

**COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2022, 6:00 P.M.**

**The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Thursday, October 27, 2022 with the following members present: Mayor Diaz, Council Members Rivas, Robinson, Lee and Gonzales; City Manager Squyres and City Secretary Raines. Council member Garcia arrived after roll call and City Attorney Defoyd absent.**

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

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:**

**Lt. Longrigg advised that the police department had been really busy, that on Monday, a gentleman had been breaking windows at Popeye's and did not want to deal with them when they made the scene and ran out the back door but Officers Aguilar and Benivades was there and he was taken into custody, that he had an extensive record and hopefully would not be around Jacinto City for a long time.**

**He stated that due to Chief Joe Ayala and City Manager Squyres, working in partnership with the Texas Department of Transportation, The City of Jacinto City has procured another S.T.E.P. grant for the current budget year. S.T.E.P. stands for Strategic Traffic Enforcement Program. This program allows our Jacinto City Police Department to have officers work overtime paid by the Texas Department of Transportation to enforce laws in strategic portions of our city that have historically been an area of contention with the safety of our great city. Past results of this program have been positive in reducing traffic accidents and getting criminals off our streets who had been drinking and driving, in possession of narcotics, and having outstanding arrest warrants. The Jacinto City Police Department continues to take traffic enforcement seriously which in turn makes**

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**our great city a safer place to live, work and commute through. Together, working in partnership with our community, we can keep Jacinto City safe.**

**Ivan Rojas, Parks and Recreation Director reminded everyone about the Pumpkin Fest on Saturday starting at 5:00 p.m., that it was going to be in the park but rain was predicted and it would be in the gym and They would have games for the kids, vendors, a hayride and costume contest.**

**Mayor Diaz ask if we were going to have the area to take pictures and he advised that we would.**

**City Manager Squyres stated that it had been a very frustrating day. That in his job he had to deal with bureaucracy and today had been one of the worst days since he became City Manager, that about four years ago our citizens voted on a Harris County Flood Bond and one of the items we suggestion being a simple diversion channel that would change the flood plain of our city virtually eliminating flooding in our city and it was easy and cheap, it was a short ditch to avoid 12 very shorts turns in Hunting Bayou. He stated that the County, over the years, had improved the up stream and pushed the water here and had not touch Hunting Bayou from Interstate 10 to where it meets the ship channel, they are moving water down here with no place for it to go.**

**Mayor Diaz ask who was over this and City Manager Squyres advised that it was Harris County Flood Control and they worked for Commissioner's Court and there was an item on their tax bill showing how much was budgeted for Harris County Flood Control.**

**He advised that today he had a meeting with Harris County Pct. 2 and that his assistant Kathy Greiner sat in on the meeting, that she lived in**

**Song Wood and had flooded twice because of Hunting Bayou, that they updated them on the project stating that they were looking at it and doing a study and would be having a community meeting on this and he advised them that when he reported on this tonight he would tell them this and that when they had the public meeting he would provide police protection because most of our citizens would like to choke them, and they said they were not going to come out in person and he advised them he didn't think they would. He stated that even though we supported the bond, they were not going to support us and Jacinto City citizens were going to flood, that Harris County Flood Control was not supporting Jacinto City and if they were not going to fix our flooding we would have to take care of it ourselves. We put in for a grant with GLO and got it and hired our engineer and Harris County complained when we got it, they wanted to know why Jacinto City and Galena Park got the money when they needed it. Our Engineers came up with a plan to run the water from the city streets into Turkey Run Gulley but Harris County Flood Control won't let us increase the size of our pipe emptying into The gulley, we empty in at street level and they empty in above us so our water has no place to go. Our engineers were in on the meeting and we are going to have to make some kind compromise to try to get the water out of the city. He stated there would come a day when we had a community meeting and he thought Council should have it at the Town Center and get as many citizens as possible there so that the County could see how important this was to our city.**

**Dee Maner stated that when it came to Hunting Bayou, she was at the Meeting when Lon came up with the plan for the channel to help with the flooding and she was so proud of him.**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**Termite Watkins, 1403 Spanish Cove Dr. In Crosby, Texas, stated that he use to live in Jacinto City and always love to come back here. He stated that he had lived in this area all his life and started boxing at an early age and had got off the street when he was 10 years old and was in a lot of trouble and truly believed that boxing saved his life. He advise Mayor Diaz that he was sending her a personal invite to his next boxing show on January 12, 2023 and she would be sitting with other Mayors, he wanted to show what he does with professional boxing and how it saved his life. He stated he was a Christian and proud of it, that we needed to put God in everything, that he loved America. He invited them to Fighter Nation , a boxing gym in Northshore and he thinks we needed one here, that in the last 12 years they had gotten thousands of kid off the streets, that boxing was a poor man's sport that took him all over the world. He stated that they were doing a movie about him now because of boxing. He stated that Fighter Nation was located at 13305 Woodforest, and as they knew there was a lot of gangs in our area and they had gang member from different gangs come to their gym and they hug each other, they just want to be a part of something and when they come to the gym they are a part of something. He stated that his gym was one of the top in the Nation and that Jacinto City and Galena Park had been great in putting our professional boxers. He invited them over to visit Fighter Nation and that he would like to put one here.**

**He advised Mr. Jack Morman that he was so glad that he was running and he had his vote and he appreciated what he did when he was in office before.**

**Mayor Diaz advised Mr. Watkins that we would put some flyers out in the gym about the boxing matches.**

**Mr. Jack Morman, 1219 S. Country Club Dr., Shore Acres, Texas, thanked them for allowing him to speak, that he was raised in Pct. 2 and advised Lon that he felt his pain and we could fix this and he would tell the people that if they were not satisfied and better off than**

**they were four years ago, to vote for a change. He thanked them for standing up for their citizens and Pct. 2.**

**There was no Unfinished Business.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1. Council to Change November 23, 2022 Council Meeting to Tuesday, November 22, 2022 due to Thanksgiving Holidays**

**A motion was made by Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Garcia to approve changing the November 24 Council Meeting to Tuesday, November 22, 2022 due to Thanksgiving Holidays. Vote: 5 For 0 Against**

- 2. Council to receive and consider bids on Northside Water Mains and Fire Protection Project Phase 2.**

**City Manager Squyres advised that Harris County was on line for the bids and this was a CDBG Grant and provided new water line from Mercury to Flint and we had received six bids and there was a base bid and supplementary bid from each bidder:**

<b>R &amp; A Road Boring, LLC</b>	<b>Base Bid 1-31</b>	<b>\$1,758,695.00</b>
	<b>Supplementary 1-49</b>	<b>\$1,935,445.00</b>
<b>Sequeira Civil Construction</b>	<b>Base Bid 1-31</b>	<b>\$1,745,111.65</b>
	<b>Supplementary 1-49</b>	<b>\$2,300,586.00</b>
<b>Reliance Construction Svc.</b>	<b>Base Bid 1-31</b>	<b>\$1,479,262.70</b>
	<b>Supplementary 1-49</b>	<b>\$1,727,437.70</b>

<b>Android Construction Svc.</b>	<b>Base Bid 1-31</b>	<b>\$1,636,507.00</b>
	<b>Supplementary 1-49</b>	<b>\$1,846,982.00</b>
<b>Aranda Industries, LLC</b>	<b>Base Bid 1-31</b>	<b>\$1,703,448.70</b>
	<b>Supplementary 1-49</b>	<b>\$1,846,623.70</b>
<b>T-Construction LLC</b>	<b>Base Bod 1-31</b>	<b>\$1,575,187.00</b>
	<b>Supplementary 1-49</b>	<b>\$1,712,362.00</b>

**City Manager Squyres advised that all the bid came in higher than the amount that was awarded and ask the Council to award the bid to the low bidder on the condition that they met specification after being reviewed by the County, Our Staff and the Engineers.**

**He spoke with Mr. Tromy with CDBG and he stated that they felt the bids would come high and were looking at possible additional funding.**

**A motion was made by Council Member Garcia and seconded by Council Member Gonzales to award the bid to the low bidder pending Review by CDBG, our City Attorney, Staff and the Engineers.**

**Vote: 5 For 0 Against**

**3. Council action on Variance Board's recommendation on variance Request at 10249 Burman and 1435 Horatio.**

**City Manager Squyres explained about the side set back line, that the side set back line on Mercury was what they were requesting for Mercury but they had a Burman address so according to the building code we could not allow the set back without a variance and the Variance Board had recommended granting the variance.**

**A motion was made by Council Member Garcia and seconded by Council Member Robinson to approve the variance , Vote 5 For 0 Against**

**The Variance Board also heard a variance request at 1435 Horatio, Our Public Works Department had noticed this project during construction and that they were building withing the right away since the water meter was inside the fence and there was no permit, at the hearing the owners stated that they had gotten a permit a couple of years ago and in searching the records the permit had been issued in 2016 and expired in 2017 which clearly indicated a set back of 30' and the fence was at 27'. The Variance Board had agreed to them putting a dog leg in the fence giving access to the water meter, Mr. Reed expressed concern that this would still be an awkward position for the meter readers and we would be replacing the water lines in that area in a few years and would have to remove the fence.**

**A motion was made by Council Member Lee and Seconded by Council Member Rivas to allow them to move the fence back 3 Ft. Vote 5 For 0 Against**

**Mrs. Garcia advised that they had decided to remove the fence.**

**Mrs. Garcia ask if she could discuss another issue while she was here, stating that she worked at Jacinto City Elementary School and helped get the children out of vehicle in the morning and one was a special needs child and neither he or other children in the vehicle was in a safety seat or seat belt.**

**Mayor Diaz ask Lt. Longrigg to please check into this.**

**Council Member Rivas stated that it was good that she mentioned something she sees and tells about it.**

- 4. Council to consider approval of over expenditures for 2021/2022 Budget.**

**City Manager Squyres advised that this was something we do every year to clean up for the budget year in order to have a clean audit.**

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**A motion was made by Council Member Gonzales and seconded by Council Member Garcia to approve over Expenditures for 2021/2022 Budget. Vote 5 For 0 Against**

**5. Council to consider and approve auction of old city hall copy Machine.**

**A motion was made by Council Member Rivas and seconded by Council Member Robinson to approve auction of old city hall copy machine. Vote 5 For 0 Against**

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

**Council Member Rivas thanked everyone for coming out and for all they do.**

**Council Member Robinson thanked everyone for coming out.**

**Council Member Lee thanked everyone for coming out and God Bless.**

**Council Member Garcia thanked Mrs. Garcia for bringing this to attention and hope to see her back at the council meeting again.**

**Council Member Gonzales expressed his thanks to all who put on the vigil.**

**Mayor Diaz adjourned the meeting at 7:31 p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

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

**Joyce Raines  
City Secretary**