

COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY, April 14, 2022 6:00 P.M.

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Thursday, April 14, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Diaz, Council Members Rivas, Lee, Garcia and Gonzales; City Manager Squyres and City Attorney DeFoyd. Council Member Robinson and City Secretary Raines absent.

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

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

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Chief Mier had no report

Elizabeth Flores, Heritage Hall Director, advised that the Center was open now and they were having approximately 21 to 22 people attending each day, and they were really enjoying the exercise class and they had enjoyed the Easter Egg Hunt.

Chief Ayala presented the department's report for April 1st through April 14th, stating they had 137 calls for service, 23 arrests, and issued 308 citations and they try to make it safe for the community. He commended the following officers Lt. Walker, and Officer Cazares on the arrest of a three time shoplifter at The Goodwill Store who resided at Motel 6 and had County Felony Warrants. Lt. Walker, Detective Cazares, Sgt. Ramos and Officer Christopher Perez for the arrest of a shoplifter at CVS Pharmacy/Habitual Theft Suspect with County Warrants and all property was recovered and Sgt. Seydler, Lt. Walker, Lt. Longrigg and Officer Fisher on apprehending two suspects for theft of catalytic converters and evading arrest.

Mayor Diaz thanked the police department for the good job they were doing.

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Kyle Reed, Public works Director, Introduced a new employee Thomas Rogers, who had a B & C License and was working on his A license and would be a great benefit to the city. He stated that the contractors on the North Side water line project were doing a great job but were having a problem getting Materials and should be through in about two to three week and this would be a major benefit to the city with good water pressure and fire protection.

He stated mosquitos were going to be bad and they were ready to spray but needed complaints from the residents, they could call city hall or public works.

City Manager Squyres stated that on the North Side water line project Kyle has referred to, we had received an extension until April 26th because of the supply issues.

He stated that they all had pictures of the emergency repairs at the waste water treatment plant and explained the necessary repairs which were going to be very expensive, approximately a hundred thousand dollars and this would be remove from the bid on this project.

He advised that Congress woman Sylvia Garcia had come by on Tuesday and present a grant for \$997,365.00 for South Side water lines.

There were no comments from the public.

There was no Unfinished Business.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Council to consider rejecting previous bid on Waste Water Treatment Plant rehabilitation and reauthorize advertisement for bids as per Harris County Community Development requirements.**

City Manager Squyres advised that this was back on the agenda because we had only received one bid and Harris County had rejected it and we would have to readvertise for bid and if we only receive one bid this time they would allow us to accept it.

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A motion was made by Council Member Rivas and seconded by Council Member Gonzales to approve readvertising for bids on the Waste Water Treatment plant rehabilitation. Vote: 4 For 0 against

2. Council to discuss changing time intervals on school zones.

City Manager Squyres stated there was concern about the children waiting in the dark which was dangerous, that he had talked to Mr. Brian Clements about this and it was on the agenda to bring awareness and most likely change. Mr. DeFoyd could draft an Ordinance and we could advertise to give warning.

Ms. Donna Dailey ask about light up signs for the school zones.

Mayor Diaz suggested Mercury and Holland.

There was general discussion about the time on the signs.

Council Member Rivas about the time on the school zone signs.

City Manager Squyres stated that it looked like the time might have to go up to 6:00 a.m. that we would need to talk with the school about the bus schedules.

Council Member Gonzales stated he had people question if we needed the school zone signs and that we do need them, that a lot of children still walk to school.

City Manager Squyres advised that we could pay for them from a court fund that was set up for this.

Mayor Diaz stated that she agreed with Donna, that we need those signs on Mercury and Holland and that they only have 29 more days of this school term.

City Manager advised that we have a portable sign we can use if needed.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

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Council Member Rivas congratulated Mr. Rogers, ask Chief Ayala about the school zones and curfew and was advise there were different time for different age groups, and Council Member Rivas thanked him for the report and advised everyone to stay vigilant. He stated that he had a great time at the Easter Egg hunt and we had a good turn out.

He mentioned Mr. Purcell's street light that was not working, Chief Ayala stated that he would take care of it.

Mr. Purcell ask if they would do something about the sidewalk.

Council Member Lee wished everyone a Happy Easter, ask that they keep Joyce in their Prayers and thanked Christal for sitting in for her.

Council Member Garcia Welcomed Mr. Berry back, welcomed Mr. Rogers aboard, thanked Chief Ayala for his report and wished all a Happy Easter.

Council Member Gonzales welcomed Mr. Rogers, stating the he was the one who found the equipment that was damaged which was a good find.

Council Member Rivas thanked Heritage Hall and the Fire Department for their help with the Easter Egg Hunt.

Mayor Diaz advised that Church's was not closing, that Corporate had bought out the franchise, was remodeling and would be open soon.

Bernardo Perez discussed the photos of the damages at the waste water treatment plant.

Mayor Diaz adjourned the meeting 6:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Raines, City Secretary

