

COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY, JUNE 23, 2011, 6:00 P.M.

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Thursday, June 23, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Nunez, Council Members Ochoa, Diaz, Lee, Garcia; City Manager Maner, City Attorney DeFoyd and City Secretary Raines. Council Member Gonzales absent due to work.

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

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

#### DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Chief Ayala advised that they were getting ready for National Night Out and ask that anyone interested in hosting a party to please contact them. He spoke of a resident that had assisted the department in apprehending a suspect in a motor vehicle robbery. He advised that they had closed down the game room at 918 Mercury.

Chief Squyres presented a power point presentation advising how to access city information on the website. He also stated that the Fire Department would take credit for the rain because they had cancelled the fireworks but we were still under drought conditions and still could not have the fireworks.

Kyle Reed, Public Works Director, stated he knew the citizens had been hearing about drought conditions and it was very serious, they were continuously repairing water leaks and have seven driveways to replace, that they appreciated the patience of the citizens. He advised that we have started the first stage of volunteer water conservation and are asking that you only water your lawns at 5:00 a.m. in the morning or late at night and he Discussed the mosquito problem.

Kim Bellotte, Parks and Recreation Director, advised that they were having morning and evening sessions for swimming lessons and all classes were full. She stated the swim team Was doing great and they were going to the Astros game. Ms. Bellotte outlined the activities scheduled for the July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration starting at 12:00 noon with a bike parade, free access to the pool for the annual pool party, games, etc. and that the citizens that Utilized the pool were bringing pot luck food. She advised that the pool would close at 4:00 p.m. and we would be getting ready for the outdoor movie night with free hotdogs, popcorn and cotton candy and that any vendors that would like to set up their booth and sell things was welcomed to do so and everyone need to bring their lawn chair or blanket, that we could have VIP seating on the grass and the movie would start around 8:15 p.m..

Mayor Nunez thanked Kim and Ana for putting this together.

Councilman Ochoa ask Kim if there was a charge for booths and swimming lessons. Kim stated there was no charge for booths and swimming lessons consisted of seven 45 minute classes per session and the charge was \$35.00 for residents and \$45.00 for non residents.

Cindy Miller, Heritage Hall Director, advised that all was going well at Heritage Hall and that Donna Daily would be announcing all of their upcoming events.

Donna Daily, President of Heritage Hall, advised the center had a breakfast yesterday and thanked member of the council, the city manager and mayor for coming out, that they had game night last Monday and also thanked everyone for joining them.

Ms. Daily stated they were worried when they lost Ms. Nunez but that Ana was doing a very good job for them.

Ms. Daily went over the July Calendar for Heritage Hall and outlined all of the upcoming events and that June 18<sup>th</sup> had been Heritage Hall night at the Opry and that a number of the seniors had enjoyed dinner at Texas Seafood before going to the Opry, that they had a great time and enjoyed Cindy's husband singing.

Mayor Nunez recognized former Mayor Diaz and former Councilman Garey and LaGloria from Big Bass. She advised that she and Chief Ayala had attended a breakfast with Commissioner Morman last week and he had told her to contact him if they could be of any help and we would certainly do that. Ms. Nunez thanked the seniors and friends for the reception they had for her at Heritage Hall, that it was absolutely great and she really appreciated all the gifts and cards.

City Manager Maner advised that in addition to the fireworks being cancelled, there was also a burn ban in all city parks which would also mean no BBQ pits. He announced that the Parks and Recreation Director had taken vacation and gone to Vermont where she had received and graduated with a Master Degree in Public Administration and he was very proud of her.

Donna Daily stated the Mayor had reminded her of items she forgot to mention for Heritage Hall, that the reception they had for Rachel was the biggest party they ever had and that tell you she was a special person. She went on to announce that the center was having Christmas in July, they could pick up a list of the supplies they use at the center which were not covered by the city and they would appreciate any donations, to see her or Cindy if they were interested in helping.

There was no Unfinished Business.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Mr. Chad Burke presented a power point presentation covering the Economic Alliance Houston Port Region's Annual Report.

Mayor Nunez recognized members of the Variance Board who were in the audience, Mr. H. G. Wooten, Martha Salinas and Bernardo Valdez.

2. Council Member Garcia stated that on June 17<sup>th</sup> she had requested a copy of our City Boards because she had an interest in attending their meetings, that to her knowledge, the Dangerous Building Board would be meeting soon and she noticed we had a vacancy on the board, therefore she placed this item on the agenda. Ms. Garcia stated that because she was new to council and not completely informed on how our boards are formed and the process we must go through to form a board and the proper procedure at the meeting, she made an appointment with the city manager for answers to these questions and she ask him to check with the city attorney, which he did but he also advised her that she could call Mr. DeFoyd anytime she had a question. She stated she followed the city manager's advise and Mr. DeFoyd's response was the following, "The Dangerous Building Board" is created by the Uniform Building Code which was adopted by ordinance so they (being the members) are appointed and serve at the pleasure of the City Council and if the council wants to appoint someone it has the authority to do so.

Council Member Garcia made a motion to appoint the following five people to serve on the Dangerous Building Board and the motion was seconded by Council Member Lee.

Mr. Rob Essex	1402 Serpentine
Mr. Wayne Nichols	11502 Lane St.
Mr. Ray Fernandez	10813 Invierno
Ms. Tammy Carter	10722 Chadwick
Mr. Bill Carlton	11509 Oglesby

Vote: 4 For 0 Against

Mayor Nunez ask City Attorney DeFoyd if we needed to update this ordinance, he replied that we did and he could probably have something ready by the next council meeting.

3. Chief Ayala stated that they would like to go back out for bids on the police cars and the fire department ambulance, that the minimum bid on the police units would be

\$1,500.00 each and Chief Squyres stated the minimum bid on the ambulance would be \$25,000.00.

There was general discussion on the advertising and it was decided that the bids would be due back on July 28, 2011.

A motion was made by Council Member Lee and seconded by Councilman Garcia to authorize advertising to sell surplus police vehicles and the ambulance with bids due back on July 28, 2011. Vote: 4 For 0 Against

#### COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:

Mr. H. G. Wooten stated that he was a member of the Variance Board and they had been turning down requests for game room and he personally would continue to do so. He stated there had been a lot of discussion on the game room at 918 Mercury and PD had to do their job by the law, that he appreciated that they did close it down, they did a first class job.

Mayor Nunez stated that she knew for a fact that a lot of work went into this and commended the police department and Chief Ayala.

LaGloria Sephus from Big Bass, advised that their apartment complex was 55 years and older and that each month they have a trip to the casino and had ask Heritage Hall to join them, it was scheduled for July 12<sup>th</sup>, it was a day trip, the cost was \$10.00 and the money was due by July 7<sup>th</sup> along with a copy of your ID and as long as you were over 21, there was not an age limit. She ask that they please get with Cindy if they had any questions. LaGloria also stated that they would like to ask Heritage Hall to join them at Big Bass for some of their functions.

Mayor Nunez adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Raines  
City Secretary

