

COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY, JULY 24, 2014, 6:00 P.M.

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Thursday, July 24, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Council Members Rivas, Robinson and Lee; City Manager Squyers, City Attorney DeFoyd and City Secretary Raines. Mayor Diaz, Council Members Garcia and Gonzales out of the city.

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

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

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Chief Ayala welcomed everyone, stating that we were very proud of the baseball team. He cautioned everyone to be alert and report any suspicious activity, reminded them of National Night Out the 1st Tuesday in October and to call the police department if they would like to host a party. The Chief introduced new Reserve Police Officer Jody Pizano.

Public Works Director Kyle Reed reported that he had received no complaints about mosquitoes and that he needed five complaints in order to spray so if there were any problems to please call.

Council Member Lee stated that we had two of our public works employees with us tonight, Roland Garza and Candlaro Aleman, he was very proud of them and wanted to tell everyone that last Friday they were working at the Library and thought they might have heard someone calling for help and they went to check and a man was face down in his back yard and could not move and he had been a stroke victim in the past and they were able to call for emergency service, the man was transported to Bay Shore and from what they hear he was going to be ok and he was real proud of them and ask them to stand and be recognized and he was delighted at how the departments worked together and that was the way things were supposed to be.

Parks and Recreation Director Ivan Rojas reported that the swimming pool would be closing on August 10th, the last day for Senior swim would be August 8th and water

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aerobics last day would be August 14th. He advised that the Parks and Recreation Department would be having its second Annual Triathlon on July 26th, he went over the age groups and that it would include swimming, running and biking and you would need to be registered before 8:00 a.m. on July 26th and he had flyers available.

Council Member Rivas advised that the new bathrooms should be set in place on Tuesday if weather permitted.

Heritage Hall Director Cindy Miller reported that the August calendar of events for Heritage Hall was out and if you were 60 years or older to please come out and join them.

Chief Squyres reported that all was well in the fire department.

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Council action on Variance Board's recommendation at 1301 Kilroy.

City Manager Squyres stated the address was 1301 Kilroy and was Ms. Crawford and she was unable to be here tonight due to an illness in the family but what the Variance Board considered was allowing an extension to the building which was three foot from the property line, the north property line near the railroad track which didn't affect any other building, neighbor, etc.. He stated they wanted to add a room to the back of the house and the board had voted unanimously to grant the variance.

A motion was made by Council Member Lee and seconded by Council Member Rivas to approve the Variance Board's recommendation and grant the variance at 1301 Kilroy.

Vote: 3 For 0 Against

2. Council consideration of report and possible action on Water Wells No 2 and No. 4 and amend Capital Outlay Budget in the amount of \$155,000.00.

Public Works Director Kyle Reed stated that on the report they have it tells them a video report that we had on Water Well No. 2 behind the building here. He stated Weisinger

told them about the survey and about 200 ft of the well had caved in, they gave a cost of jetting the well he would not recommend and after talking to the drillers, they would not recommend it either, that the well was drilled in 1949 and you could see the survey, which they could see at city hall and he had actually seen it live and you could see just at that 200 ft. mark just how bad where it had started to deteriorate and it had gotten worse and they believed that it was caved. Kyle called their attention to the estimated cost of \$225,000.00 to bring that well back to production and the specific yield on the well would then be about 500 gallons a minute and in his opinion it just wasn't worth it to the city. He stated that he hated to abandon a well, we had abandoned two here in Jacinto city in the past but if they decided to spend that money there were no guarantees whatsoever and he believed it would be a better expenditure of the city's money to take that well and plug it and there was a cost of \$24,250.00 and the rig was set up back there and it would be in the best interest of the city to bring well No. 4 and make it perfect, and it was running well, we had a survey which he included on page three and four of the report he gave them, that No. 4 was producing more water now than it was in 1999 when he had it rebuilt so we were in good shape from that aspect but the line coming from the well to the water plant was in bad shape, that they fixed two leaks, one Friday and one Saturday. He stated the line needed to be fixed, it was not dependable.

Council Member Lee ask if he was saying that the line needed to be replaced, not repaired.

Mr. Reed advised the line needed to be replaced and he was working on prices with contractors and our engineers had estimated a cost of around \$75.00 per foot and he was thinking that he could get it done a lot cheaper than that, that it was an emergency and he would appreciate Council and City Manager treating it as such. He stated that he had a set of bid documents, nothing fancy, and by invitation only and that way we could get started on the work and he would like to have that work done before school starts over there, that it would be a nightmare when school was in session that the line actually runs in front of the school, west to Flint street and then south to the water plant.

Council Member Rivas stated that he was intrigued when he received this because he had been in the city all of his life and never had to worry about the wells and stuff like that but he did work with a lot of guys that have wells on their property so he went to them and ask questions and he had one gentleman that worked with him who's father did this for a living and he told him that to jet and reline was a gamble, you never know how you are going to end up.

Mr. Reed stated it was actually a bad roll of the dice, that when you spend a quarter of a million dollars of tax payer's money rehabbing something that is in that bad of shape that was not good business in his opinion. Kyle discussed the difference in the wells now compared to when well No. 2 was drilled.

He stated that he did everything that he knew to do to bring to Council and the citizens this recommendation, that he didn't like to abandon water wells. He stated that we would never be back 100% on ground water, maybe at 50% for a while but they wouldn't let you stay at 50% for long and he thought we should follow Weisinger's recommendations and that well survey pretty much tells the story.

City Manager Squyres ask to provide a little further information stating that he ran the numbers on the good well, Well No. 4 over on LaCrosse and if it was pumping, not even at capacity, just an average run for that pump, that within 24 hours it would fill our ground storage tank and our elevated tank, which was pretty good numbers, without a strain. He stated that Mr. Reed said we were never going to be solely on our own water again so we don't need four wells at a time running like we could have many years ago before we were mandated to go to surface water so a well now days is two things, it is a backup in case Houston's water deteriorates in quality, if they issue a boil water notice we would be able to turn on our pumps and pump our water and we wouldn't have to issue the boil water notice, etc. but we would never be solely on dependent on Jacinto City's wells again and so with that in mind, we were not losing the capacity that we think we are. He stated the No. 2 well that we were talking about here in the back currently has an 8" casing so you were looking at a 5" casing instead of an 8" casing so instead of 1000 to 1200 gallons per minute and if we did rebuild it, roll the dice and everything went perfect and they then said give us ¼ of a million to fix it and reline it, the new casing has to be smaller and you would be looking at an 5" casing instead of an 8" casing so instead of 1000 to 1200 gallons a minute we would be looking at 400 to 500 gallons a minute which sounds like a lot of water but it really wasn't, his fire truck could pump four times that and we had fire hydrants in the city that produced more water than that well could ever produce if it was rehabbed and then that was really not rehabbing the total well, its line is still the original line as well, from back in the forties so we don't know if we would have to redo it once we turned on the water and also well No. 2 was not on an emergency generator so you were looking at three things that could go wrong, water line between the water plant and the well, no backup generation and then the wells diminished capacity so it

doesn't appear to be a wise decision to have a well in that condition at this point. He advised that the La Crosse well flows extremely well, better than it has in years, it was much deeper, has a larger capacity and has a generator that could probably power three wells so whatever happens once we replace that waterline we should have adequate water even if the City of Houston shut the valve to us for some reason, on an emergency basis that water well should be able to sustain the city.

Council Member Lee stated that he wanted everybody to be clear on the fact that \$155,000.00 was for both wells, for capping and abandoning one well and also running a new waterline for the other one.

A motion was made by Council Member Rivas and seconded by Council Member Lee that we accept report and action on Water Wells No. 2 and No. 4 and amend the Capital Outlay Budget in the amount of \$155,000.00. Vote: 3 For 0 Against

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Kim Peterson, 11514 Celtis ask what problems would there be for the citizens during the repairs and was advised there should be no problems.

Chief Ayala stated that he just wanted to say something to everyone here, that this man did not get recognized hardly ever and that was Mr. Jim DeFoyd and he wanted to say how he had been an asset to the city, he had been here for several years but he would tell them what, he always thought about the city first in liability and we couldn't ask for a better city attorney than Jim DeFoyd and he would just like to recognize him for an excellent job he had done for this city all these years and he wanted to thank him.

Council Member Robinson ask all the 9 and 10 year District Champion Baseball team to please come up along with their coaches.

Mr. Isaac Menendez, President of the League, ask if he could say a few words, stating that it was his very proud honor to present to them the 2014 10 year old District Champions for Jacinto City and they wanted to come out here and the city ask them to come out and present the banner to the city and hopefully we could find a nice place for this on the JC fields or inside the gym. He introduced the team coach, Mr. Joe Acrey and the 10 year old All Stars. (The team received a standing ovation)

Council Member Robinson stated that he might be wrong but he believed this was the first JC Team to go this far and we were very proud of them.

Mr. Menedez stated this was a great task they did, that a lot of them did play select ball but they had been playing together since they were five and six years old and they had really put their work in and they were only ten so they still had a chance at more championships. He stated they had done a great job and he was really proud of them for the work and dedication they had put in and not only them but also their parents.

He stated that he was also going to talk about another team that was local and made it past the district and not only past the district but to sectionals so they were not only District Champs but also Sectional champions and that was the Galena Park Girls Softball League and a lot of our kids play over there because they want fast pitch where JC was slow pitch and that one of our own girls, Eli Gallo was here and ask that she stand and be recognized and that they also made it to State.

Council Member Robinson suggested that they might want to hang the banner from the ceiling at the gym.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Council Member Rivas reminded everyone that if the mosquitoes bothered them to be sure and give the city a call on that, congratulated the boys of their accomplishment and advised the new bathroom facilities would be in service soon. He stated that on the water well issue, he knew that they thought a lot times that someone like him, who was over Parks and Rec was just going to focus on that one thing but they actually didn't, they get into anything and everything and as a community we try to take care of one another and he appreciated everyone being here tonight.

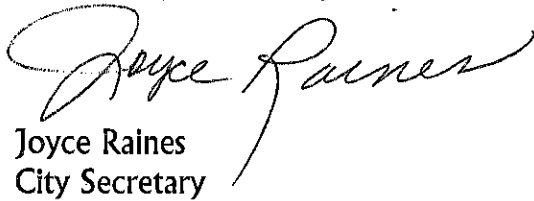
Council Member Robinson stated that he also wanted to thank everyone for being her and he knew the boys, coaches and parents had worked hard for this and also thanked the city employees for looking out for the citizens.

Council Member Lee thanked everyone for being here and supporting them and he agreed with the Chief, it was a really good idea to remind Jim sometimes how much we appreciate him.

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Council Member Robinson 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