

SPECIAL SESSION, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2011, 5:30 P.M.

The Mayor and City Council met in Special Session on Thursday, September 8, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. for a public hearing on the proposed budget for FY 2011/2012 with the following members present: Mayor Nunez, Council Members Diaz, Garcia and Gonzalez; City Manager Maner, City Attorney DeFoyd and City Secretary Raines. Council Members Ochoa and Lee absent.

City Manager Maner went over the proposed budget stating that it was a balance budget and that it contained both good and bad news. The good news was that it contained no tax increase and was calculated assuming the tax rate would be set at the effective tax rate and explained what the effective tax rate was and that it did not anticipate a water or sewer rate increase but as he had stated previously, he believed an increase was inevitable in the future; there were no employee layoffs or reduction in benefits and it provided a 2% raise for full time employees with one exception. He stated the proposed budget would allow the city to continue to provide the current level of services to its citizens. He stated the bad news was that it didn't contain any capital improvement expenditures, that it was basically a maintenance budget, it provided no raise for part-time employees and required that current unfilled positions remain unfilled. He stated that we would be looking at raising some user fees in an effort to increase revenue.

City Manager Maner went over the proposed income and expenditures for the General Fund, Water Fund and Debt Service Fund, stating again that this was a balanced budget and the city was in good financial conditions as the auditors had stated in their recent report.

City Manager Maner opened the floor for questions from the audience and Mayor and Council.

Larry Schion, 506 Harecook Road, Crosby, Texas stated that the Mayor and Council has always made the city run good and he feels they will look out for the city's money and will take care of the city.

Mayor Nunez stated she thought the city manager had done a good job with the budget and was very happy to see that we would have no employee layoffs.

Mr. H. G. Wooten commented on the condition of the roads in the city. There was discussion on the effect the drought conditions have had on the roads as well as the number of water leaks that we have experienced.

City Manager Maner stated that he thought Mr. Wooten would agree with him that we operate the city with a minimum of personnel and that meant that we expected our employees to work and they do and they do a good job, but we don't have a lot of fat

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and he was very proud of that, we had about 18 or 20 fewer employees than our sister city, which is the same size and roughly the same budget and he was proud that we were able to do that.

There was general discussion on the conditions of the streets and City Manager Maner advised that the Mayor was aware of this, that he and the Mayor had both been talking with our County Commissioner and his staff and they anticipate some help on the road situation from the County during the coming year.

Council Member Garcia ask if she heard this right, that he mentioned that all the full time employees got a 2% increase with the exception of one, that she didn't know if she should ask or not but that one exception, was there a reason, or who that may be, that she didn't know if he could answer that.

City Manager Maner stated it was just a token that he felt like doing.

Mayor Nunez stated she know what she was referring to and they would say that in a regular meeting.

Mayor Nunez adjourned the meeting at 5:50 p.m.

#### COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2011, 6:00 P.M.

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Thursday, September 8, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Nunez, Council Members Ochoa, Diaz, Garcia and Gonzales; City Manager Maner, City Attorney DeFoyd and City Secretary Raines. Council Member Lee absent.

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

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

Mayor Nunez called upon the Department Heads for their reports.

Chief Ayala stated they were working on National Night Out, at this time they have eight parties and he will have a list of the locations at the next council meeting.

Chief Squyres apologized for being late, advising that we had a truck come through the city and dumped fuel from one end to the other continuing to the Port of Houston

delivering fuel to a Ship so they were able to identify them and would be having a conversation with them tomorrow. He stated that he thought everybody know that we were going through a process with the trailer court, after the fire that brought it to everybody attention that we need to address the issue, we had a nice meeting with several renters from there and it seem to be working itself out, he had met earlier today with the owner and it all seem to be falling into place.

Kim Bellotte, Parks and Recreation Director advised that they had been working on preschool a lot, that they had about 80 children enrolled this year where we usually have about 50 or 60, they have several new teachers down there and would like for everyone to come by and meet them. The new teachers are doing a great job and they are getting good reports from the parents.

Cindy Miller, Heritage Hall Director reported that that the September calendar was out and it was also on the city's website, that they had flue shoots today and tomorrow they were going to be on the Debra Duncan Show. She went over the upcoming events on the Calendar.

Mayor Nunez ask about the party for Rose Springs and Cindy advised that Frankie Haney had hosted a party for Rose today. Mayor Nunez stated that Rose used to be our Presiding Judge for 229 for a long time, that she was moving and we were really going to miss her, that she had been a dedicated precinct judge and City Manager Maner advised that she was also a long time volunteer and she would be missed.

Rose, Jacinto City Library, reported that work was going smooth on the renovations at the library and it may be ready earlier than projected. She stated they were enjoying working at the gym and she was happy to be at the meeting.

#### MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Nunez stated that Lon was talking about the trailer parks on Lane and Holland, that about three weeks ago, she was here and had about ten people waiting to see her and she and Lon talked to them; they had gotten an eviction notice, 30 days to move out, which of course was not enough time for these people so what they did was get the owner of the trailer park give these people an extension and then last Wednesday we had about 70 or so People from the trailer park meet and everything went well, Mr. Hicks was here, and extension was given to these people until December 31<sup>st</sup> . She stated that if Mr. Hicks did not correct the violations, they will start giving citations but she understood that the trailers

on Holland were going to be moved and ask Lon to correct this if she was wrong, and also some of the trailers on Lane Street so they were going to be seeing a big change in the trailer parks there, she thinks for the better and it should have been done a long time ago, that she was sorry for those people that were going to have to move. She stated they had the inspectors there to answer questions and we were even going to have the inspectors go out and do the first inspections for them and we were going to try to help them because they are in a situation, they have enrolled their children in school, but the owner did agree, along with the city to give him a temporary permit and then after December 31<sup>st</sup> any violation will be given citations and she thinks that the city will be looking much better. She stated the meeting lasted about two hours and she appreciated all the help and what we can do for our citizens means a lot, especially to these people who have small children.

Mayor Nunez stated that yesterday she went to the Galena Park/Jacinto City Rotary and Commissioner Morman was there and he advised her that the current projects in Jacinto City were: they were going to do in place concrete repair on Market Street and restriping, She ask Jim Moore what this was and he advised that they had already started this down on Market Street, that they put concrete instead of asphalt in the area to be repaired. She stated the second thing was they were looking into was resurfacing and restriping Kerby Street from Wiggins street south to Lane Street and concrete sidewalks along Holland Avenue on the west right away from Wiggins south of Lane Street and this was something that he brought about and presented to the other Commissioners. She stated this gentleman was going to work with us, he was going to be a good friend to the community and she thinks that if we bring projects to him, he will work with us. She reminded everyone that on September 21<sup>st</sup> from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Jacinto City Town Center there will be a Meet and Greet Commissioner Morman, please try to be there, we need to show that we are supporting him, that we want to meet him and that we are going to need him to help us with other projects in the city and he said there were other projects in the future that he was going to try to do for Jacinto City. She stated he was the speaker at the event and he announced this during his speech.

Mayor Nunez stated that she attended Fiestas Patrias, a 40 year organization, and the distinguished Hispanic award was presented to Judge Richard Vara. She stated there were representative from different areas and she and Joe Ayala were invited from here.

#### CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Maner stated that they had heard the reports from the department heads and that things were going well in the city. He advised that the City Newsletter would be going out and it would have all the upcoming events in it, that it usually goes out in October but he was getting it out in September this year for one particular reason and he wanted to make that announcement again tonight. He advised that beginning October 3<sup>rd</sup>,

The Harris County Tax office would begin collecting taxes for the City of Jacinto City, they would no longer pay them at city hall, they would be on their Harris County tax bill along with various others and you could pay them at a branch office, you can pay them by mail, on line, you could pay them with a credit card, that it would actually be easier for our citizens except for the fact that we won't be able to accept them at city hall but other than that, it was going to be a benefit for everyone involved and it was actually going to save the city money in the collection process because they collect taxes for such a wide area that they can do it much cheaper than we can, we were forced into this because the company that we had used for ever to do our tax services just went out of that business so we had to make this arrangement which is going to be beneficial for the city and its citizens. He ask everyone to please read the newsletter when they get it, that it had a lot of good information in it and to remember our website and visit it as often as they could and advised them of what all was on the site.

Mayor Nunez stated the newsletters were in Spanish and English so there was no excuse for for anyone saying they didn't know.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

City Attorney DeFoyd read the second and final reading of Ordinance 2011-3 Adopting a Budget for FY 2011/2012.

City Manager Maner stated that just prior to this meeting, we had our second public hearing on this proposed budget and summaries of the budget were available on the table. He stated that basically he would just go over a couple of highlights before the council voted on it and this would be for the public's benefit. He stated that this budget, as the City Attorney just read, has General Fund expenditures totaling \$5,137,620.00 and that was \$121,340.00 less than last year. That the Water Fund has total expenditures of \$2,844,610.00 which was a \$127,030.00 increase over last year. He stated it was a balanced budget, it assumes that the city council will set the tax rate at the effective tax rate which is defined at the rate which will generate the same revenue on the same amount of property as last year and also does not anticipate an increase in water or sewer rates although he always has to pause there and say that a rate increase is coming but it is not anticipated in this budget but the City of Houston continues to raise the rates we pay and everything else is expensive and at some point the council will have to give serious consideration to a water and sewer rate increase, but not this year. He stated the budget give all full time city employees a 2% raise and unfortunately it doesn't provide a raise for

part time employees but has no layoffs and it allows the city to continue to provide the same level of service that we do now for the citizens, basically because of the economical situation in the whole country, which everybody reads and hears about every day, it doesn't have any big capital projects in it for the coming year but we are going to maintain what we have and as the economy gets better, we hope to get back into those.

Mayor Nunez stated that Jack worked very hard to bring this budget to something where the city will not be laying off anybody and she was glad to hear that.

A motion was made by Council Member Garcia and seconded by Council Member Ochoa to approve Ordinance 2011-3 Adopting the budget for FY 2011/2012 on the second and final reading. Vote: 4 For 0 Against

#### NEW BUSINESS:

1. A Motion was made by Council Member Gonzales and seconded by Council Member Diaz to approve Resolution 2011-11R setting the over 65 and disability exemption at \$40,000.00. Vote: 4 For 0 Against

2. A motion was made by Council Member Garcia and seconded by Council Member Ochoa to change the October 13<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting to Tuesday, October 11<sup>th</sup> due to TML Conference and to change November 24<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting to November 22<sup>nd</sup> due to Thanksgiving Holiday. Vote: 4 For 0 Against

3. A motion was made by Council Member Ochoa and seconded by Council Member Diaz to appoint Council Member Garcia as Representative and Council Member Lee as Alternate Representative to H-GAC 2012 General Assembly. Vote: 4 For 0 Against

#### COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:

Jim Moore, Public Works Department, stated that, on behalf of public works, he would just like to thank the citizens out there, they bring them water and tell them how much they appreciate what they are doing and ask questions about what they are doing and they appreciate it very much and just want to thank them.

Mayor Nunez stated the public wanted to thank them too, that she had been stopped by a lot of citizens telling her that public works had been working there at all hours, seven days a week, and that they are really proud of all the work that you'll are doing and they wanted them to know and ask him to be sure and tell the men at the safety meeting tomorrow.

Mr. H. G. Wooten, Munn Street, advised that for this weeks opry they were going to pay tribute to the firemen who died at 911, and invited everyone to come out.

Larry Schion , 506 Harecook Road in Crosby, stated that Mr. Wooten had a very good thing going on that he was trying to do by himself and it was very hard. He stated that he wanted to let them know that he and Ms. Nancy Gosney thought that they helped Ms. Garcia get in there and she slow about getting her picture on the wall and call attention to a picture he had put up there saying they thought they would leave it up there so that every time she looked at the wall she would think that she needed to get her picture up there (a picture of Ms. Garcia with a mustache). Ms. Garcia stated she loved it. Mr. Schion stated that she didn't tell him to take it down so she had a good sense of humor and that was one of the reasons he worked so hard to help get her in. He commented that there were some other people who did not have their pictures on the wall yet.

Mayor Nunez stated that it was always good to see Larry back, that he was always up to something. Larry stated that laughter was good for the soul.

Council Member Garcia ask if there were any grandparents in here, that grandparents day was Sunday.

Mayor Nunez thanked everyone for coming out and adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,



Joyce Raines  
City Secretary

Sign In Sheet - 9/8/2011  
Second Public Hearing on Proposed  
Budget for FY 2011/2012

1. Larry Schion 713 5621547
2. Mark Miller
3. William Shurt 713-451-9512
4. Matthew Shurtwine 713-451-9512
5. Sonia Lewis 713-518-3798
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