

COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY, MAY 23, 2013, 6:00 P.M.

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Thursday, May 23, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Ana Diaz, Council Members Rivas, Lee, Garcia and Gonzales; City Manager Maner, City Attorney DeFoyd and City Secretary Raines.

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

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

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Diaz stated that this past Saturday they attended a Police Officer's appreciation hosted by Representative Hernandez-Luna and it was very nice. She advised that we did have Officers Simpson and Walker there and they looked very good and she wanted to thank Representative Hernandez for putting this event together.

Mayor Diaz advised that Memorial Day was coming up and the pool is ready and will open Saturday from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and would also be open Sunday and Monday from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m..

Mayor Diaz also advised that Pre-School Graduation was tomorrow at 9:00 a.m., it was a lot of fun, they got to wear caps and gowns.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Maner advised that things were going well and we would hear from the department heads on how things were going in their departments. He stated that he just wanted to remind everyone that it was Memorial Day weekend and cautioned them to be especially safe because there would be a lot kids out running around and a lot of traffic and summer time was here, it was 90 degrees.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Lt. Longrigg stated that there were a couple of things he wanted to let everybody know, and the Mayor had already reported on one of them, that Simpson and walker were doing pretty good, they were home and recovering and they would appreciate everyone keeping up their Prayers. He stated that they were just recently recognized by Resolutions by a couple of people for their bravery, State Representative Ana Hernandez-Luna and State Senator Sylvia Garcia and Congress Member Shelia Jackson Lee and they were also

recently invited to the Jacinto City/Galena Park Rotary Club and recognized there as well and they appreciate everybody's thoughts and prayers and we continue to hope that they make a good recovery.

He advised that nothing major was going on with the police department and if anyone has any issues they can call Chief Ayala or him. He stated that he would still like to impress on everyone that they have the CLICK It or TICKET going on which started May 20th through June 2nd and police officers in Jacinto City were making a concerted effort to strictly enforce seat belt violations for the safety of the city and everybody going through the city. He wished everyone a safe Memorial Day weekend.

Chief Squyres stated there was very little going on, it was coming around to CDBG Grant time and it was time to start that process again. He stated we were wrapping up some initial IKE grants and before long we would actually be going out for bids for the pipe bursting on the Round 2.2, the business side of it was very busy.

Kyle Reed, Public Works Director, advised that the tire roundup last week went well, 319 tires were pickup up from the city and that was going to help us a lot. He stated we were in mosquito season and he has had calls from a couple of council people and there were rules that they had to follow with that mosquito machine and right now they were having to have some testing done on it and they hoped to have it done tomorrow so they could spray a little Saturday. He stated that Mr. Perez just got out of school, that he sent him to Harris County and TCEQ has officially taken over, they are now the watchdogs for Harris County, that we had always followed the rules but we had to be extra careful now. He stated that he had not had a lot of complaints and if you did have a mosquito complaint to call public works and they would try to spray as quick as they could and hopefully they could be spraying this weekend, that they were really not that bad until you got over by the ball park and they seemed to be real bad over there. He stated that he wanted to ask the citizens to please keep their yards mowed, buckets of water picked up, drain anything holding water and also swimming pools, if you were not circulating the water or chlorinating it you were in violation of the city ordinance and you were hurting us on mosquitoes. He stated that Burley was the one that watched out for that and did a really good job but if they see a place to please call them and report it because this season was expected to be bad.

Ivan Rojas, Parks and Recreation Director, stated that like the Mayor said, they would be open this weekend for Memorial Day weekend and that also today they added some ADA Equipment and he knew there were a lot of disabled people that would like to get in the pool and now they would be able to get in the pool, to come out and they would show them how to use the machines. He also advised that they would be having swimming

lesson this summer which start on June 10th and they are registering now and they could come by the gym and register anytime. He advised that there was Senior Swim from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays and they would have Tuesdays and Thursdays senior aerobics in the water from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m..

Cindy Miller, Heritage Hall Director, reported that May was Older American's Month and today they had their Older American party and Councilman Lee donated a box from Family Dollar about six months ago, they pulled the box out and they had Heritage Hall all decorated in red, white and blue and she had enough flags, and they were pretty good flags, and every senior there receive flags and they actually clapped, they were so excited over these flags and she thanked Council Member Lee for thinking of them, it really made their day so sometime it was not the big things but the little things that you do.

Cindy advised that tomorrow they were going to George R. Brown Convention Center, they were going to the Age Well, Live Well put on by Harris County Area on Ageing and on Tuesday they would have cookie bingo, Wednesday was line dancing and Thursday was bean bag baseball and the women's team had challenged the men's team and the 31st was the monthly birthday party and that the June Calendar was out to be sure and check it for all the events.

Mayor Diaz explained what the cookie bingo was and how it was played.

Stephanie Orr, Jacinto City Library, advised that the week after Memorial Day they would be kicking off the Summer Reading Program and it would run June 1st through August 10th and kids and adults could start coming in to sign up and programs would be starting that week as well.

Mayor Diaz stated that she forgot to mention one thing, we were having our Jacinto City Baseball All Stars in action right now and these five and six year olds were awesome, they had a good team. She ask Nicholas Diaz and Jose Ramirez to stand up and come to the front, stating these were two of the baseball players on the All Stars. Mayor Diaz stated that the first week of June they would be having their first all star game and encouraged everyone to come out and support the JC All Stars.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Mayor Diaz stated the first item was to receive and award bids on the overlay of LaCrosse Street from Verano East to Holland Avenue.

City Manager advised the Mayor that we received three bids and he would be opening them at this time:

El Dorado Paving Co., Inc.	\$48,869.75
AAA Asphalt Paving Inc.	\$59,490.00
Huff & Mitchell, Inc.	\$49,865.00

City Manager Maner stated that he would recommend that the Council let the City Attorney, himself and the Public Works Director look over the bid and authorize the bid be awarded to the low bidder that meets the qualifications.

A motion was made by Council Member Lee and seconded by Council Member Gonzales to authorize the City Attorney, City Manager and Public Works Director to review the bids and award to the low bidder that meets the qualifications. Vote: 4 For 0 Against

2. Mayor Diaz stated the 2nd item on Unfinished Business was Council to receive and Award bids on sell of surplus vehicles:

City Manager Maner opened and read the following bids:

2003 Ford Crown Vic. – Vin No. 2008

E. Macias	\$ 500.00
Ismael Palma	\$1,000.00
Z. Redmond	\$ 500.00
Cristobal Cortez	\$ 780.00
Terrell Moore	\$1,000.00

There was general discussion on what to do about the two \$1,000.00 bids.

It was decided to contact both bidders and see if they would be willing to determine the winner by a coin toss and the City Attorney advised they could do this.

2003 Ford Crown Vic. – Vin. No. 1994

Margie Patterson	\$ 525.01
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A motion was made by Council Member Garcia and seconded by Council Member Gonzales to award the bid to the two individual that are tied with a bid of \$1,000.00 and talk to both of them to see if they would be willing to flip a coin or come to a

compromise agreement with each other and to award the bid on Vin. No. 1994 in the amount of \$525.01 to Ms. Margie Patterson. Vote: 4 For 0 Against

City Manager Maner stated that we had three bids on the pickup.

1997 Ford Pickup – Vin. No. 4221

Connie Dickerson	\$ 800.00
Ismael Palma	\$1,100.00
Margie Patterson	\$ 525.01

A motion was made by Council Member Lee and seconded by Council Member Rivas to award the bid to the high bidder, Mr. Ismael Palma at \$1,100.00. Vote: 4 For 0 Against

3. A motion was made by Council Member Rivas and seconded by Council Member Garcia to approve the second and final reading of Ordinance 2013-7 Setting the Salary for the Mayor and Council. Vote: 4 For 0 Against

Mayor Diaz advise that the salary for the Mayor and Council was not raised , it remained the same.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Mayor Diaz advised that the first item under new business was for council to appoint a member to serve the remaining year term of Council Position 2 and ask Ms. Dailey if she had something she wanted to say.

Donna Dailey, 1701 Chazen, ask if before they go on with this was it all right if some of the citizens gave their views.

Mayor Diaz ask the council if they had a problem with allowing them to speak, that it was in the Charter that we allow them to speak. The Council had no problem with allowing them to speak.

Ms. Dailey stated that she knew that we had a lot of great workers in the city and a lot of people go above and beyond. She stated that she hoped that they thought hard and long about having LaGloria in this position and the reason why; our city needs to be represented by everyone, we have Hispanics, we have Whites and she thinks for cultural

diversity it was time to go another. She stated that she could remember when there was no women here and now there are and that was one reason but not just because of color. She stated that LaGloria works with seniors all the time down at Big Bass so she knows what the seniors need and she had also worked with IRS, she was a very smart lady and she had helped a lot of people in this town do a lot of different jobs, she doesn't ask for anything and she had not ask her to come up here. Ms. Dailey stated that she didn't represent anybody except for herself, when she was standing up here, this was Donna Dailey talking, she was not talking about Heritage Hall although she was a member of Heritage Hall and somebody must have misunderstood when she said that as a member of Heritage Hall she would like to see LaGloria and as a member of Heritage Hall she would, she was not speaking for Heritage Hall, she was speaking as a member of Heritage Hall. She stated that it was nice to have somebody that is here during the day that can actually be very active and she is in that position that she can be, she wouldn't be just a council person in name only, she would be very active. Ms. Dailey stated that the thing that concerned her and she knew all of them so she was not say that any of them were even thinking this way but it did concern her, that we used to have what she called Ochoaville and now how many of them are tied with the Independent School District, we had Mario's wife, we had Carmela, we had Ana and Gregg's wife, it could appear that we are getting a block there and she wanted to see everybody equally represented from one end of our town clear to the other, everybody to have representation so that was another reason she would like to see her. She stated we have a lot of people that are interested in the position, Mr. Robinson and she was sure he would do a fine job but she knew that he worked all day and LaGloria was where she could give us time. She stated that Roger Matheny had talked about being interested in it and when she spoke to him he said he would even understand LaGloria having more time and she didn't know who else they had in mind but she thought that if we looked to see how much Big Bass has done as a part of Jacinto city and being seniors and knowing different people that could help us, different representation of the Government, she would just like to throw her name in the hat and hope that they vote for the best person not just a friend.

Nancy Gosney, stated first of all, Roger andPork Chop was the other candidate and of course Gregg and LaGloria and she personally wanted to remind everybody for the last 15 years we either had a retired person in there or a woman who was a lifelong career housewife, mother and everything else and these women devoted themselves for the last 15 years at the senior's beck and call, they spoiled our seniors and we really needed to consider our seniors in this, this was their councilman, our representation for our government and that is one thing she has a fear of, forgetting our seniors over there. She stated throughout the day when they are awake, they go to bed at 6:00, 7:00 or 8:00 p.m. but anyway that was just something to think about.

Council Member Garcia said she had her speech again, the same speech she gave a few months back and we all take an Oath when we get into office so again she would repeat, that it was not directed to any of the four members that volunteered. She Stated that when she took office two years ago, she took an Oath, that each of them on the council take when we accept this position, not to accept or receive direct or indirectly any money or valuable thing from any corporation, company or person for any vote of influence and they had also accepted to faithfully discharge the duties of our said offices to the best of our skills and judgment; with this thought in mind the decision we have to make as a council is to fill the remaining unexpired term for Position 2. She stated the decision was on the council to agree upon who would be the person qualified as described in our City Charter. She stated the position requires someone who could carry out the duties of Council Position 2 which basically entails working with all of the citizens as Donna stated, but not only that, it is also very important that this person works with staff members of the city and does what is best in representation for the city, but this person also serves as liaison for the senior citizens. She stated that some of the desired qualities of the councilman would include being an independent thinker, this person must be able to make wise decisions on their own to the best of their ability, able to communicate and get along with council, city officials and most importantly all the citizens, it is not just one particular person or individual, this person must be knowledgeable and able to make wise decisions on what is best for our city at our city meetings and seeking advice from our city attorney when necessary. She stated this person must not be afraid to ask questions and leadership experience was not a requirement in considering a nominee for this position but leadership qualities are a must; work ethics, this person must be willing and dedicated to serving the community with their hearts when called upon, they must also be responsible for their actions and have integrity which mean honesty, fairness, doing what is morally right and being non-judgmental; open minded, this person nominated must be impartial and be willing to listen to all sides of an issue before providing valuable information to the council. She stated that she graciously wanted to thank each of the four that had volunteered for stepping up to the plate when this position became available. She ask Pork Chop, Roger Matheny, LaGloria and Gregg Robinson to stand and she gave a short resume on things they do in and for the city and that all four of them possess qualities that would make them just the right person but as they could see, there was only one chair and it was not an easy decision to make because they knew all four of them.

Mayor Diaz stated that it was not just Heritage Hall Seniors, there were other responsibilities, they also take care of city hall and they would also be doing the Toys For Tots, the Food Baskets, Easter Eggs, there was a lot more stuff so just don't make it a point that it was just Heritage Hall.

Council Member Garcia stated that all four people volunteered for Position 2, they all possess a lot of these qualities and tonight they had to select the best person to the best of

their skill and judgment and there was only one seat available and to just know that it was only temporary for a year and in March, if they really want to run for that position, it will be on the ballot next May.

Donna Dailey stated that since they had listed all of those things the person had to do, in her opinion, it only made sense to have somebody who has time to do it, LaGloria.

Council Member Garcia stated that one thing about the council also was that they were available 24/7. It was not just a day time job or afternoon job, she had found herself at the police station at midnight so it was not just daytime, we have to make ourselves available at what ever time we are needed.

Council Member Lee stated that we are a small town and obviously we do work together and everybody on council wants to work for all departments and all people and wants to do what is best for the town and the larger number of people and not just one group and he would like to add that we don't ever consider race when they do something like that and they never would and no one on this council ever has as far as he knows and everybody he knows on this council is willing to work for everybody and be generous and he thinks that it has been proven time and again that when chips are down, we come together, we might not always agree but we work together and that was what they were looking for, someone who could do that.

Council Member Gonzales stated that he would like to add to that, that Mr. Lee hit on some good points but we have to remember that this Position 2 is not limited just to Heritage Hall as Ana mentioned, it goes beyond that but also on the other hand, the remaining council members are not limited to what they are liaisons for, they were all involved with all of these departments and we all share that common bond to help the citizens of Jacinto City and that is what we intend to do, work together.

Council Member Rivas stated that he gets around, that the town is always here, people change so he does things for the people, he didn't know too much about the town, he tried to take care of them.

Mayor Diaz ask for a motion to appoint a member to serve the remaining year term of Council Position 2.

Council Member Rivas nominated LaGloria Sephus.

The motion died for lack of a second.

Council Member Gonzales stated that he would like to nominate Mr. Robinson for Position 2. The motion was seconded by Council Member Lee. Vote: 3 For 1 Against (Rivas)

Mayor Diaz welcomed Mr. Gregg Robinson to Position 2.

The Oath of Office was administered to Mr. Robinson by City Secretary Raines.

1. Mayor Diaz stated the next item on the agenda was Council to Change June 27th Council meeting to Tuesday, June 25th due to Harris County Mayors and Council's Association meeting.

A motion was made by Council Member Lee and seconded by Council Member Garcia to change the June 27th council meeting to Tuesday, June 25th due to Harris County Mayors' and Council's Association meeting. Vote: 5 For 0 Against

COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:

Ms. Nancy Gosney advised that, as of today, Mr. Larry Schion had been released from the hospital and was home.

The President, Vice President, Secretary and Parliamentarian, from the League of United Latin Americans Citizens which was a program at Galena Park High School and residents from Jacinto City and Galena Park were members for the youth council and this was the first year they had been able to bring the program back to their school, they had it but it kinda fell and this was their first year to pick it back up. She gave some information about the program and the area that it covered. She advised that this June they would be attending a convention in Los Vegas so they were asking for donations and asking if they could possible set up a can or something at city hall for residents to donate, they were going to represent this area so they would like and appreciate their support.

Mayor Diaz stated that they forgot to mention that they were having a car wash.

The President advised that they were having a car wash this Sunday at Auto Zone on Federal.

Mayor Diaz stated that she wanted to say a few things about these students, that when she calls them and she needs their help, any event that we have here in the city, they are here to help us, they were here to help at Easter as well as the Halloween Festival, that anything she needs she call them and they are here and ask that we please do the best that we can to support them and she would like to make a \$20.00 donation.

Members of the Council and audience made donations to the organization.

They thanked everyone for the donations and stated they were available at any time to help and that they volunteer at the Houston Food Bank and other activities as well.

Mayor Diaz stated they were representing our city so please do what they could to help them out.

Robert Hernandez ask if we had any active or former military in the audience and ask them to please stand and thanked them for their service. Mr. Hernandez stated that Monday was Memorial Day and Memorial Day to him was a day with special meaning. He stated that we have military men and women that face death every day and Memorial Day was the one day a year that we remember and honor those that gave up their lives so that we could remain free to vote, voice our opinion, own guns and enjoy other rights and benefits given us by the United States Constitution. He stated these heroes had given their lives for our country for over 230 years and on behalf of his family, friends and fellow residents of Jacinto City he says thank you for a job well done and thank them for protecting his freedom and allowing him to pursue the American dream, God bless America.

City Manager Maner stated that he forgot to mention that Saturday at noon, the Masonic Lodge was presenting an award to Damus and ask Mr. Berry for details.

Mr. Berry advised that the Galena Park Lodge at 603 Baca, was giving a Community Builder Award which was the only award the Masons give out to a non-Mason and they were going to give it to Damus Garey for his years of service to the city and around the city and it started at 12:00 noon, that the meal would be first and then afterward the award ceremony.

Mayor Diaz ask everyone to please show up and show support because Damus had done a lot and also Jean Garey, they had both done a lot for our city, lets pack the house for Damus and Jean if we can.

Ms. Marie Berry stated that would be nice but she would like to know about how many to provide food for.

Council Member Garcia ask that they continue to call if the mosquitoes were running crazy around the city, call public works and pass that word along to family and friends.

Kyle Reed stated that he wanted to reiterate what he said about the mosquitoes, it was going to be a terrible year and he know that we have a problem. He stated that we have

always followed the rules but the TCEQ has taken over this thing and we have to be very careful, we were not going to be able to spray more than three times a week even if there is a crises and so every night for eight hours a night we can't spray for mosquitoes, We can only do what the State allows us to do.

Council Member Gonzales stated that if you violate those laws, there was hefty fines involved with TCEQ.

Council Member Lee wished everyone a Happy Memorial Day and to be safe and if they got hungry on Saturday, Calvary Baptist was having a picnic at Wilke Park, they could come eat a burger and then go see Damus.

Council Member Rivas wished everyone a Happy Memorial Day.

Council Member Robinson thank everybody, and that he was looking forward to working with them and we had a long year ahead of us.

Mayor Diaz adjourned the meeting at 7:00 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