

PUBLIC HEARING, THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 14, 2023, 600 P.M.

The Mayor and City Council met in Special Session for a Public Hearing on the proposed Tax Rate for FY 2022/2023 with the following members present: Mayor Diaz; Council Members Robinson, Lee, and Gonzales; City Manager Squyres and City Secretary Raines. Council Member Rivas and Council Member Garcia arrived after roll call and City Attorney DeFoyd absent.

Mayor Diaz ask if there were any questions and there were no questions.

Mayor Diaz adjourned the meeting at 6:05 P.m.

The Mayor and City Council met in Regular Session on September 14, 2023 with the following items on the agenda.

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

A motion was made by Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Lee to approved the minutes of the previous meeting as Presented. Vote: 5 for 0 Against

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Thomas Rogers, Public Works Director, advised that on the North Side Water Line Project they were pouring sidewalks and repairing driveways and the project should be complete soon and on the Waste Water Treatment Plant they were waiting on supplies.

Page 2 – September 14, 2023

He also advised that the water leaks had slowed down but they were still having a few.

Ivan Rojas, Parks and Recreation Director, stated the splash pad would stay open until it gets cold.

Elizabeth Flores, Heritage Hall Director, advised all was well at the center, they were keeping the Seniors happy.

Captain Longrigg announced that National Night Out would be on Tuesday, September 26th from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Police Station and they would have vendors and food so come out and meet the neighbors. He stated that Big Bass, 9701 Market and First Baptist Church would also be having one.

Mayor Diaz advised that we had changed National Night Out to this date because of a conflict with Texas Municipal Conference.

Council Member Lee thanked Captain Longrigg.

Delaney Daly introduces herself as the new librarian at the Jacinto City library and discussed some of the programs the library was offering.

There were no public comments.

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. First reading of Ordinance 2023-4 Adopting a Budget for F/Y 2023/2024**

A motion was made by Council Member Robinson and seconded by

Page 3, 2023

Council Member Garcia to approve Ordinance 2023-4 adopting a budget for F/Y 2023/2024 on the first reading. Vote: 5 For 0 Against

2. Council action on Variance Board's recommendation on variance Request at 11105 Muscatine and 10217 Wiggins.

11105 Muscatine, City Manager Squyres explained that 11101 was already commercial and that 11105 Muscatine was residential and that Mr. Jose Ramon Blanco had requested to convert 11105 to Commercial to build a strip center facing Holland Ave.

He stated the variance board had met on September 12, 2023 and had Voted 3 to 1 to allow the variance.

Mayor Diaz stated that there had been a nice house there at one time but thinks this would be an improvement to the way the property looks now.

Mr. Blanco discussed his plans for the strip center.

Mr. Phillip O'Brian, 11102 Muscatine stated that he had lived there 45 years and that Holland Ave, was being overrun with business, there would be parking problems and he was against this.

Council Member Rivas stated that we had talked about expanding these lots but he doesn't think this is a good time to allow this to happen, that we need to see if this would be beneficial to the city, not saying that it was something he did not want.

Council Member Garcia stated she did not like a lot of traffic.

City Manager Squyres explained about the parking problem at the blue House.

Mr. Blanco explained where his parking would be.

Page 4 – September 2023

Council Member Lee stated that anything would be an improvement.

Council Member Robinson ask about the parking and if it passed to be sure it did not flood over there.

There was general discussion regarding the request.

Council Member Gonzales stated that we had already allowed a strip center on Mercury Street.

Donna Dailey Squyres stated that if they were doing five spaces they needed to look at this about parking.

City Manager stated that this would be addressed at the time they requested a building permit and that Jacinto City did not have an ordinance as to what the building is made of.

Ms. Distefano stated that she wanted to be proud of how the city looked when her friends visited her and the one on Mercury looked nice.

Mr. Blanco stated the building would be cinder blocks and it would be a nice building.

**Mayor Diaz polled the Council on the vote: 3 For and 2 Against
Council Members Rivas and Garcia voting against**

10217 Wiggins – City Manager Squyres advised the Variance Board also met on this request and voted 3 to 1 to allow the variance.

Mr. Alanis stated the fence had been in progress for a lot of years that they wanted to beautify the residences.

Council Member Rivas stated that the post didn't move, all they were

Page 5 – September 14, 2023

going to do was replace the panels and the fence was in line with other fences.

Mayor Diaz stated that she didn't think he should have to apply for a variance.

There was general discussion on the issue.

Mayor Diaz ask that we put it on the next agenda to refund Mr. Alaniz's \$250.00.

A motion was made by Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Garcia to approve the variance request and refund Mr. Alanis's \$250.00. Vote: 5 For 0 Against

Mr. Wayne Nichols stated that he had been on the Variance Board for 2 ½ years and he wondered why the fence was on variance request.

3. Proclamation for National Night Out September 26, 2023

A motion was made by Council Member Rivas and seconded by Council Member Robinson to approve the Proclamation for National Night Out September 26, 2023.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Council Member Rivas stated where he stands on variance deals, he feels like he needs to look at all request. Jacinto City is a good place to live, not that he didn't want it but will it be beneficial to the city. He thanked everyone for coming out and God Bless.

Council Member Robinson Welcomed everyone and to enjoy the cooler weather and rain that we had coming.

Page 6 – September 14, 2023

Council Member Lee stated that he appreciated the variance board, that we work for the people, we don't always agree but want to see the city grow because we care about it.

Council Member Garcia Stated that we try to do what is best, it is nice when you live in the city and have your business in the city. She welcomed the new librarian an to come out and enjoy National Night Out.

Council Member Gonzales stated this Council is also like the people in the community, we want to make our city look nice, appearance is a big deal and to come out and support National Night Out.

Mayor Dias adjourned the meeting at 7:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



**Joyce Raines
City Secretary**