

# City of Jacinto City

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CARMELA GARCIA
ALLEN LEE
JIMMY "JJ" RIVAS
GREGG ROBINSON

**COUNCIL MEMBERS** 

CITY MANAGER LON D. SQUYRES

CITY SECRETARY
JOYCE RAINES

CITY ATTORNEY
JIM DEFOYD

April 5, 2024

#### **Minutes**

The Mayor and City Council met in Regular Session on Thursday, March 28, 2024 at 6:00p.m. in the Council Chamber at 10301 Market Street.

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

# 2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

#### 3. ROLL CALL

The following members were present: Mayor Diaz, Council Members Rivas, Robinson Lee and Gonzales. City Manager Squyres, City Attorney Defoyd, City Secretary Rodriguez. Councilwoman Garcia was absent.

# 4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

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: **For:4 Against:**0

# 5. REPORTS OF OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES AND COMMITTEES

## Mayor: Ana Diaz

\* Making the Connection, Meet and Greet. Friday April 5th at the Agriculture Building

# **City Manager: Lon Squyres**

- \* Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day, Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at the Fire Station. Must register beforehand. Will be accepting things like paint, oil, pesticides, anything along those lines. They are not taking tires nor computers. See their website for more information.
- \* The unsung heroes of the tree incident on Belin are the Public Works Department, they worked to clear the street until 10:30 that night. We really appreciate the unsung heroes in that situation.
- \* Chief Davis mentioned the STEMI situation of the hospital in Pasadena. It's worth spending a moment or two about. They do a diagnostic 12 Lead EKG exactly like you would get at the hospital. They identify a specific type of ongoing heart attack called STEMI, they will let that hospital know through a very elaborate system we've got, STEMI Alert. That means when they get to the hospital, they agree with us, we've got a STEMI, we've got to get them into the Cath Lab, so they bypass the ER basically. On our stretcher they go straight into the Cath Lab, they do an interventional Cath on you and if they see that blockage, right there, right then with our guys by your side they're going to open up your arteries on the spot. This eliminates 30-40 minutes of guessing in the emergency room. By the time they get there, they've already looked at the EKG, we've transmitted the EKG. Our paramedics have expressed their strong feelings, hey we got a STEMI, y'all need to be ready and they have an interventional radiologist and a cardiologist ready to go.
- \* The strip club across the freeway has had an impact on our city. It has been extremely horrible, 30% or so of EMS calls and police calls typically focus on their cliental and the cliental of those two hotels over there. They are out of business, that property has been sold and there's going to be an Exxon Convenience Store there. We may lose a little bit of sales tax but the homeless that stay over at those hotels will hopefully stop at that convenience store instead of coming into our city. Hopefully this will lighten the load on our city's police and fire department. We are optimistic about that.

#### **Public Works: Thomas Rogers**

- \* Watse water treatment project: We should be moving into our new chemical in the couple of weeks, we hit a little snag on pump options, but we have that figured out. They came out and looked at the 24inch sewer line, that goes over the water they should be out next week to start that project as well.
- \*Public works routine business, cutting grass and keeping the water flowing.
- \*Mr. Eric Jones recently acquired his Class C Groundwater License & Mr. Ramiro recently acquired his Pyrotechnic License.

#### Police: Chief Joe Ayala

- \* It's been quiet, just the homeless, were getting more and more but we are catching quite a few of them, mostly class C's
- \* wanted to thank the Fire Department for working with the Police Department on call a few days back. A large tree fell on passing motorists on Belin, everybody quickly responded.
- \* We have been working on Code Enforcement violations, we've had a response with the letters.

#### Fire: Interim Chief Mo Davis

- \* We will be visiting a city buildings over the next few weeks. We will be doing preplans for FEMA in preparation for hurricane season.
- \*We attended Bayshore Cardiovascular Quarterly Meeting this week. We take constituent's to Bayshore because we've had three successful STEMIs thru them and they're trying to cut our times down, we don't take them off the stretcher anymore so that's good for Jacinto City. They documented 99 and Jacinto City had 3 successful ones so that's good for us.
- \* We'll be meeting with all city services before hurricane season in case we have a hurricane.
- \* We finished a class on the active shooter in conjunction with the police department, the chief. We have a power-point. We will be breaking it up by department, where we don't really take you away from work and I'd like to offer it to the council.

# Heritage Hall: Elizabeth Flores

\*Elizabeth was out-No Report was given.

# Parks & Recreation: Ivan Rojas

- \* We had Easter Egg Hunt this past weekend. Due to the weather, the location had to be changed to the Town Center. There was a good turnout, the people had a good time.
- \* The mayor suggested the possibility of changing the Egg Hunt Location to the Town Center for next year as well.

# **Jacinto City Branch Library:**

- \* Slowly making improvements at the library to make the library nicer, more aesthetically pleasing,
- \* Solar Eclipse Program-Monday, April 8th starting at 12:30, providing solar eclipse glasses for the program.
- \* Getting geared up for Summer Reading Program, stop by for more information.

# 6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- \* Donna Daley, 1701 Chazen: Expressed appreciation to the Fire Department for all the assistance given to her husband. She also expressed appreciation to the Police Department. She also would like to assure the city that the food pantry does not draw in the homeless from across the freeway.
- \* Dee Maner, 10249 Wiggins: Expressed appreciation for the work Lon is accomplishing with Hunting Bayou and asked if there are any updates to the project. Lon replied that the project is in phase 2. The project is moving along extremely slow. I will sit in on a remote meeting they have sometime next week, and we should have another update after that. We can't move ahead until we get the notice to proceed from GLO, which is the funder until we get the ok from flood control district.
- \* Manuel Garza, 11214 Lane: Concerned regarding cracks on Lane Street by Holland Avenue; the sides of street on Market, and the patchwork done on certain spots. Lon replied that Precinct 2 repaired Market Street Rd., their specs. have guarantees so they'll hold the contractor accountable for anything needing correcting.

  The projects on Lane and Switzer are more recent projects, a lot of it are drought related issues and we're going back to the contractors that did those and we're going to be talking to them. Mr. Rogers sent his crew to a special training class with Harris County, so they've trained some of our folks. This year we have \$200,00. in our budget to do more paving. We are looking into possibly amending our budget a little heavier and identify areas throughout the city instead of doing just one road. If anyone knows of any asphalt projects that they'd like us to address, we'll add them to a spread sheet to try and do as many of those as possible. Manuel asked if we used the same people as contractors, Lon explained the state legal process for projects on any job over

\$50,000. Which is to go out for bids, we write specifications, publish ad and allow for bids, once bids are submitted, we open here at the council table and by law typically we use the lowest bid unless there is a good reason not to use the lowest bid.

\* Jeremy Matheny, 1725 Chazen: Requested to have Speed Bumps replaced on his street, due to them having been removed when the road was repayed.

#### 7. NO UNFINISHED BUSINESS

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

# 1. Council to confirm Keante K Sanders as Full Time Jacinto City Police Officer.

(Chief Ayala recommends that we hire Keante Sanders as a full time Jacinto City Police Officer; she is a 2023 Graduate of Houston Community College Law Enforcement Academy, she has passed all standards required by Texas Law enforcement.)

Motion made by Councilman Lee to approve the Chief's recommendation.

Second made Councilman Robinson

Favor: 4/0

## 9. COUNCIL COMMENTS

All Council Members welcomed Ms. Keante Sanders and expressed appreciation to the Parks Department and Ivan for the successful Easter Egg Hunt. They wished everyone a Happy Easter. Officer Benavides's Father passed away, the mayor asked everyone to keep Officer Benavides and his family in our prayers.

Mayor Diaz adjourned the meeting at 6:48pm.

Respectfully submitted,

C. Rodriguez
Christal Rodriguez
City Secretary

This facility is wheelchair accessible and accessible parking spaces are available. Request for accommodations or interpretive service must be made 48 hours prior to Meeting.