



MAYOR
ANA DIAZ

City of Jacinto City

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August 5, 2024

Minutes

The Mayor and City Council met in Regular Session on
Thursday, July 25, 2024 at 6:00p.m. in the Council Chamber at 10301 Market Street.

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

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 per Tem Robinson; Council Members Rivas, & Gonzales;
City Manager Squyres & City Secretary Rodriguez.

Mayor Diaz, City Attorney Defoyd and Council Members Lee and Garcia were absent.

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

A motion was made by Council Member Rivas and seconded by Council Member Gonzales 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

* Not in attendance.

City Manager: Lon Squyres

* Schedule for tree limb pickup: Public works switched direction on this storm out of fairness; this time if your on the south side of market, their starting point was on the one hundred blocks, so they just finished starting on the far west side all the way thru to the east which is serpentine. When they start up again next week it'll be again on that side, those folks now would have had about ten days and then they start again and go west to east again. If you're on the north side of market street, its just the opposite, they started on the far east side on siesta and worked west. It takes them about a week to get from one end to the other.

* Initially we thought that Beryl was lighter than the last storm but this one has really generated a lot of debris. It is really hard to phantom how much were going to be dealing with over the next several months getting rid of all this stuff and the cost of it is going to be just extraordinary but FEMA is going to support us, they will fund up to 75% of the debris run. We are working with them; it is a lot of meetings and paperwork but we've done this before and we'll come out of it alright.

* I received a phone call a couple of hours ago from the state reps office and I'm looking for input from especially Mayor and Council but also from citizens and department heads, I've been asked to go to Austin next Wednesday morning the 31st to testify before a comity dealing with CenterPoint; They are looking for problems with center point, the map they were using was a real issue. It would show that the area was energized and people would think they have power when in reality they did not. They are wanting expand the right of way for cutting. Our argument may be that they are not cutting the right of way they currently have. The current rotation they have is 5 years, they may need to do a two or three year rotation instead. Another point that we'll bring up is the quality of communication between center point and the city. If anyone has any other point for me to mention at the meeting, reach out to me anytime before Next Tuesday before I leave.

- Councilman Rivas shared a personal story with Lon about his experience with center point in regards to smart meters and the power map being used by center point; and requested the issue be brought up at the meeting in Austin.
- Librarian Daly mentioned that the Text Alert System Center point was using was also not working correctly and requested that also be mentioned at the meeting.
- Councilman Gonzales had a question regarding the process to having power once the map showed that an area was energized. Lon responded, explaining that it was not a simple connection in most cases due to trees being on several lines, transformers out and those types of things.
- A resident from the seats, inquired about the Nursing Home not being taken care of first. Lon replied that the Nursing Home along with hospitals is on the emergency power resupply list. Our nursing home's problem is their generator does not supply HVAC, it only supplies life saving equipment and such. The city went into the nursing home and documented the heat index on the thermostats. The hottest we documented was 81 degrees. The same argument can be made for both the Nursing Center and Big Bass about not having adequate backup power.

Public Works: Thomas Rogers (Thomas absent-Report given by Eric Jones)

- * Staying busy due to the storm, keeping storm drains clear.
- * 1st round of picking up limbs completed today.
- * 2nd round should begin Monday-After 2nd round is complete, we'll begin picking up fences and other storm related debris.
- * If anyone has any questions or concerns, they may call public works.
- * Public works will be getting with City Manager Squyres to create a game plan for dealing with green trees/limbs that are being cut down and are not storm debris.

Police: Chief Joe Ayala

- * Preparing for National Night out, which will be the first Tuesday in October.
- * Jacinto City Police Dispatcher, Leslie Solis, just graduated from the Police Academy. We are looking to put her on the next agenda for Police Officer Position, she will still stay in dispatch.
- * Busy with normal traffic patrol.

City Hall: Kathy Greiner

- * No Report at this time.

Fire: Interim Chief Mo Davis

- * No Report at this time.

Heritage Hall: Elizabeth Flores

- * No Report at this time.

Parks & Recreation: Ivan Rojas

- * Wrapping up the last two weeks of swim lessons and the last week of summer program for children at the gym. We did pretty good this summer and hope to continue next summer.

Jacinto City Branch Library: Delaney Daly

- * Library had extended its hours and was being used as a cooling center after Hurricane Beryl. A lot of branches were closed but now all branches are back open and their computers and phones are working.
- * Summer Reading Program is going really well. We are reporting some of our highest numbers ever.
- * Lots of fun things going on in August, make sure you get a program calendar at the library.
- * Last month at the library we had our highest circulation number since 2022.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- * Donna Dailey, 1701 Chazen

-Brought her neighbors front ditch to the attention of Council and Public Works. The front ditch is holding water and it's molding. Can something be done to help? The neighbors were originally told there was nothing that could be done because digging would create a bigger problem. Eric advised Donna that they would go take a look at it and see if the ditch could be flushed because digging would not be possible because it probably would make the situation worse.

-Asked if there was something we could do to help seniors with permit fees for generators. Lon replied that if it's something to do with economic development for a business, the city council could do that, we could not give things to individuals

typically. Lon mentioned that we would research what can be done but it would probably take council action. He also mentioned that the cost of the permit would be minimal compared to the cost of the generator.

7. NO UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8. NEW BUSINESS

1. City Manager to present the No New Revenue and Voter Approval Rates to the City Council.

-No Action Needed-Info Only

(Budget Process has a tight timeline, We must present the No New Revenue Rate, Diminimus Rate and the Voter Approval Rate. We do not have those numbers because those are numbers calculated by Appraisal District and Harris County Tax Accessor and they have not provided us with those numbers yet; therefore, our budget posted on the website does not have those numbers. We are doing our best to comply with the posting requirements but we probably won't be able to fully comply.)

Motion made by: N/A

Second was made by: N/A

Favor: N/A

9. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Rivas

-Wished for the residents to stay as dry and comfortable as possible.

-Announced the passing of Congresswoman Sheila Jackson. Rivas mentioned that he had met her a couple of times and he appreciated that.

-Wished his dad a Heavenly Happy Birthday.

Councilmember Robinson

-Announced that hopefully by Monday, FEMA should have a disaster center open at the gym. Those needing help should go.

-Thanked everyone for their comments.

Councilmember Lee

-Not in attendance today.

Councilmember Garcia

-Not in attendance today.

Councilmember Gonzales

- Thanked Councilman Rivas for his words about Sheila and expressed that Sheila Jackson did a lot for the city, she helped a lot of people, she was definitely one of those people that really cared about other people.

Mayor Per Tem Robinson adjourned the meeting at 6:31pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Christal Rodriguez
City Secretary