

COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY, MAY 24, 2012, 6:00 P.M.

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Thursday, May 24, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Nunez, Council Members Rivas, Dias, 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 Lee and seconded by Council Member Garcia to approve the minutes as presented. Vote: 5 For 0 Against

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Stephanie Orr, Jacinto City Library, reported that they were just about ready to start their Summer Reading Program and would have three levels again this year, adult and children's Programs and this would start on June 4th and anyone could come in and sign up. She stated they have information posted on the website and also have calendars covering the summer programs.

Captain Demont advised that all was going well, that they would have the click it or ticket program going on for the next two weeks so please wear your seat belts.

Council Member Diaz ask him about the four way stop sign on Kerby and Wiggins.

Captain Demont replied that he heard they were working that hard and to please stop.

Kyle Reed, Public Works Director, stated they forgot to mention about the stop sign, that they just put that up and it was long past due.

Mayor Nunez advised that she was getting a lot of calls about it, everybody wants stop signs.

Kyle reported that the water line project on the south side of the tracks was going well, that they were $\frac{3}{4}$ through with putting the new water line in, they had not connected the service taps but the job was going good and it was through a grant we acquired through Harris County, that we funded part of it, he didn't know the exact amount. He advised that they did the walk through on two of their jobs that were funded through the government HUD money. He stated that one of them was the generators and we now have generator power at the water well on La Crosse so that in case we have another hurricane we don't have to depend on Houston, we can run our own stuff and we have

two down on Oates Rd. that runs our lift stations. He stated that the jobs at the sewer plant and water plant were started and this was going to be about five million dollars worth of grant money on these four project also. He stated that Jacinto City was moving forward, thanks in part to Harris County and the Government , that the improvements were long past due. He advised that they would also be spraying for mosquitoes and hopefully they would have the machine on the street all weekend.

There was discussion, by Mayor Nunez, about how bad the mosquitoes were and that would be good because of the holiday weekend and everyone would be out.

Kyle stated that he wanted to thank the Council and the citizens for the Prayers and support that he had while he was off, that he actually had a heart attack and he was pretty young, 56 years old, to have one but thank God he didn't have to have a triple bypass which is what they were going to do but he got by with stints so he appreciated all the support by the employees, that Bernardo did a wonderful job, all the department did and Kim did a good job, they all worked together so he wanted to thank everyone.

Mayor Nunez stated that she had people that own businesses here asking about him because they knew he had a heart attack and they inquired about you and she was glad to give them some good news that she had just found out today that he was released and had been back to work since Monday and she was glad to see him back, that he had been given a second chance like some of them.

Kim Bellotte, Parks and Recreation, reported that the Memorial Dedication went wonderful with everybody's co-operation., that they had about 50 young gentlemen out there for about two weeks tearing up the grounds and doing all the landscaping and the businesses donated , lots of family members and people who weren't family members. She ask the people that helped with the monument to stand up and they were given a round of applauses. Kim stated that was just a few of the people out there and it was really nice everyday to see people out there. She stated everybody was there and thanked them for coming.

Mayor Nunez stated that it was beautiful and she knew that the sponsors really came in and helped , especially Hollywood Cemetery that donated the monument which was really a work of art and she thinks that Wanda really worked hard and so did Kim and the people from public works, that she would see them there sometimes after five and all the volunteers, that she knew that it was impossible to name all the volunteers but they know who they were and we are all very grateful for them to have done what they did and all we have to do is make so no graffiti, we have to keep an eye on it.

Kim advised that Jimmy Hernandez bought cameras and the DVR system would be installed in the Parks and Recreation office and Lord help the person who defaced that Monument with all the parents going after them.

Mayor Nunez stated that she would not want to be that person, but it was beautiful and she knew that a lot of work went into it and she knew that it took about four years to finally get it done and she thinks that all of us are really proud of what was accomplished and she knew that Kyle's people worked hard to do what we could do for this special event.

Kim announced that tomorrow was the preschool graduation and everyone was invited, it was at 10:00 a.m. at Town Center and Saturday they had the awards ceremony for the baseball league, they would be giving out awards at 10:00 a.m. in the gym. She also advised that Saturday would be the opening of the swimming pool and June 5th would be the first day of swimming lessons and they would also be doing the senior citizen aerobics as usual at 10:30 on Tuesday throughout the summer and senior swim was from 4 until 5 Tuesday through Friday.

Mayor Nunez ask if they had quite a few seniors come out for this and Kim stated the few that come like to gossip a lot but they enjoyed it.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Nunez ask City Attorney DeFoyd to read the Proclamation Proclaiming May 22, 2012 of each year hereafter be celebrated as "Jacinto City Youth Memorial Day" in the City of Jacinto City.

The Proclamation was read by Mr. DeFoyd.

Scott Dowlearn, 10337 N. Oswego, stated that he would like for this to go on the record, because they had so many people that worked so hard on this, he addressed the Mayor, City Council and citizens saying there was a little boy who loved baseball and he played for Jacinto City Little League every year and was selected for the All Stars almost every year and once he got in high school he was placed on the varsity team and after a short while, he was made pitcher and team captain and it was truly a joy to see him play; he went on to tell of his many accomplishments stating that unfortunately he died in 2008 from injuries sustained in an automobile accident. He stated the family knew that he was a giving person and they knew that he would want to do this in death as well, the decision to donate his organs was made and in doing so he saved three lives and the boy he was speaking of was his brother, Curtis Allen Dowlearn. He stated that these kids that have

been chosen to cross the path deserve to be remembered by all and the dedication of this monument, the first of its kind, in memory of their lives and to signify that they are no longer with us and he would like to thank all parents and volunteers who worked tirelessly to make this possible so the youth of future generations could share the love of the game. He stated we look back on those who grace the Youth Memorial Monument and the people who work long and hard to make this a reality. He thanked the Mayor and Council for their approval and Ms. Kim Bellotte, the Parks and Recreation Director, for pulling all of this together and working in her off time, that it meant a lot to not only his family but all the families and he thanked everyone.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Nunez stated she could see that the city was going to be real busy, especially the Parks and Recreation and then Kyle telling us of all the work from the grants we are getting. She stated that for about a year now we had been having problems with some pits on Switzer Street, it seemed that nobody knew who was supposed to take care of them but she got somebody that knew who to talk to and of course that was Joyce Raines and she said don't say her name but she was and here are some of the e-mails and these e-mails said that the problem with the pits on Switzer St. would be taken care of no later than next Week and we had been at it for one whole year and if they would go down Switzer, they would see. It belongs to AT&T, they had put orange fence around these pits but you have kids and seniors walking and at night time anybody could have fallen and she knew that there were departments that tried to get this resolved and Mr. Roy Zermano, who is our Representative with AT&T, e-mailed Ms. Raines back and advised her it would be taken care of and to keep him posted if it was not done. She stated that we had gotten a lot of complaints on that and had to get it resolved and we are finally getting it done. She discussed the upcoming events, pre-school graduation, swimming pool opening etc..

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Maner advised that everything was going well and everyone is busy, he stated that he would like to add to Kyle's report. He stated that last weekend was the tire roundup and 623 tires were picked up, which was a couple of hundred up from last year so that was 600 less tires sitting in back yards holding water and breeding mosquitoes, etc. and thanked the public for cooperating and it was a success.

Mayor Nunez stated that she had a question, that she knew that people were so happy and some are unhappy because they got tickets there at Kerby and Wiggins but if you are driving, you were going to observe that there are signs there.

City Manager Maner advised that the administration at the school and the school district itself had written to us and ask that we consider that because , as everyone who is familiar with the area knows, at the corner of Burman and Kerby it has always been a four way stop and it works real well but the corner of Kerby and Wiggins was a two way stop going east and west only on Wiggins and in the mornings, when people were dropping off their kids and in the afternoons when they are picking them up it would cause problems and they have had a couple of minor wrecks there but usually it is just bad feelings and close calls but they studied it and it was a problem and we were able to correct it and the Principal, Ms. Gardao has communicated with us and they are very pleased with it and it seems to be doing the trick. He stated that we did want to get it up a little before this school year ended so people could start getting use to it and when school starts again, it will be part of their habits. We are happy to be able to help and we were able to do so in this instance.

Mayor Nunez ask if we could start thinking about a four way stop sign on Palestine and Kilroy right by the El Ahorro because we have a lot of seniors walking to that grocery store.

City Manager Maner advised that we would study that one and see if it was feasible.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The second and final reading of Ordinance 2012-3 Setting the salary for the Mayor and Council was read by City Attorney DeFoyd.

A motion was made by Council Member Garcia and seconded by Council Member Diaz to approve Ordinance 2012-3 setting the salary for the Mayor and Council on the second and final reading. Vote: 5 For 0 Against

7. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Mr. Chad Burke, Economic Alliance, Houston Port Region, presented the report For 2010/2011.

Mr. Burke stated that he really appreciated the opportunity to come in and give them an annual report and let them know what they had been doing over the past year and the things they have going on this year. He stated that they had annual reports that really detailed all of activities they had done through the year but he wanted to walk through an overview or give a summary of what they had been doing and are continue to do for the region. He presented a power point presentation stating that their mission was to grow the

economy and they do that in a lot of different ways and the region they represent covers eleven different cities, a total of 16 communities because some of them are unincorporated areas, Harris County, Port of Houston and a lot of private industries. He went over what they had been able to accomplish this past year and what is coming up in the current year. He stated that most of the things they do falls within two categories, business development and quality of life. He stated they pursue quality of life for two reasons, one to try and help beautify the area and second to help encourage people to come into this to take advantage of the historical assets that we have. He went over what projects their quality of life projects included and the freight transportation studies. He discussed the Gateway projects, including the project in Jacinto City. He stated that they would continue to see, over the next two to five years, the real increase in capital investment into our region.

Council Member Garcia stated that she just wanted to thank them for the Gateway Project we have that is going to start back up, that a lot of the residents have been asking what happened to that and all we can say is that is that it will start back up.

Mr. Burke stated that he really hated that but it was like we were talking about before, in any governmental agency you are sometimes forced to go with the low bid and sometimes that bites you. He advised that it had not happened with any of the others and the contractor that we have to come back in and really finish up the job properly is excellent and has done three of our other projects, he knows what he is doing and will do a good job you and take care of this, he hates that this happened but knew that we would get it back on track.

City Manager Maner advised that we had been members of the Economic Alliance for many years now and he did have to say that it was one investment that he has never regretted, they had done the whole region and our city a lot of good, it was beneficial and we appreciated it.

Mr. Burke replied that they really appreciated it, it was a wonderful place to live and work and we are literally the center of the State and the Nations economic growth now and are so fortunate to be where are and it is going to reflect it , he knew what a hard time all of our cities had gone through the last couple of years, having to trim budgets, our schools, Counties and everybody else did but believe him, we are coming out of this recession in a big way and they are happy to be a part of helping make it happen.

Mayor Nunes stated that she knew that our citizens were going to be happy to hear that those monuments would be up and going and she knew that being a member of the

Economic Alliance had been a plus for us and we work together with all the cities in the region and she knew they were going to come through for us and make something very pretty out there for us.

2. A motion was made by Council Member Gonzales and seconded by council Member Garcia to approve the renewal of the Economic Development Services Agreement with Economic Alliance, Houston Port Region. Vote: 5 For 0 Against

Mayor Nunez advised that Mr. Burke's father was a Port Commissioner and ask that he give him her regards, that we love him and he has really done a good job for us. City Attorney DeFoyd advise that his father was also the former Mayor of Deer Park and also a Council Member before that.

There was discussion about the length of the agreement.

Mr. Burke stated they would be back the same time next year but if they ever needed anything all they had to do was call.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Robert Hernandez, 10245 Chadwick, advised that his purpose here was to thank everybody that made the Youth Memorial Project possible, especially all of the department heads here for what they did, the City Council and God Bless everyone here who has family members on the memorial, they really put in a lot of effort and time and they gave from the heart and that is what its all about , when you give from the heart you can never go wrong and he really appreciates them. He stated that it was the shadow of Memorial Day and he would like to share with them an article that he got from Carter's Country in today's newspaper and he read the article. He thanked everyone for their time and wished them a safe and blessed Memorial Day.

Donna Dailey, 1701 Chazen, stated that she just wanted to comment on the Memorial as well, it was very nice, it was well organized, beautiful and we should be very proud of everybody that was involved; however, right afterwards it was like a lot of the people there didn't care, that place was trashed and then you look back a minute later and it was clean and she saw some of the family members that were in the blue shirts were cleaning up, some others as well, but she especially noticed them and Ana Diaz's dad was over there with a bag filling it up and before everybody left she didn't think there was a crumb on the ground, we are all a part of our city but some people forget that we all need to take care of our city and she just wanted to thank those that cleaned up after the ones that forgot.

Larry Schion, 506 Hare Cooke Rd., Crosby, Texas, stated that he didn't get to make that monument even though his little brother did work for him many years, was a good kid, very smart and stayed off drugs and he knew him from when he was about five or six until he died. The Memorial is very pretty and a lot of people helped on it and it was a good thing and he stated he stopped by and look at it this morning. He stated that he drive a lot of miles every day and get to see a lot of memorials and most of the time they are by freeway where people can see and he did look at ours and he watched when they were putting them up and when they were putting them up he didn't think they were doing a very good job, they didn't look like they knew what they were doing and he had a discussion with Ms. Raines this morning and told her they looked kinda bad and she said they were going to take care of them and he was glad that Ms. Burke was here because he had lived here for 40 years and Jacinto city carries the name of the Battle of San Jacinto, which was a very important issue and that statue don't represent what all of their projects that look really good do. He stated that the people who did the Youth Memorial Monument were volunteers and the way it looks is better than the professionals. He had questions about when it would be completed and he hoped that the quality would look like others he had seen.

Scott Dowlearn, 10337 N. Oswego, stated that he appreciated Larry comments about the Youth Memorial Monument but we have to remind ourselves that to keep it looking as good as it does is going to take a lot of work and we have eleven families that are going to be helping but we are also going to continually need donations to come in to support it and he discussed an idea that he had. He stated that something he would like to ask the council was now that we have these new paved roads it seems like it just allows the cars to go a lot faster and there are a lot of kids on the street and he knew that road humps would take a survey and it might not be feasible but what were the chances of getting some Slow, children at play signs.

Mayor Nunez ask Kyle what he thought about the possibly of speed humps.

Mr. Reed replied that the policy was that we give it to the Chief to do a traffic survey and then it goes to the City Manager.

Mayor Nunez replied that it goes through the same process as all other streets and advised Scott that we would look into it.

Scott stated that the Primary Election was coming up and because of all the redistricting they would have more precincts to handle and the County was allowing them only three clerks and if anyone would like to volunteer for part of the time, they could call him.

Angel Fernandez, 10221 Rumar, talked about the Youth Memorial Monument and how much it meant to all of the families of the names on there, that her brother's name was on the monument and all of her family and a lot of her brother's close friends put a lot of hard work into it and it brought a lot of people together and she wanted to thank Kim and everyone involved. She stated that a lot of the kids out there working were going to be taking care of the city when we are all older and we should do more things for the kids and appreciate and recognize them more and make them feel like they are somebody and maybe accidents won't happen if they feel a sense of belonging and that they are respected. She thanked everyone for everything.

Mayor Nunez ask the volunteers to stand up and be recognized.

Ms. Fernandez stated it was just amazing how people can get together and get something done, it was a beautiful thing to realize.

Council Member Diaz stated that this brought so many people together, that they just met Ms. Fernandez and her coming here to the council and it might not be her first time at the council meeting, maybe she would start coming to the council meetings, that it had really brought a lot of families together. We had met a lot of friends and thanked them for all their work.

Mayor Nunez stated it had brought a lot of youth together.

Mr. Schion ask that when the statue get there and in the future, like we have in the front, you have a lot of council names on it but there has been a lot of council that comes and goes and all of their names are not out there and he was wondering if other kids that pass or needs to be put on there, at who's expense and who does it or can they even be put on there.

City Manager Maner advised that they had established criteria for the future and basically, as he recalls, as far as the youth are concerned, they have to have played or participated in one of the ball leagues down there and they had to have passed away before the age of 21. Mr. Schion began asking a question and Mr. Maner ask that he let him finish. Mr. Maner advised that no they didn't have a person to do it, but it would be done. He stated that the committee its self would approve each one and then it would be done but yes there was previsions for the future.

Kim Bellotte advised that they had a gentleman by the name of Samuel Garcia that they had just got the approval on and it would be added in the next couple of weeks. She advised that the process was they would go to the Parks and Recreation Director, whoever

that was at the time, and fill out a form to be given to the committee, who was made up of all the families that are on the memorial already and they would approve the form just like they had so far. She stated that it had to meet the criteria and hopefully they would be able to get donations by having rag ball tournaments or car washes, or whatever they are willing to help her with. She stated they were going to have donations set up so that if this happens to another family we would have the money in the account to be able to pay to have their name put on the monument. She advised that it would cost approximately \$200.00 to have it put on right now and on the criteria it did say that the committee would pay for the youth to be added and if it was a coach that passed away, it would be the responsibility of the family but she really thought that the committee would get together and get that taken care of too. She stated that it was a living time memorial, there was room for other people to be put on there and if we know people who don't quite make the criteria they could also make provision about having the stones put in the ground not on the monument but in the monument area but hopefully we don't have to put anyone else on there.

Council Member Lee wished everyone a safe and happy Memorial Day and he also wanted to thank everyone who took part in the Memorial Service that it was a wonderful service and he hoped that the families could have some peace that will continue because of that. Mr. Lees stated that he had his son with him tonight and he was graduating from Galena Park High School, he was exempt from all of his finals and he name was Caleb. He stated that he also saw that Brother Alex Moreno and his wife were with us, they are the Pastors at Second Baptist Church, they are residents of the city so he just wanted to welcome them to the city and welcome them to them to the Pastor ship at Second Baptist, a wonderful institution in our town.

Vickie Lee advised that they also had two more Council Members with graduates.

Council Member Garcia wished everyone a happy Memorials Day and ask that they not forget the ones that have already done the job for us and here we are today taking advantage of that. She ask if it would be possible to fly the flags at half mast that day like we did last year.

City Manager Maner stated it was possible, was that Flag etiquette and was advise it was and he stated that we would do that.

Council Member Garcia thanked the families for their involvement in the Memorial, that it was a very great event.

Council Member Gonzales stated that he would like to give a special thanks to the young guys that came in, the Fernandez. He stated that he was out there with them in the heat of the day, they worked and never complained and it was really good to see that and he knew they would be fine young men and he thanked them very much.

Councilman Rivas stated that he got out there and watched them work and ask how he could help them and they pointed him in the right direction and you'll got it done, it was really a group effort and you could see what the power and the unity of the community can do and the turn out, when he first walked up he said oh and then he turned around and said Wow look at this, it was really great.

Council Member Diaz stated it was packed.

Mayor Nunez stated there was so many youth there, it was really amazing that they came out and were there for the fallen players.

Council Member Rivas and Council Member Gonzales advised that they also had children graduating .

Kim stated that while they were thanking everybody for the Memorial, she didn't want to skip Ms. Harris and the beautiful rendition of the National Anthem that will make you cry every time she sings it.

Mayor Nunez stated that she was from Congressman Gene Green's office.

Kim stated that she always does a wonderful job and Gene Green is always there for Jacinto City.

Council Member Diaz commented on the poem that Roland Garza read, stating that she thought everyone was crying, just the way he said it, it was great.

Council Member Garcia stated that she forgot to mention, that because of the Youth Memorial Dedication, a friend of hers that works with her is a grief counselor at the school and was willing to offer grief counseling for free in our city and we just need to get with her to see how we could work it out.

Larry Schion stated that what he missed about not living in Jacinto City was the close bond that he had with most of them up here, whether it was giving or taking or helping they always helped.

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Mayor Nunez replied that so did the citizens and businesses, whether it was Santa on the Fire Truck, Toys for Tots, Food Baskets or any other cause, they were there to help and she was talking about him, he always opened his wallet.

There was general discussion about the community.

Mayor Nunez adjourned the meeting at 7:05 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 printed name and title.

Joyce Raines
City Secretary