

MAYOR ANA DIAZ

# City of Jacinto City

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JACINTO CITY, TEXAS 77029

www.jacintocity-tx.gov

May 31, 2024

**Minutes** 

COUNCIL MEMBERS

MARIO GONZALES CARMELA GARCIA ALLEN LEE JIMMY "JJ" RIVAS

GREGG ROBINSON

CITY MANAGER LON D. SQUYRES

CITY SECRETARY
CHRISTAL RODRIGUEZ

CITY ATTORNEY
JIM DEFOYD

The Mayor and City Council met in Regular Session on Thursday, May 23, 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 Robinson, Lee, and Gonzales, City Attorney Defoyd, City Manager Squyres and City Secretary Rodriguez.

Councilmembers Rivas and Garcia were absent.

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

A motion was made by Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Lee to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as presented. Vote: For:3 Against:0

# 5. REPORTS OF OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES AND COMMITTEES

## Mayor: Ana Diaz

\* Requested for Public Works to pass by the street where WellCare Clinic is located. They called and requested assistance in removing a large tree that fell and is on the street, two cars can't pass at the same time. She also stated she's been receiving calls about what items from the storm the city will be picking up. The mayor thanked public works personnel for the work they've been doing despite it being difficult and the temperatures have been hot.

# City Manager: Lon Squyres

- \* Reminded City Officials that they will be receiving calls regarding the aftermath of the storm and clarified the action plan for cleanup. The first pass or two is vegetation-only because these items will be going into the chipper. Items like fencing will be the responsibility of the property owner because these types of items usually have nails, which the chipper turns into bullets and is extremely unsafe for our staff and the chipper. Calls requesting for the city to go cut trees down or assist with debris on private property, we cannot assist with because the city is not allowed to go onto private property, the city also cannot afford to do so for everyone. Items impeding street traffic, the city will deal with. We are hoping that residents and businesses will take advantage of the long weekend coming up and clear up a lot the debris. The City is going to have a huge financial outlay on this, we are spending a lot of money on overtime, FEMA should compensate us for a lot of that with FEMA dollars for public assistance money. It is important for residents with home damages to apply for Individual Assistance. It is important for them to apply because it benefits them in two ways, it benefits them directly and indirectly by assisting the city as whole as well. A lot of time future money for mitigation projects and things like that is based on the amount claimed in individual assistance. We met the threshold on that and that allowed us to get 4.7 million dollars which allowed for the sewer projects being done today.
- \* We did have a home that got hit by a tree on the two hundred-block of Fairfax, they had just left and were not in the home, the home is a loss due to the tree.

# **Public Works: Thomas Rogers**

\* We had two crews out the first night, removing trees from the street. At this time, we are about 90% done with our first pass and are expecting to pass an additional two to three more times through the city. We will have a crew start to clean Wilkie Park. There are several large trees down at Wilkie and Smith Parks.

## Police: Chief Joe Ayala

\* Not in Attendance today.

#### City Hall: Kathy Greiner

\* Not in Attendance today.

#### Fire: Interim Chief Mo Davis

\* We've had 120 Calls for service, we only had one mutual aid assistance, we were able to handle everything else ourselves. Most of the power is back on in the city, we are watching generators now and asking people to move them away from their houses. We had 5 significant house fires tied to the storm, as the power is getting turned back on, it is getting back-fed into the house and causing the fires. We also had a few smaller fires, everyone is ok.

## Heritage Hall: Elizabeth Flores

\* Senior Olympics was held today, it went well and our Seniors achieved Gold, Bronze and Silver Medals.

## Parks & Recreation: Ivan Rojas

\* City Swimming Pool will be opening this weekend including Monday, Memorial Day. There are still spots available for Swim Lessons, registration is at the gym. Summer Program Registration is also at the gym.

## **Jacinto City Branch Library: Delaney Daly**

\* Not in Attendance today.

#### 6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

\* Chris Diaz, 10826 Munn

Had a question regarding fallen trees in city easements. City Manager informed him that it would be on a case-bycase basis and we would take a look at the tree in question once the city is done with the immediate needs.

\* Donna Dailey, 1701 Chazen Dr.

Thanked the city workers for fantastic job in response to the storm.

#### 7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1 Second and Final Reading of Ordinance 2024-1 Setting Salary for Mayor & Council.

Read by City Attorney Defoyd, setting salary rate the same as last year at a rate of:

Mayor: \$400.00 + \$425.00 Auto Allowance

Council Members: \$350.00 + \$425.00 Auto Allowance

**Motion was made by Council Member Robinson** to keep the same salary rate on the Second & Final Reading. **Second was made by Council Member Gonzales** 

Favor: 3/0

# 8. NEW BUSINESS

1. Stephanie Harris with Belt Harris Pechacek, LLP, Presented Audit for FY 2023-2024.

Pleased to issue a clean unmodified financial statement. Jacinto City did a wonderful job with keeping revenues up and expenditures down. The city ended the year with a very strong unassigned fund balance.

A single audit was also conducted. A single audit must be done when a city spends more than seven hundred and fifty thousand in federal grant dollars in a twelve-month period. Very pleased to say that as a result after conducting the single audit and our testing with the CDBG Program we've also issued an unmodified opinion on the city's compliance with its federal grants programs. The council had no questions for the auditor.

2. Resolution 2024-4R Council to consider extending the

"Declaration of Local Disaster by Proclamation of the Mayor of the City of Jacinto City".

Read by City Attorney Defoyd.

Motion made by Council Member Robinson to extend the

"Declaration of Local Disaster by Proclamation of the Mayor of the City of Jacinto City".

Second was made by Council Member Lee.

Favor: 3/0

3. Resolution 2024-5R Designating the week of May 26-June 1, 2024, as

"Public Works Week" in the city of Jacinto City.

Read by City Attorney Defoyd,

The city is designating the week of May 26 – June 1, 2024, because the city was not able to do anything during National week because public works has been too busy with everything going on, however we wanted to recognize their contribution.

Motion made by Council Member Gonzales to Designate the week of May 26-June 1, 2024, as

"Public Works Week" in the city of Jacinto City.

Second was made by Council Member Robinson.

Favor: 3/0

## 9. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council Members all expressed appreciation to all city workers and thanked them for the extra hard work they've been doing to keep the city running as smoothly as possible through the storm and its aftermath. Council Members also expressed appreciation and pride for the citizens of Jacinto City for how we all pull-together and help each other during times of need.

Mayor Diaz adjourned the meeting at 6:32pm.

Respectfully submitted,

C. Rodriguez
Christal Rodriguez
City Secretary