

COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2013, 6:00 P.M.

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Thursday, April 25, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Robinson, Council Members Rivas, Diaz, Lee, Garcia and Gonzales; City Manager Maner and City Secretary Raines. City Attorney DeFoyd absent to Shrine Hospital Board Meeting.

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

A motion was made by Council Member Lee and seconded by Council Member Rivas to approved the minutes for the March 26th Workshop, the March 28th Council Meeting and the April 11th Council Meeting. Vote: 5 For 0 Against

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Chief Ayala reported that Officers Walker and Simpson were improving. He advised that they had been downtown in court today, that some time ago a child, here in the city, had been injured and passed away from those injuries and that the boyfriend of the mother had been found guilty and given life. He also advised that on Friday night we had a burglary at Ralston Liquor on Market Street and thanks to a good job by our police department and Houston Police Department we were able to apprehend all four suspects.

Chief Ayala stated that he was very proud to be an American and knew that everyone here was as well.

Chief Squyres stated that Harris County notified him that we had the largest hazardous waste collection ever and thanked the North Shore ROTC for handling all the tires for them and that we might get funding for another drop off this year.

Kyle Reed, Public Works Director, reported that they had 151 people come through the rabies clinic and they gave away copies of the city's new dog waste ordinance and container for picking up after your dogs. He stated that they had been talking with people around the parks and it seem to be working good.

Mr. Reed discussed the shopping cart ordinance and stated that it seem to be working as well.

Ivan Rojas, Parks and Recreation Director, advised that all was good at the parks, they were busy getting the pool ready and advised that this year they would have a pool lift for anyone needing this. Ivan ask that if there were any problems to please call them.

Cindy Miller, Heritage Hall Director, stated that Senior Olympics would start on April 29th and go through May 3rd and invited anyone over the age of 60 to come out and join them. She advised that they had line dancing classes coming up and went over the calendar for May.

Stephanie Orr, Jacinto City Library, stated that they were very busy and that in May they would be starting a 2nd ESL class and were working on summer programs.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Robinson advised that he, Councilman Rivas, Lon Squyres and Ivan met with both Presidents of the Little League on some issues they had and they seem to be happy with the way things are going and we looking at some other things with them.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Maner stated that like he always says, things are going well and if they know something that needs attention please give us a call but everything was going well in the city as you could tell by the reports they just gave.

Mayor Robinson ask all the board members to please stand and be acknowledged and thanked them for their service.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. A motion was made by council Member Rivas and seconded by Council Member Garcia to approved Ordinance 2013-6 Repealing Sec. 9-200, Chapter 11, Servants Quarters on the second and final reading. Vote: 5 For 0 Against

NEW BUSINESS:

1. City Manager Maner advised that on April 13th the Variance Board met at the Request of Ms. Brenda DeLeon and Maria Garcia requesting a variance to allow changing the setback line to a business located at 1208 Holland Avenue, they presented their case, the board had some questions but the end result was the board voted unanimously to recommend to the City Council that this variance be permitted.

Mayor Robinson ask if the Council had any questions or discussion.

Council Member Rivas stated he thought they reviewed the material that was brought forth and he thought that it was going to be nothing but an improvement, the building get a new exterior and would have a new look, he explained the parking situation, stating that the double parking would go away, there would be room for handicap parking and from what he was understanding the dumpster would be behind a fence and they were keeping the trash picked up and he thought it was a good thing all the way around.

A motion was made by Council Member Garcia and seconded by Council Member Diaz to accept the recommendation of the Variance Board at 1208 Holland Avenue and allow the setback as requested. Vote: 5 For 0 Against

2. A motion was made by Council Member Garcia and seconded by Council Member Gonzales to authorize advertising for bids to overlay Lacrosse Street from Verano East to Holland Ave. with bids due back on May 23, 2013. Vote: 5 For 0 Against

3. A motion was made by Council Member Lee and seconded by Council Member Garcia to authorize advertising for bids to sell surplus equipment; (2) 2003 Ford Crown Vic police units and (1) 1997 Ford pickup with minimum bids on police units at \$500.00 each and the minimum bid on the pickup at \$300.00 with bids due back on May 23, 2013. Vote: 5 For 0 Against

4. Chief Ayala stated that he would like to make a recommendation that we hire both David Reyes for a full time position and Benjamin Martinez as a police reserve. He stated they both had graduated from the University of Houston Criminal Justice Department, 2011 and 2012 graduates, and they are very much interested in working here for the city and he has already checked everything and they do qualify.

Chief Ayala introduced David Reyes, his wife, son and mother and ask Mr. Reyes if he would like to say something.

Mr. Reyes stated that he would like to thank the Chief for putting up with him, that he must have called him at least twice a week asking him how the process was going. He thanked Mr. Maner, Mr. Robinson and the City Council for hiring him, stating that he would do the best job he could for the city and thanked them again.

Chief Ayala stated that Benjamin Martinez was a high school teacher at Sam Houston High School Auto Mechanics and has been with the district for eight years.

Mr. Martinez stated that he wanted to thank them for the opportunity he was being given,

that he had grown up in Jacinto City with his cousins and it was the first and only place that he applied for after graduating from the University of Houston and he wants to do a good job for the city and build a better future.

A motion was made by Council Member Lee and seconded by Council Member Garcia to confirm David Reyes as a full time police officer and Benjamin Martinez as a reserve police officer. Vote: 5 For 0 Against

Mayor Robinson administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Reyes and Mr. Martinez.

5. City to Terminate Agreement with Coastal Securities for Financial Advisory Services for the City of Jacinto City.

City Manager Maner advised that Jim DeFoyd, Lon and he had been in talks with these folks for some time and Coastal Securities was the firm that Jim Gilley works for, who has been our financial advisor for many years, we were very pleased with his services and he has just recently left the employment of Coastal Securities and gone with another firm and in all honesty, he had been our personal financial advisor, not the firm and we would like to terminate the agreement with this firm and go with the firm that Mr. Gilley went to and we would do that after we have given them a 30 day notice to terminate the contract with them, he stated that they had all been over this and recommend it.

A motion was made by Council Member Rivas and seconded by Council Member Diaz to terminate the agreement with Coastal Securities for financial advisory services for the City of Jacinto City. Vote: 5 For 0 Against

6. Mr. Larry Schion was not present to address the Mayor and Council.

7. Ms. Theresa Rodriguez was not present to address the Mayor and Council.

Kyle Reed, Public Works Director ask to be allowed to comment on the issue Ms. Rodriguez had put on the agenda, stating there were a lot of people in Jacinto City that needed trees cut because they are scared of the trees being in the light wires and he and Ms. Raines had contacted Center Point and they had been told that there was more top priority things for the light company and the same thing behind the sewer plant, he stated that we took care of our business behind the sewer plant, they hadn't had a chance to mow it like it should be because we have had a lot of rain and it was a lake back there , that he did have them go back behind the sewer plant and mow some yesterday but just to go and cut trees because somebody wants it, we don't have the man power or the

equipment and they were going to take care of the business back there, he wasn't going to let a tree on our property cause harm to anybody. He stated that he was sorry that Ms. Rodriguez wasn't here but that was the facts and he invited anyone that would like to come visit and he had some pictures that Councilman Gonzales has and again invited them to visit the sewer plant and he would take them back and show them.

City Manager Maner stated that he would point out that he knew it said on the agenda and that was what it said because that was what the lady called and had Joyce put on the agenda but this tree was not a dead tree and ask Kyle if that was right. Mr. Reed stated there were some dead limbs but it was not a dead tree, that he had told him there were a couple of dead pine tree they were going to take out or get someone to take them out but it was still to wet.

COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:

Ms. Lorna Macal, Director of Missions at Second Baptist Church invited everyone to join them for their annual National Day of Prayer Breakfast at 2nd Baptist Church on May 2, 2013 from 8:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m., advising that this years theme was Pray for America. She advised that songs would be led by Councilman Bro. Lee and she encourage everyone to come out and enjoy the fellowship.

Council Member Garcia stated that she had a visitor yesterday who worked for Harris County Public Health and Environmental services and if you went by city hall you would see a flyer and what they do is free lead inspections and there were some flyers that had been put out at city hall, she would like for Stephanie to take some to the library and Cindy to take some to Heritage Hall. She stated that the lady that gave her this information couldn't be here with us today and she read a letter advising what the program was about, that Harris County was providing a program for low income families that were residing in houses built before 1978 and went on to give what the requirement to qualify were and the flyer was in English and Spanish and the program was free for those that qualified.

Council Member Garcia stated that she would also like to thank Kyle and his department for the rabies clinic, the public works guys had everything set up and were very nice to the people coming up to them and everything was well organized.

Council Member Diaz stated that she wanted to welcome the blue house, they had just arrived and stated that she had also received a letter from Our Lady of Fatima and they were having their International Festival this Sunday at the Lady of Fatima parking lot and they were having a lot of entertainment and activities, that it didn't say what time but she was guessing right after church and encourage everyone to go out and support the festival.

Council Member Gonzales welcomed Mr. Reyes and Mr. Martinez to our police department and they would find out they had a fair boss that was going to take care of them.

Council Member Lee stated that he too appreciated the public works department and Kyle had been out of town for a few days and while making his rounds he had noticed that they were all working very hard and he was really proud of them, that he sent Kyle a text saying they were doing a great job that he didn't know what he said to them before he left but they were doing a great job and he would like to also welcome our new police officers.

Council Member Rivas welcomed the new officers and ask the Chief if the police cars that were being sold were running and was advised that they were both running. Mr. Rivas ask Kyle if the truck was running and was advised that it did.

Council Member Rivas stated that he had said man power and he knew that there were a lot of guys that worked for him but was he saying that none of those guys were qualified to climb a tree to be able to do that and we would have to hire someone that has those qualifications.

Mr. Reed replied that we were not set up to do this safely.

Mayor Robinson adjourned the meeting at 6:40 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,



Joyce Raines
City Secretary