

COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2021, 6:00 P.M.

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Thursday, October 28, 2021 with the following members present: Mayor Pro Tem Gonzales, Council Members Rivas, Robinson, and Lee; City Manager Squyres, City Attorney Defoyd and City Secretary Raines. Council Member Garcia arrived after roll call and Mayor Diaz absent.

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

**A motion was made by Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Rivas to approve the minutes of the previous meeting.
Vote: 4 For 0 Against**

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Chief Ayala passed on his report.

Chief Mier passed on her report

Heritage Hall Director, Elizabeth Flores stated that she had nothing to report.

Parks and Recreation Director Ivan Rojas reminded everyone that on Friday Night, from 5:30 to 7:30 there would a Halloween Drive Through at City Hall and that on Saturday the Little League would have a trunk drive through at the ball park.

Mayor Pro Tem Gonzales ask if there was a report from Public Works and City Manager Squyres advised that he would cover that in his report.

There was no Mayor's report.

City Manager Squyres advised that Public Works was busy unloading 20 pallets of MRE's from FEMA, that some would be issued to other cities

and Organizations, and if we find ourselves sheltering at Town Center as in the past we will be able to feed them and also the Churches that help to shelter in the past and with employees that are mandated to work during the storm, etc. so they don't have to worry about their families having food while they are at work and they hoped to start moving them out of public works next week.

City Manager Squyres stated that Council Member Rivas had brought up a question about the rules that we operate by at the gym and everyone would remember when we closed the gym, heritage Hall and the parks and when we were able to reopen the gym for use we had to come up with some rules and have employees sanitize equipment etc.. The decision was made to ask that people playing basketball bring their own balls as it would be hard to sanitize them with so many different people handling them, we wanted to open up the gym and coming up with rules was very difficult and we tried to make good decisions. Council Member Rivas ask us to reconsider and we called a lot of other cities and every city seem to be doing something different. He stated that we would suggest that they bring their own balls but if they did not have one we would issue them one and after they were through we would sanitized it and put it at the end of rotation.

City Manager Squyres stated that we will not mandate employees have the vaccine but will have to test some employees, that the city has been open every day since this started and plan to continue. He advised that we plan to start a free testing center but he notice that one of the convenience stores down the street was offering testing and he want to check out if it was free or what.

Mr. Squyres stated that they would remember that during budget meetings they had budgeted for three full time personnel for the fire department and they hired the first full time today, Michael Bodak, who was one of our volunteers and he would start on November 1st.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Donna Dailey, 1701 Chazen, ask if it wouldn't be better to use JC balls, if they bring their own balls what if they are infected, it would spread the infection, it was common sense to use the city ball so that they could sanitize them.

Council Member Gonzales ask if we still used leather balls and the sound system did not pick up Ivan's reply.

Ms. Dailey stated that she disagreed with the city asking them to bring their own ball, the city should issue the balls.

City Manager Squyres stated that it was difficult to keep up with the COVID rules, they change everyday and we were looking for a way to open the gym.

Council Member Rivas stated that when he contacted the City Manager they went over all of this and ask her where she heard this, he did not have that conversation with her.

Ms. Daily stated that no he did not, every one knows that she has her own opinions and states her mind.

Wayne Nichols Advised that First Baptist Church would be having a Halloween Party on Saturday from 6:30 to 8:30.

Ms. Requena, 10345 Pillot stated that the gentleman has moved the vehicle off the easement.

There was no Unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Change November 25th Council Meeting to Tuesday, November 23rd due to Thanksgiving Holiday.**

A motion was made by Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Rivas to change the Council Meeting date due to the Holiday. Vote: 4 For 0 Against

- 2. First Reading of Ordinance 2021-5 Amending Ch. 3, Sec. 8 of The Code of Ordinances, Jacinto City, Texas**

City Manager Squyres stated they would recall that there had been a variance request for a digital sign which had been denied by the Variance Board primarily because of the location and another location had been suggested by the committee. Mr. Burkett had decided to move the sign to that location and the State requires an City Ordinance for any billboard that displays messages via lights emitting LED and is controlled by a Computer and this amendment to our current Ordinance would include this.

Council Member Robinson ask if the height was 45 Ft. and was advised that it was.

A motion was made by Council Member Lee and seconded by Council Member Garcia to approve Ordinance 2021-5 on the first reading. Vote: 3 For 1 Against (Rivas)

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Council Member Rivas stated that on the issue at the gym when he brought this up, his son loved to play basketball and he called him just to inform him nothing else, You hear from some people that When you call city hall they cut you short, well that happened to him, they wanted to close him off to, when he asks them to call him back and they don't

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he gets it off his chest, he lets them know.

Council Member Robinson wished everyone a Happy Halloween and to be safe

Council Member Lee God Bless All

Council Member Garcia ask the Scout in the audience what troop he was with and invited him to come back any time.

She thanked Mr. Nichols for sharing First Baptists Church information about their Halloween Party.

Mayor Pro Tem Gonzales reminded everyone about the Halloween Drive Thru at City Hall, Friday Night from 5:30 to 7:30.

Mayor Pro Tem Gonzales adjourned the meeting at 6:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joyce Raines".

**Joyce Raines
City Secretary**