceed a million dollars so we looked at various other plans and went to the broker that we have worked with for many years so we went to Blue Cross because we keep getting feedback from our workers saying they wanted this company, that they liked the benefits and the way the company dealt with them. He stated that on the new plans that Blue Cross offers, this is their Cadillac plan. Ms. Squyres went over some of the differences in the plan and benefits. He stated that we were also considering changing the portion that the city pays for employee's families.

A motion was made by Council Member Garcia and seconded by Council Member Lee to approve the Blue Cross Platinum PPO 010 #P600CHC health care plan from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas as the city's employee health care plan. Vote: 4 For 0 Against

3. Council to approve purchase of inflatable outdoor projector screen at a cost of \$5,900.00 and amend the Capital Outlay Budget.

Mr. Squyres stated that we had money left over in several parts of the recreation budget this year, money that was not spent and will not be spent under those Capital Outlay Items and the auditor does not allow us to take it from other things and move it to something else so we have to amend the budget for that but in reality it was going to just replace the budgeted item that we were not spending.

Mr. Rojas described what the new screen would be like and also the size.

Mayor Diaz stated that while we were also discussing the outdoor screen, we would be having a movie night on September 13th around 9:00 p.m. and we also had Baby J who collaborated with San Jacinto College, Jacinto City and

Galena Park and did a video about Drinking and Driving and Texting and Driving and he would premier his video on that day and he himself will be there doing autographs and selling his CD and everyone was welcome to come by, that we didn't know what movie yet but it would be a good turnout.

A motion was made by Council Member Garcia and seconded by Council Member Rivas to approve purchase of inflatable outdoor projector screen at a cost of \$5,900 and amend the Capital Outlay budget. Vote: 4 For 0 Against

4. Resolution 2014-7R soliciting support from the Texas Municipal League for Legislative action to change the deadline for posting the proposed property tax rate notice as required by Texas Local Government Code Sec. 140.010.

City Manager Sauyres read Resolution 2014-7R.

A motion was made by Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Lee to approve Resolution 2014-7R. Vote: 4 For 0 Against

Mayor Diaz called attention to shirts from Jacinto City Elementary stating that the principal of Jacinto City Elementary gave her these shirts last week and the school was having their 70th years anniversary and they wanted her to present the shirts to them and she ask if we could possibly wear these shirts on National Night Out, the shirts were held up for the audience to see. She stated the school was established in 1944.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Kim Peterson, 11514 Celtis, stated that they had recently had some problems with wild dogs in the Jacinto Oaks area and she understood the city was addressing them, that some of the dogs had been captured but it did open up some other concerns that we were having pets attacked by these wild dogs and her concern was that we should be actively looking into a no chain, no tie law, that the animals who are chained or tied up can't protect themselves, they can't get away from these wild dogs and it was inhumane to expect dogs to lay in one spot all day without exercise or attention and she was seeing it way to often in our neighborhoods. Ms. Peterson stated that she was working with some rescue groups trying to get these animals to be released from their owners and she would like to see the city maybe take some action about that.

Mayor Diaz stated that we would look into it.

Lt. Longrigg, stated that he would like to make a statement to be placed in the record that the Jacinto City Police Department was currently in progress working with DOT on cutting down on DWI's and they were actively seeking out DWI's and keeping everybody safe and that went through Labor Day and he wanted to remind everybody to not drink and drive and if you see someone that looks like they drinking and driving to please call the police Department and let them know.

Mayor Diaz thanked him for directing traffic at the school.

Constable Diaz stated that he would like to say Happy Birthday to the Mayor up there, that she was 21 years old. He stated that Precinct 2 Constable's office was doing well, that they started their first annual Citizens Police Academy last night if anybody would like to come out and attend it was going to be every Wednesday night for ten weeks and last night they actually did the introductions, that they partnered with several agencies to come out and teach these segments so they did not put a high demand on their department and they could continue the functions of what they had to do.

He advised that on September 27th there was going to be a community rally in Galena Park from 11:00 to 3:00 with a lot of different organization out there such as businesses, organization, a health fair and they had contacted HPD, the Sheriff's Department, building trades and it was going to be a job fair, different credit unions, banks and it was just going to be a great thing for the community. He encourage everyone to come and join them. He announced that the AFLCIO was having their annual cook off this weekend at the Pasadena fairgrounds and he would be competing out there.

Dee Maner, stated that she would like to say that last night at Chris' event they had many many people from Jacinto City and she was so proud. She stated that she wished that some of the council had been there, the people that spoke were so informative, our Mayor was there, we had a representative from El Franco Lee's office speak and she thought that what they were doing in their Precinct was just outstanding and it was something that we could certainly learn from as a

city. She stated that she did have a complaint, that some of the people from Jacinto City, who claim to be senior citizens, kidnapped her and took her out to eat afterwards and kept her out until 11:30 which was way passed her bedtime. She stated that she would encourage all of them to go because of the knowledge, that she found out about the District Clerk last night.

Constable Diaz stated that he forgot to add that Deputy Nancy Gosney has graduated from the University of Houston Cadet School and he swore her in two nights ago and now she was a Harris County Precinct 2 Deputy, a reserve deputy at that but she would do a great job and she was a member of our community and he told her before he swore her in to give him two words which was community and family and that was what their vision was.

Don Nichols stated that he would like to talk about a back to school distribution next Saturday, he stated that they would be distributing school supplies and food at Councilman Lee's church next Saturday and he still needed some help, they were going to be distributing 150 backpacks for school supplies for kids for both Jacinto City and Whittier. He stated that he needed help not only on Saturday but Thursday and Friday and the food distribution was something that they were going to be doing on a monthly basis on the first Saturday of every month at Calvary Baptist Church, 10346 Fairfax.

He talked about the difference in school supplies when he was in school and what they are now and that they would be working with JCE and the city during the Christmas holiday to provide toys and food.

Mayor Diaz thanked him for all he does for our city.

Nancy Gosney, 1701 Belin, stated that she wanted to follow up Ms. Peterson's conversation about these dogs, that she had been in contact with Mr. Squyres and Mr. Reed and for the past five or six years this had been a problem, it was not just recent. She stated Mr. Wrobleske was riding his bicycle in front of her house about a couple of year ago and was attacked by these dogs, she turned it in to the city but they couldn't do anything because they weren't biting. She stated a couple of year ago another man in front of her house was being

attacked by these dogs and it used to be four dogs and now it was seven dogs and it was the same dogs, there were puppies involved now. She stated that Wayne and Teresa had lost all of their cats, they were down to three or four cats, Cameron watched her cat be murdered two nights ago by these dogs in her front yard. This was a problem and they needed to be very aware of these dogs, as a matter of fact Mr. Rivas, Shelly, Vickie and she went into the woods after them one day, they knew where they were at and Mr. Reed knew about them, they have set the traps, someone suggested bringing a female dog in heat into the area and trap them that way. She stated this was a problem for those out there walking to be sure and carry a big stick because they were aggressive. She stated this was an ongoing problem they were in Jacinto Oaks and Mr. Hernandez on Lane Street sees them. She stated that she had seen PD show up but they can't do anything, they can't shoot the dogs and she thought they needed to put this high on their list for a solution.

City Manager Squyres stated they were taken a few different approaches, that they had talked to Parks and Wildlife and a few others, that we were thinking about doing what she was talking about, using the female dog to try to attract them over. He stated it was difficult, the dogs were very smart, we would catch a few, puppies were born and it was just a rotation. He advised that they know the pack of four right now, they had been spotted and he had pictures now, the dog catcher had actually seen them in Smith Park today and could not get close enough to use the dart rifle. If they see the dogs out please let us know and if the dog catcher is not available we will get the police out, we will give this high priority.

Council Member Garcia advised that about a month ago she got an e-mail from a resident regarding the dogs and if anyone see the dogs, even inside a fence and it doesn't have a tag please let them know, that we were working on that.

Council Member Rivas stated that the only thing he had was that we were looking into buying that inflatable outdoor screen but some of the things that we were really lacking and needing we needed to address those as well, that he would like the council to take a second look at some of the items that were cut from the budget.

Page 8 – August 28, 2014

Council Member Lee thanked everyone for coming and wished them a same Labor Day.

Council Member Garcia thanked everyone for coming and like Don Nichols said, it was the beginning of the school year and if you could donate school supplies or uniforms to please come out and help.

Mayor Diaz adjourned the meeting at 6:40 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