

COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2011, 6:00 P.M.

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Thursday, February 24, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Diaz, Council Members Claudio Ochoa, Rachel Nunez, Jose Ramon, Christopher Ochoa and Mario Gonzales; City Manager Maner, City Attorney DeFoyd and City Secretary Joyce Raines.

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

A motion was made by Council Member Nunez and seconded by Council Member Christopher Ochoa to approve the minutes as presented. Vote: 5 For 0 Against

Mayor Diaz called upon the Department Heads for their Reports.

Chief Ayala stated they had been busy, that we had an incident that happened here about a week ago, we lost one of our residents who was one and a half years old and he just wanted to tell them that the fire department was on the scene, transported the child to the hospital, unfortunately the child was no longer with us, due to injuries, we have filed charges on an individual and he just wanted to say that any suspicion or if you see any abuse of a child, markings, bruises to please contact them, please let them know and maybe we can prevent something from happening, it is our duty to report these kinds of acts, they might be an accident or they might not be and it is very important that you contact the police department. He stated that they were working on another project that there will be some results from that and reminded the mayor that they had talked about it and he just wanted to say that we were working in hand with our residents here in the city that are helping us fight crime and he would have a report at the next meeting.

Mayor Diaz stated that the residents of the city are the ones that are the eyes and ears in the community that helps us prevent crime and if anybody sees or hears any kind of suspicious activity or something is out of place, please call and report it, we want to stop it right away and we don't want it to get out of hand and as long as the people out there know that the community know what is going on, they are going to think twice about doing anything.

Kyle Reed, Public Works Director, reported they were busy all over the city, it was that time of the year, mowing season is back, we are cleaning dip gutters, repairing water leaks and just maintaining the city.

Mayor Diaz stated that he had to give a presentation for AARP last week and one of the citizens, who lives in the city, ask if we could go back and restripe some of these speed bumps because her sight is not all that good and on some of them the paint has worn and he told her that we would look into it and see what we could do.

Mr. Reed advised that they were on the list, but we would try to expedite that they had already restriped some of them and put four new ones down.

Kim Bellotte, Parks and Recreation Director, reported that softball had finished their registration and they had only registered 162 girls this year which was down from previous years. She advised that the baseball leagues were going to do their tryouts on March 5th, so they were registering up until that date. She stated the big pull this year was the new division that they made, a four year old division and they would be using the back field at Smith Park and we would probably have more than 162 kids at just that one field and if you were ever in a bad mood or having a bad day, go down and watch one of those T-Ball leagues, they will put you in a good mood. Ms. Bellotte reported that Kyle's guys worked real close with them and she gave a report of all the repairs they had done for the baseball and softball leagues, she stated the list was real long but she was very happy with the progress that was going on. (Ms. Bellotte read the list of repairs) She announced that baseball tryout would be next Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Minor League field and they are still looking for sponsors and people to help coach.

Councilman Claudio Ochoa stated she said something about a service day and ask what day that was. Kim advised that it was this Saturday and actually Roland Garza, who is with the public works department, has been working on the fields a lot and he will be running that project. Councilman Ochoa ask Kim if she had someone look at the repainting of the tennis court surface and she advised that was one of the projects they had, they didn't want to repaint it right now, they were waiting for the weather to get better, they had been blasting off a lot of the old paint, they already have the paint, they are just waiting for the good weather.

Cindy Miller, Heritage Hall Director, announced they have a birthday party tomorrow at 10:00 a.m., bingo at 11:00, and tomorrow night they were going to a play in Deer Park and then they were going to the rodeo parade, then they were going to the Mardi Gras party on March 3rd then going to eat lunch with Councilman Nunez on the 9th and bingo on Friday, they were very busy, the March calendar was out so please check the calendar for all the activities and come down and visit them anytime.

Mayor Diaz recognized GPISD School Board Member Wanda Johnson.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Diaz advised that everything seem to be going well and he would like to thank our department heads for doing an excellent job, that we had plenty of time to get things

rolling for this year and we have been out working hard, the council has been working hard and doing an excellent job trying to get some new things out to improve our city and also tomorrow is Go-Texan Day so everybody dress up western. He announced that one of the GPISD Foundation individuals, Mr. Johnny Roundtree's wife passed away yesterday, please remember them in your prayers. He advised that funeral arrangement information would be available at city hall.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Maner stated that as they had heard from the department heads and mayor, everything was going well in the city so he would pass on his report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. City Manager Maner opened and read the following bids received on the HVAC Control System:

OPEN TECH	\$39,750.00
AUTOMATED LOGIC	\$39,800.00
DIGITAL AIR CONTROL	\$70,140.00
T.E.A.M. SOLUTIONS INC.	\$55,900.00
BEYOND CONTROLS	\$36,535.00

City Manager Maner stated there was a wide range in the bids but there were three that were pretty close and as on all of these construction type bids, he would request that the council could allow Public Works Director Kyle Reed, kim Bellotte, himself and City Attorney Jim DeFoyd to look over the proposals to be sure they meet specifications and authorize the award of the bid to the low bid that meets the specifications.

A motion was made by Councilman Claudio Ochoa to award the bid on the HVAC Control System to the low bidder after it has been determined that they meet specifications. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jose Ramon. Vote: 5 For 0 Against

1. City Manager Maner advised that we didn't received any bids on the surplus
Page 4 – February 24, 2011

equipment., so he suggested that we re-advertise and hope to get bids next time.

Councilman Christopher Ochoa stated that he would like to comment on this, that he had talked with City Secretary Joyce Raines about a website called publics surplus.com, that Harris County Precinct 2 as well as other government entities and districts use. It is an online auction website, the city, if they choose to do this, could put these cars on the website and put specifications to the auction items and if you look on the website, some of the items up for auction have specific requirements to pay when they pick up the merchandise and it ranges from automobiles, etc., and he thinks this might be something we could go to as a solution to see if we can get some more bids. City Manager Maner stated he thought this was a good idea and ask if he knew if we could have bids accepted here too. Councilman Ochoa stated he was assuming we could. City Manager Maner stated he thought it was a good idea and we would utilize that.

There was general discussion on how the website worked and Councilman Christopher Ochoa explained how it operated, the discussion also included leaving the minimum bid the same or possibly lowering it. It was the consensus that this would get us a much wider range of buyers.

A motion was made by Councilman Christopher Ochoa to re-advertise the auction items of the 2001 Ford Crown Victoria, the 1999 Ford Taurus and the 1999 McCoy Miller Ambulance in the Houston Chronicle once more as well as considering advertising, within a reasonable amount of money, on a website called publics surplus.com. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Nunez. Councilwoman Nunez questioned if we needed the date for the bids to be turned in and Mayor Diaz stated March 24, 2011. Vote: 5 For 0 Against.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Public Works Director Kyle Reed advised the Mayor and Council that he should have had this on the last agenda but he failed to get it on there. He stated that he took two or three of the council people to look at this project, it was on the North side of Market and it was 3365 feet and this pipe was slip lined a number of years ago, this pipe was in very bad shape now and we had a program, that we were trying to finish pipe bursting the entire system and he expects the prices are going to be good so if he could get this out for bid, it was a budgeted item so if council approved it, we were ready to go.

A motion was made by Council Member Gonzales to authorize to advertise for bids for the pipe bursting of various blocks on the north side of Market Street as indicated on Mr. Kyle's paperwork. The motion was seconded by Councilman Christopher Ochoa, with bids to be returned by March 10, 2011. Vote: 5 For 0 Against

Page 5 – February 24, 2011

Mr. Reed stated that he had a mandatory pre bid meeting on this which was scheduled for March 8th if anyone wanted to attend it and he would remind them.

2. Ms. Gosney stated that she was going to pass
3. There were no comments from members of the public

Councilman Christopher Ochoa apologized to Cindy for not being able to attend the Heritage Hall Volunteer Banquet, that he was doing some work related things and could not make it.

Councilwoman Nunez ask Cindy if the seniors were excited about going out to eat and was advised they were.

Councilman Ramon thanked everyone for attending the meeting and to please come back.

Mayor Diaz stated that he would also like to make an announcement before we closed, that the 2011 May election were coming up for Jacinto City and this election he would not be seeking reelection as Mayor, however, he would be seeking election for Constable for Precinct 2, and with their support and the support of Constable Gary Freeman and some hard work, he could be their next constable.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Raines
City Secretary