

COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY JULY 13, 2023, 6:00 P.M.

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Thursday, July 13, 2023, with the following members present: Mayor Diaz, Council Members Rivas, Robinson, Lee, Garcia and Gonzales; City Manager Squyres, City Attorney Defoyd and City Secretary Raines.

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

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

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Elizabeth Flores, Heritage Hall Director stated they were keeping the seniors active and thanked the Fire Department for providing a value of life program for the seniors.

Chief Mier advise that the 4th of July fire works went well and thanked every department for their help, and Bernardo Perez, Ramiro Chavero, Debbie Martinez and Taylor Phipps for helping with the shoot and Galena Park was up there for fire protection.

Mayor Diaz thanked them for all they did, that it was a great 40 minute show.

Thomas Rogers, Public Works Director, advised that the North Side project was moving right along and he expected them to be finished head of time and that the Waste Water Treatment Plant had received proof of parts received and they were seeing a lot of movement going on. He advised they were having the employees take water and shade breaks due to the extreme heat, he discussed mosquito spraying and advised that Mack Punch had passed his license.

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Lt. Longrigg stated that he had nothing to report and wished Elizabeth Flores a happy birthday.

City Manager Squyres stated that not many people wanted to work shooting the fireworks, that you had to work in all kind of weather and It was very hard work. He advised that the two cities split the fee, that you had to shoot five shows and then take a test and we were very appreciative of what they do.

He advised that we had a meeting with TxDot and they agreed to clean Under the overpasses and Pct. 2 and our police department would be working together to remove the homeless, that we didn't want to make it too comfortable for them and ask that people not give them money.

There was general discussion about the problem with the homeless in the area.

There was no Unfinished Business.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. City Council to review City's Investment Policy

City Manager Squyres advised that this was something we had to do by law and that there was no change to the policy, that our city was invested in Certificates of Deposits.

A motion was made by Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Garcia to approve the City's Investment Policy.

Vote: 5 For 0 Against

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Council Member Rivas stated the 4th of July fireworks were good, and ask if there were any complaints.

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There was discussion about the fireworks not being as high as usual.

City Manager Squyres advised that we increased the budget this year and used smaller shells than we use to and they didn't go as high.

Chief Mier stated that Galena Park's Fire Marshall marks the center of the high road, that Galena Park's Mayor thought we were getting a better view and there were several things that affected the height of the shells.

Mayor Diaz stated that the trees needed to be trimmed and City Manager Squyres advised that would be The Port of Houston.

Council Member Rivas talked about when we opened Heritage Hall during the power outage and that Joseph House helped with snacks and they were looking for cots so that people could rest.

City Manager Squyres advise that the city had about 25 cots that were left over from one of the storms.

Council Member Rivas discussed about TxDot's involvement with the homeless.

Council Member Robinson thanked everyone involved with the fireworks, that he sat at home and watched them.

Mayor Diaz thanked Ivan for the Dive in movie, that they had about 60 People attend.

Council Member Lee stated that he was able to see the fireworks from home.

Council Member Rivas stated they had friends that was coming through the city and joined them for the fireworks and they thought

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they were wonderful.

Council Member Garcia thanked Thomas for the report on Public Works and thought it was great that we were getting more license. She ask if there was a way we could build a platform that would make the fireworks go higher.

Chief Mier stated that would not be wise and discussed the danger.

There was discussion on changing the location of the shoot and City Manager Squyres advised there were only certain area where we could get a permit to do the fireworks and the only place we could use was not in our city and that was why we went with Galena Park.

Council Member Garcia stated that Ivan was not here but at the budget hearing next week she wanted to ask him about getting a clock at the pool, that we used to have one.

City Manager Squyres stated that we would take care of that.

Council Member Gonzales thanked the Fire Department and Public Works for a really good 4th of July show.

Mayor Diaz adjourned the meeting at 6:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

**Joyce Raines
City Secretary**