

COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2014, 6:00 P.M.

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Thursday, February 27, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Diaz, Council Members Rivas, Robinson. Lee and Gonzales; City Manager Maner, City Attorney DeFoyd and City Secretary Raines. Council Member Garcia arrived after roll call.

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

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

Mayor Diaz called upon the Department Heads for their reports.

Chief Ayala stated that he wanted to make the citizens aware of a couple of incidents that happened in Jacinto Oaks, one was a hit and run and they had both suspects in custody and the other was a couple of motor vehicle break ins and these suspects were also in custody, he ask that anyone seeing suspicious activity please call the police department.

Mayor stated that we had a lot of students here today and she would like to welcome Jacinto City Elementary and she explained to them that the department heads were giving reports from their departments and explained how the council and departments work together.

Chief Squyres advised that the EMS was very busy with the flu epidemic and a lot of accidents and in addition to that the grants were going very well, the single audit was happening now and we were closing out some grants and just a lot of administrative work.

Public Works Director, Kyle Reed, stated that it was brought to his attention that the citizens were receiving a letter for insurance to cover water or sewer lines breaking and we couldn't say don't buy it but he would tell them that it was extremely expensive and that was why they sent it mostly to the seniors. He stated that he had talked to the seniors before at Heritage Hall and this was not a good thing for their buck, that it was extremely expensive, you could fix a water line for \$100.00 and he believed this insurance was \$100 plus a month. He advised that when they got this through the mail, it could have a Jacinto City emblem on it or a City of Houston emblem on it and this was not from the city and they didn't recommend that they purchase this.

He advised that at 3:00 p.m. today they rescinded the boil water notification, that we were under a boil water notice because we had to shut down the water Saturday night and then again Sunday night and that was all in a effort to build the new water system that we were trying to build and anytime we take the 14" line out of service, which was the main line feeding from the water plant, and he was going to have to tell them that this was probably going to have to happen again when we did the same thing in front of the police department and this was going to give us four additional valves on this 14" line and this was to help us isolate parts of the distribution system so that we didn't have to shut it down every time we had a break on the 14" or 8" line. He advised again that the boil notice was lifted and this was a rule from the TCEQ, our watch dog, and that was their recommendation and whether he agreed with it or anyone else agreed with it, that was what we had to do, we did it and now it is rescinded.

Ivan Rojas, Parks and Recreation Director, stated that everything in parks and recreation was going good and he wanted to remind everyone that baseball and softball season was creeping up on us and baseball would be having tryouts tomorrow at 6:00 p.m. for the seven and eight year olds and Saturday at 8:00 a.m. for nine and ten year olds and eleven and twelve year olds and 10:00 a.m. on Saturday morning for thirteen to sixteen year olds and softball would have registration today from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the gym and they would also have tryouts Saturday at 10:00 a.m..

Mayor Diaz ask when was opening day and was advised that it was March 22nd at 10:00 a.m. and the parade would be that day.

Mr. Rojas stated that he would also like to let them know that they received prints for the restroom, he and Kyle had looked over them and issued the order to proceed so we would be getting the restrooms at Wilke Park.

Mayor Diaz stated she thought that deserved a round of applause.

Cindy Miller, Heritage Hall Director, advised that their March calendars were out but she had failed to bring any. The stated they had been very busy and had a very busy March Schedule and went over the upcoming schedule of events. She invited everyone to come by and visit and if they were 60, they could play bingo. She stated that she wanted to thank Jack and Kyle for coming out to advise the seniors about turning the water off. She advised that Heritage Hall was doing great.

Stephanie Orr, Jacinto City Library, advised that their computer class continued to be very popular and Monday was a very important day, that it was Dr. Suess's birthday and at 3:30 P.m. they will be having a party to celebrate his birthday and invited everyone to come and participate.

Kyle Reed thanked Chief Ayala and his department for their help with traffic control while they were working on the water line on Saturday and Sunday.

Mayor Diaz ask Ivan to pass agenda's to the children on the front row, stating that they were the Site Council from Jacinto City Elementary School here to observe the council meeting.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Maner stated that as they could hear from the reports, everything was going well. He stated that we did have a lot of things going on, that it was getting to be a busy season. He advised that Monday the City News Letter would go out in the mail, it would have all the events listed and a lot of information so when you get this in the mail, please open it and read it. He ask that if they had a problem or observed a problem to please make us aware of it. He advised that he didn't always look like he did today but he had a little surgery and was on his way to getting prettier.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Diaz welcomed everyone, and stated again that the Jacinto City Site Council was here today and also welcomed the Girls Scouts and that they would be speaking later in the meeting. She reminded everyone that we did have the Job Fair coming up on March 7th and 8th at the Jacinto City Town Center and if anyone was interested they could go by City Hall and pick up a flyer and it was on the city web site.

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. City Manager Maner advised that the Variance Board met here on Tuesday night and some of the members were here. He stated the application for the variance was made by Ms. Catalina Blanco, who currently operates the beauty shop on the corner of Mercury and Wiggins, for the property located at 1403 Kilroy, which was at the corner of Kilroy and Wiggins and the reason they requested the variance and had to go through the procedure was that property was zoned residential. He stated that the Variance Board could not change the Zoning but they have the authority to recommend to the city council that a specific use permit be granted to the person that has applied for it for that one specific use, not for any other commercial use or anything but that one use, but the board did meet and they voted unanimously that the request be granted.

A motion was made by Council Member Garcia and seconded by Council Member Robinson to approved the Variance Boards' request to grant the variance for a special use permit for a beauty shop at 1403 Kilroy. Vote: 5 For 0 Against

2. Mr. Jim Moore, 4400 Sherry Lane, Crosby, Texas, addressed the Mayor and Council concerning items he addressed at the last council meeting; Lon Squyres' father-in-laws trailer, him asking Mr. Squyres if he had given the trailer to the city and him saying no, so if the trailer had been given to the city, it was after the fact. Mr. Moore discussed what he had to do to the trailer in able to use it for the 4th of July fireworks, after that he took it back to public works and it was never moved for five years and that the trailer had never caught on fire, the one that did was a small trailer that was set up for the fireworks and that was Mike Jackson when he released them to all go off at one time and set off a pretty good explosion and the fire department was there to put out any fire there was.

He stated that in October the Public Works Director decided that he was going to go ahead and put the floor in it, put lights on it, etc., but forgot to put tires on it and therefore, Mayor, that trailer was not used in the Christmas Parade. He stated there were ways you should do this stuff and he was sure, because when he talked to the Chief, nobody had ever told him they burned his trailer up and the same with Mr. Maner, he didn't think he was ever told about that happening so therefore he took it upon himself to go ahead and do it five years later without bringing it up to anybody, he spent city money on somebody else's trailer. Mr. Moore made the statement again that Mr. Reed told him he was going to get that trailer.

Mr. Moore stated there was ways you could do this stuff as far as getting it done and what

he was real concerned about was he thinks that the Chief has give the city the trailer, he wasn't sure but that was after the fact. He stated the other thing was that Mr. Reed brought up the tags and he brought it up to someone else that the tags that belonged on the trailer were thrown away, he guessed he didn't want to get caught with those tags on there and then he put exempt tags on it from the city that belonged on another trailer. He stated that he just wanted to make sure that the record was clear about all that stuff because there was some funny stuff to it and he knew that most of them were probably told to just put a deaf ear to him but there was one thing that he was going to promise them that he was going to do, he was going to continue to come and take care of business until things get taken care of because there was an awful lot of things not going right over there and they knew it. He stated that not one of them had gone out there and ask any employee about that trailer or about anything that had ever gone on out there without confronting them all at one time with the director present and he thought if they wanted to talk to them, they needed to talk to them so they don't feel threatened because he would threaten their jobs, they saw what happened to him. He made some further comments about the trailer.

3. Lt. Mark Longrigg presented the Racial Profiling Report for 2013.

Chief Ayala introduced two new police officers, Eric Sanchez and Sidney Garvey and gave a short bio on each of them.

The Officers were welcomed by the Mayor and Council.

COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:

Donna Dailey, 1701 Chazen, ask about the racial profiling report and Lt. Longrigg explained that it was required by law and how it was complied.

Ms. Dailey stated that from what she understood, that for the next few weeks, at least until election time, we were going to be hearing from Mr. Moore and she just had a question, if all of this was going on five years ago, she believed he was an employee at that time, and he said this was told to him and he never told anybody so it sounds like he might be an accomplice in her opinion. She stated that everything she keeps hearing him bring up, in

her opinion, that he did this and he did that but he never told anybody then he loses his job and now he is talking but he was part of it from what he has said and her question is if something happens, don't you report it at the time or do you wait five years and then report it because you lost your job, it lacks creditability at that time. She stated they keep hearing that they didn't talk to the employees because he knows what they said and too whom and she had a problem with that, if she talked to any of them one on one to please not run and tell Mr. Moore because she didn't think it was any of his business, She stated that as a citizen and as a senior she knew that she got a little tired of hearing things but she was really tired of disgruntled employees, that apparently were part of the problem from their own admission, coming up here pointing fingers because they lost their job and she wished the city could do something about, she knew this was an open forum where they could talk but so far what she had heard from Mr. Moore has had very little creditability because he always seems like he is part of the problem.

Maria Osorio, 10325 N. Lacrosse, stated that the reason she came up here was to actually say that she gave up with her neighbor and she felt like she gave up because she hadn't make any report, that he had done a lot of things one after the other and nothing has been done so she just gave up. She stated that last week she commented to somebody that her neighbor cut her barb wire on her fence again and the cops went over there on Wednesday afternoon and he admitted that he cut them and that he would cut them again so that was the reason she was here because now she had two foreign exchange students in her home. one was from China and one was from Belgium, the students stood up and were recognized, and Ms. Osorio stated they were scared. She stated they had been staying with her since school started and her next door neighbor had stuck out his finger to Jeremy when he was driving by and ask the Mayor what else could she do, that she was here not only for her sake but for her children, that she had six children in her home. She stated that Chief Ayala was going to say this lady always comes up here and talks and talks.

Mayor Diaz advised her to call the Chief when there is a problem and if we have to go every day, we will go every day.

Ms. Osorio stated the fence was grandfather even before she was born and he come in and cuts it and says he can do it and she wants to know why.

Chief Ayala stated that they were going to do everything possible that they need to do, he stated that these incidents occurred on December 14th and January 24th and they just became aware of it Wednesday. He stated that all Sgt. Aguilar was waiting on was the damage estimate in writing and he was going to go down to the District Attorney's office

on a criminal mischief report and that was all they were waiting on and they would go from there.

Mayor Diaz ask if Ms. Osorio was to give them the damage estimate and he advised that she was and Sgt. Aguilar had advised her that he would be gone a few days, he would be back on Saturday, will get in touch with Ms. Osorio and we will do everything possible and he will walk it to the District Attorney and if they give us a warrant, he is going to walk it to the Judge's office and get a warrant in hand and Ms. Osorio will be advised of what occurred.

Mayor Diaz ask Ms. Osorio to please do her part .

Ms. Osorio stated the reason she never called was because of an incident in December where her neighbor took an axe to her and because she told him she wasn't scared of him and they didn't take him in because of procedures they have to follow and she had told him she wasn't scared of him.

Mayor Diaz advised her to not take the law into her own hands, call the police department and let them handle it when the incident occurs, don't wait until the next day or week.

There was discussion about videos of the incidents.

Mayor Diaz welcomed Jacinto City Elementary School Site Council, asking them how they enjoyed the council meeting and if it was what they thought it would be. Mayor Diaz ask the sponsor if she would like to say a few words on the program they were doing. The sponsor stated that this was all new to them and thanked the Mayor and Council for allowing them to come and observe. Mayor Diaz advised the students that if they had any question that she and the council would be available after the meeting and would be happy to answer any questions they might have.

Mayor Diaz welcomed the Girl Scout Troop and ask the Troop Leader if she would like to come up and say a few word on behalf of the Troop and she advised that a member of the Troop had written something herself and would like to present it.

Girl Scout Alia Vega advised that she was part of Troop 2246 and that she would like to start off by thanking them for giving them the opportunity to come and say a few words on behalf of Girl Scouts. She stated that Jacinto City had always been very supportive to

their Girl Scout Troop and they very appreciated it. She stated that Girl Scouts was an organization that girls everywhere should have an opportunity to experience, that Girl Scouts had taught her and her fellow Girl Scout sisters how to build courage, confidence, life and leadership skills and right now they were learning how to build and manage their own cookie business and their troop invited anyone who might be interested in becoming a Girl Scout to join them on Fridays at First Baptist Church in Jacinto City from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.. She ask that everyone please support their business by buying cookies at the end of the meeting.

Mayor Diaz ask that they please support the Girl Scouts and buy cookies after the meeting.

Council Member Garcia stated that the foreign exchange students were introduced by Ms. Osorio and it was not every day that they had foreign exchange students in Jacinto City and welcomed them to our city.

Council Member Rivas welcomed everybody, stating it was good to see all of them. He stated that going back to the down side of this whole meeting, who's trailer, what trailer, where did it go, where did it come from, who repaired it, he was sorry but he could not follow along, that was five year ago and beside that if any of them wanted to sit in the chair here and take a photo they were more than welcome too, it was great sitting here and he loved Girl Scout cookies, he welcomed everybody and stated that tough guys wear pink.

Council Member Robinson welcomed everyone, wished them a good evening and advised the Girl Scouts he would be buying cookies after the meeting.

Council Member Lee thanked everyone for being here, it was a great turnout, he appreciated all of them and he appreciated the fact that Jacinto City Elementary was there viewing the city council meeting and all his respect to the Girl Scouts and they were the cutest Girl Scouts he had seen in a long time.

Council Member Garcia advised the Site Council that this might be their first meeting but don't make it their last, this was where it starts, you come up and speak, we want you to show your leadership skills.

Council Member Gonzales thank everyone for coming out and it was good to see all the

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young people here and he could see from all the guys and girls here there were some future council people here, please keep it up.

Mayor Diaz stated that she had a couple of students ask her questions today and she told them she went to Jacinto City Elementary just like them.

Council Member Robinson advised that he also went there.

City Attorney DeFoyd and City Manager Maner advised that they also went to Jacinto City Elementary.

Council Member Garcia advised that the Fire Chief also raised his hand.

Mayor Diaz adjourned the meeting at 6:50 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,

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

Joyce Raines
City Secretary