

COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY MAY 25, 2023, 6:00 P.M.

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Thursday, May 25, 2023 with the following members present: Mayor Diaz, Council Members Rivas, Robinson, Lee, Garcia and Gonzales; City Manager Squyres and City Secretary Raines. City Attorney DeFoyd arrived after roll call.

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

A motion was made by Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Garcia to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as presented. Vote: 5 For 0 Against.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Lt. Longrigg advised that the Police Department was staying busy and they had two new officers in training.

Thomas Rogers, Assistant Public Works Director, advised that they were staying busy and they were having a lunch for the guys on Friday for Public Works Week. He reported that work on the wastewater treatment Plant was going slow and the Northside water main project was moving along. He advised that the trash cans had been installed on Lane street and they were helping to get the pool ready for opening this weekend. He advised that our youngest employee Ramiro had gotten three licenses in the year he had been here and he was a keeper.

Elizabeth Flores, Heritage Hall Director, advised that their staff had gotten their CPR certification and that they were keeping the seniors busy.

Council Member Rivas ask if they got Red Cross Certification and did they have a card.

Page 2 – May 25, 2023

Elizabeth advised that it was through the Health Care Certification and he also ask if they knew how to operate the defibrillator and she advised they did.

Mayor Diaz ask if we had a defibrillator at City Hall, that we could probably use one here at the council meetings.

City Manager Squyres stated the five were in the budget for the present year and plan to purchase more in the upcoming budget. He advised that we had one at City Hall, the swimming pool, parks and recreation and the fire department and it would be good to have here.

Mayor Diaz stated that the swimming pool would be open this weekend and the splash pad was always open. She also advised that today was the last day of school and the kids were happy.

City Manager Squyres stated that Thomas had mentioned the Northside project which came in over budget and the County added about ½ Million to the contract. He stated this was grant funds and they were required to use the money in a certain amount of time and a lot of cities could not live up to the requirements but we had been doing this for a long time and live up to our obligations, that the County had advised us that they would be covering this project 100% which was probably good, that we have a sewer line problem and we will be getting back with them on it.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Susan Rice, 819 Bayland Ave., Houston stated that she was hear on her parents behalf, that they live at 11518 Celtis the house she had grown up in and they had a traumatic experience, that she had taken her parents somewhere and they leave their garage door cracked and when they returned two pit bull dogs had gotten into the garage and their cat was in the garage behind the washer and dryer

and the dogs move the washer to get to the cat and killed it and her Mother was devastated about the cat being killed that she ran after them down Celtis and no one knew the dogs and they killed another cat on Serpentine, that she had gotten pictures that she would forward them. She stated that the Police Department was called and the dispatcher did not recognize Celtis St. she stated that she had fostered dogs from Jacinto City and that Becky Gamage made the call to the police department and they were able to get the dogs into the back of the patrol unit and to the pound. She stated that she had talked to the neighbors on the street and they said they had reported the dogs a couple of days ago. She stated that they were worried about what might have happened if they had tried to intervene and thought that the message could have been forwarded to whatever department it goes to. She stated that she would like to know how to get a copy of the police report.

Mayor Diaz stated that they would talk to the Chief about the dispatcher and that she had got a call from a resident that he had bought some new patio furniture and the next day it was torn up by loose dogs.

There was general discussion and that the dogs were in the pound now and no one had claimed them.

Mayor Diaz ask her to extend their apologies to her parents for what happened.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Second and final reading of Ordinance 2023-3 Setting salary for Mayor and Council.

A motion was made by Council Member Rivas and seconded by Council Member Garcia to Approve Ordinance 2023-3 on the Second and final reading. Vote: 3 For 2 Against Robinson & Gonzales

Page 4 – May 25, 2023

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Council Member Rivas stated that Monday was Memorial Day and to remember the men who did not make it back and the sacrifice they made so that we could live free, enjoy the weekend and God Bless.

Council Member Robinson, Prayers to all the service people that didn't make it home and enjoy the weekend.

Council Member Lee stated that he was very sorry for what happened to Ms. Rice's parents, wished everyone a safe and happy holiday and God Bless. He advised that Council Member Garcia had received an award from the school and we appreciate her here.

Council Member Rivas stated that was the second award she had received and congratulated her.

Council Member Garcia stated that the kids were free now but she would be working summer school, thanked Thomas for the very detailed report and congratulated Ramiro and hoped to see him get more, that he was a keeper.

City Manager Squyres stated that the dogs would see the humane truck before it got to them and take off, that we had a problem in that area about a year ago with a pack of dogs and could not catch them and had to get a special trap, would do everything we could that we would take criticism, that we can always do better. He advised that we had one certified humane office now and had another one in training and advised that in the future to call 911 and they will come to Jacinto City and that the call would be recorded.

Page 5 – March 25, 2023

Council Member Garcia stated that on the weekends they let dogs loose because they don't think we will be out. She thanked her for fostering dogs and ask Donna for an update on the Pantry.

Donna advised that the pantry was open 6 time a month from 9:00 a.m to 1:00 p.m. and tomorrow they would have vegetables and were working to get them on Monday so they would have them all three days and everyone seem to be satisfied.

Council Member Garcia wished a Happy Public Works to the Department.

Council Member Gonzales ask if dog calls go to the police department first and then to animal control.

City Manager Squyres advised that was the usual way it worked but anytime it was an emergency to call 911.

Council Member Gonzales gave an update on Mr. Purcell.

Council Member Rivas stated that he had talked with Mr. Purcell and he seem to be handling it very well.

Elizabeth from Heritage Hall ask if they would need homebound meals.

Mayor Diaz stated that was an excellent idea and ask her to contact them.

Council Member Robinson advise that Kim Franklin had passed away and ask for Prayers for the family.

Mayor Diaz adjourned the meeting at 6:51 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Joyce Raines".

Respectfully submitted,

**Joyce Raines
City Secretary**