

COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY, MAY 22, 2014, 6:00 P. M.

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Thursday, May 22, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Diaz, Council Members Rivas, Robinson, Lee, Garcia and Gonzales; City Manager Maner, 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 Robinson and seconded by Council Member Garcia to approve the minutes as presented: Vote: 5 For 0 Against

REPORTS OF OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES AND COMMITTEES:

Chief Ayala stated that he just wanted to bring up some current scams going on out in the area including our community, anyone coming to your house wanting to trim your trees, etc. and cautioned them that if they didn't know them to not open the door, call the police department, don't take any chances. He advised that we did have some solicitors out there with an alarm company and they did have permits but it was up to them whether they wanted to talk to them or not. He cautioned everyone about putting personal information in the trash where people go through it and get the information, he cautioned against leaving your keys in your vehicle.

Chief Ayala advised that as of May 1st they have had 98 arrest, 312 calls for service and that this past Saturday, the military and police officers were recognized by State Representative Ana Hernandez's office at the Town Center and from our department Lt. Mark Longrigg was recognized for his professionalism and service to the community. He thanked Ms. Margaret Campbell and Carol Cummings for doing an appreciation lunch for the police department last week on Wednesday.

Mayor Diaz advised that the alarm service people did have permits and wear badges around their neck.

Long Squyers advised that they are installing the new radios and early next week the full system will be in. He informed everyone that this was National EMS Week.

Mayor Diaz stated that she was looking at the storm projection for this season and they were predicting 6 tropical storms, 6 hurricanes and 2 major storms.

There was general discussion on how inaccurate most of the projection usually were.

Kyle Reed, Public Works Director, advised that the folks over on Flaxman were out of water, that we had to work with the schools and try to make it as convenient as possible for folks but it was hard for them but they were making the final tie in on that new water lines on this particular job, we had to do some things with the 14" line, there were some problems but we were fine and they hoped to not have as many problems with the next one but water outages when you were rebuilding a water system was pretty typical.

He advised that we picked up 462 tires during the tire roundup and the project was a success.

Mayor Diaz ask about spraying for mosquitoes on movie night.

Ivan Rojas, Parks and Recreation Director, advised that all was fine in Parks and Rec, that the pool would be open for Memorial Day weekend and June 7th was the official opening date. He invited everyone to come out for Pre School Graduation in the morning at 9:30 a.m..

Cindy Miller, Heritage Hall Director, went over current activities at the center, discussed the bridge lessons they will be having at the center and advised that the new calendar would be out next week.

Stephanie Orr, Jacinto City Library, stated that they were getting ready for their summer reading program and that their hours would be changing on Saturdays starting June 7th, they would now be open from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., all the information was on their website and the computer classes would continue during the summer.

Mayor Diaz reminded everyone of the community garage sale on Saturday and that it was free. She advised that the pool would be open and the movie they were showing was Sandlot, to come on out and make this a big success.

She advised that Mr. Donald Lessman, a longtime resident, had passed away and that services were tonight at Carter Funeral Home.

City Manager Maner asked that if anyone had a problem to please let us know so that we could address it.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Council to award bid on resurfacing of Oswego Street and amend Capital Outlay budget code 19-6910 in the amount of \$45,074.00

City Manager Maner advised that before any action was taken, he wanted to let them know that they had gone over the bids very carefully, this was the low bid and it was a qualified bid, that we had \$100,000.00 in the budget but the low bid was the \$145,074.00 and that was why the amendment was on there and there were bids received that were almost double that. He stated that was their recommendation and if anyone had any questions Kyle could answer them.

City Manager Maner advised that we needed to accept the bid of \$145,074.00 first and then amend the budget.

Council Member Gonzales ask if this went from Siesta Lane up to Flint Street and Mr. Reed advised that it was and that if you cut any part of that job out it would defeat the purpose, that they whole thing needed milled bad.

A motion was made by Council Member Gonzales and seconded by Council Member Garcia to accept the bid of \$145,074.00 for the resurfacing of Oswego Street. Vote: 5 For 0 Against

A motion was made by Council Member Lee and seconded by Council Member Garcia to amend Capital Outlay budget code 19-6910 in the amount of \$45,074.00. Vote: 5 For 0 Against

2. Second and final reading of Ordinance 2014-2 setting salary for Mayor and Council.

A motion was made by Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Lee to approve the second and final reading of Ordinance 2014-2 setting salary for the Mayor and Council. Vote: 5 For 0 Against

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Council to amend sewer department budget code 33-6829, Operating Supplies-Utility Plant in the amount of \$30,000.00.

Public Works Director, Kyle Reed, advised that back in December we started having PH problems at the sewer plant and there was a PH limit on our permit, this was caused by a low alkalinity we get from our drinking water and he had to address that problem using one chemical and now we were on a trial using magnesium hydroxide and this was a problem that was happening all around Houston not just here in JC. He advised that he was out of money in that particular budget code to pay for his chlorine and other chemicals because we never saw this coming with the PH problem, that this will get us through this year but he had to tell them this chemical that we were on trial with right now is very expensive and we were going to have to come up with a permanent solution, he was talking with engineers and it was not going to be a cheap fix.

A motion was made by Council Member Garcia and seconded by Council Member Rivas to amend Sewer Department Budget Code 33-6829 in the amount of \$30,000.00.
Vote: 5 For 0 Against

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Robert Hernandez, 10245 Chadwick, ask everyone to remember upcoming Memorial Day, he head a poem and ask that they always remember those who died for us.

Juanita Martinez, 1726 Casperson, stated that she was here from the Jacinto City Girls Softball Association and this was their first year as a league and they were happy to say that they have 176 girls and 12 teams and she was happy to say that being their first season, thanks to the contributions of the council helping them out and advising them how they could continue with the softball league here in Jacinto City and they were in the last week of their season and they would like to invite the Mayor and Council to come out to their Awards Ceremony on May 23rd from 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. and passed out the invitations. Ms. Martinez stated that what they wanted the league to do for the girls was build character, sportsmanship and memories.

Mayor Diaz thanked the league, stated that they had come a long way in their first year and thanked them for the invitations to the award ceremony.

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Council Member Rivas thanked Ms. Martinez for the invitation, stating that the election was over and he was back and looking forward to the next two years. He cautioned everyone to be safe over the Memorial Day Weekend. He announced that his wife Shelly had graduated from college.

Council Member Gonzales wished everyone a safe and happy memorial day and apologized for having to leave for work.

Council Member Robinson wished everyone a safe and happy memorial day and thanked both softball and baseball for all they do for the kids, that his daughter and son played down there.

Council Member Lee wished everyone a safe memorial day and there were a lot of activities that would be coming up with school being out real soon, everyone had to adjust to a new schedule and the heat so please be careful out there, go out to a game, our fields look great and it was a great way to spend an evening.

Council Member Garcia thanked everybody for being here and to enjoy their weekend. She stated that at the next council meeting we would be honoring some of our most outstanding graduates from GPHS and Furr High School.

Mayor Diaz adjourned the meeting at 6:35 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joyce Raines". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Joyce Raines
City Secretary