

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF SAN JUAN COMMISSION

DATE:

Tuesday, April 11, 2017

TIME:

6:00 p.m.

PLACE:

San Juan Memorial Library
Multipurpose Meeting Room
1010 S. Standard
San Juan, Texas 78589

MEMBERS PRESENT:

San Juanita Sanchez, Mayor
Mario Garza, Mayor Pro-Tempore
Raudel Maldonado, Commissioner
Jesus Ramirez, Commissioner
Pete Garcia, Commissioner
Javier Villalobos, City Attorney

MEMBERS ABSENT:

David Salinas, Director of Utilities

STAFF PRESENT:

Benjamin Arjona, City Manager
Palmira Cepeda, Interim City Secretary
Juan Gonzalez, Chief of Police
Oscar Cuellar, San Juan EDC Director
Pablo Garza, Finance Director
Adelaida Cordero, Director of Human Resources
Armandina Sesin, Library Director
Patrick Willingham, Director of Parks and Recreation
Xavier Cervantes, Director of Planning
Carmen Gonzalez, Director of Sanitation
Rene Jaime, Purchasing/Risk Management
Mary Enriquez, Court Administrator
Hussein Bakka, Director of Information Technology

GUEST:

Adriana Karr, President of San Juan Community Lions Club, Gwyneth Razo, Ms. San Juan 2017, Melissa Lugo Miss San Juan 2017, Manuel Garcia with Garcia and Peña PA, Mark Alaniz with Parks and Recreation Board, Dr. Stephanie Alvarez with Parks and Recreation board, Andre DeMattos with PBK Architects

ORDER OF BUSINESS

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor San Juanita Sanchez called meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. INVOCATION

Benjamin Arjona, City Manager led the invocation.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor San Juanita Sanchez led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. PRESENTATIONS

- a. Presentation on Departmental Reports: Department of Planning and Zoning, Department of Parks and Recreation, San Juan Memorial Library, Department of Sanitation. (Benjamin Arjona, City Manager)

DISCUSSION: Mayor San Juanita Sanchez presented the item and asked if the City was on schedule with the equipment they currently had. Carmen Gonzalez, Director of Sanitation stated that one of the mechanics did a quick fix on one of the trucks since busy days were approaching. Mayor Sanchez commented that she had noticed the Department had a rental truck. Ms. Gonzalez mentioned that without the rental the Department would only have three working trucks. Mayor Sanchez went on to ask if they were on schedule with the brush pick up. Ms. Gonzalez responded that they were and that the sweeper had been out daily, in addition to spraying weed killer to grass coming out of the street and sidewalks.

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Mayor Sanchez asked Armandina Sesin, Library Director how everyone was doing in her Department due to the current passing of a library employee. Ms. Sesin responded that Benjamin Arjona, City Manager had approved overtime for two employees.

Commissioner Raudel Maldonado asked Patrick Willingham, Director of Parks and Recreation what the issue was with the player that wanted to switch teams due to not wanting to be with a certain coach. Mr. Willingham replied that he was aware and that the player was put back into the draft. Commissioner Jesus Ramirez asked Mr. Willingham if he was aware that a game was cancelled for the 2nd time and Mr. Willingham replied by saying that he was and that it was due to a school function but did not know it had been cancelled before. Commissioner Ramirez advised Mr. Willingham to call the coach and follow up with him.

- b. Presentation on the 1st Annual Royal Egg Hunt by Mr. Adrian Karr, President from San Juan Community Lions Club. (Mayor San Juanita Sanchez)

DISCUSSION: Mayor San Juanita Sanchez presented the item and Adrian Karr gave presentation. Mr. Karr stated that their Easter Egg hunt was scheduled for Thursday April 13th from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at Carman Elementary.

Gwyneth Razo, Ms. San Juan 2017 mentioned that they wanted to give back to the community by hosting an Easter egg hunt. She stated that there would be a moon jump and a magic show and were presently taking donations for the easter eggs.

Melissa Lugo, Miss San Juan 2017 stated it was a great honor and privilege to be Miss San Juan 2017. She mentioned that she and the royal court were making history by having the very first Easter Egg Hunt in the City of San Juan.

Mayor San Juanita Sanchez asked what kind of donations were they looking for and Ms. Razo stated that they would like monetary donations and that they already had sponsors like McDonalds and Texas Roadhouse. Mayor Sanchez went on to say that Javier Villalobos, City Attorney would donate \$200 and she would donate \$60 that she had with her and challenged the Commission to donate. Mayor Pro-Tem Mario Garza donated \$100.

- c. Presentation on Renaming Mayfield Park. (Patrick Willingham, Director of Parks and Recreation)

DISCUSSION: Mayor San Juanita Sanchez presented the Item and Patrick Willingham, Director of Parks and Recreation mentioned that present to give a presentation were Mark Alaniz and Dr. Stephanie Alvarez. Mr. Mark Alaniz stated that also present was member Rick Martinez. Mr. Alaniz mentioned that he has had numerous phone calls regarding the naming of the park. He also mentioned that he had done some research and Dr. Alvarez was an expert on Mexican American studies. He went on to say that Dr. Alvarez would present to the Parks and Recreation Board as to why the parks name should be changed.

Dr. Stephanie Alvarez stated that it was important to mention that they were only asking for the name to be removed and that they would request input from the community on the name if the Item was approved. She mentioned that recently UT Austin removed a statue of confederate president Jefferson Davis. Dr. Alvarez stated that the City of San Juan has been the leader in civil rights in Hidalgo County and all of South Texas. She also mentioned that Mayfield definitely killed an unknown number of Mexicans, he enforced segregation, public hangings and lynching.

Mr. Alaniz stated that if the Item was approved, they would get the community's input, listing it online and getting suggestions for the new name.

Mayor San Juanita Sanchez stated that the topic was not new to her and that she had no problem changing the name. She also mentioned that they could not take action because the item was under presentations. Commissioner Pete Garcia advised to table the item so it could automatically be put on the next agenda.

Motion was made by Commissioner Pete Garcia to approve and seconded by Commissioner Raudel Maldonado. Motion passed. (5-0)

V. APPOINTMENTS

- a. Consider Appointment to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board-One Member. (Palmira Cepeda, Interim City Secretary)

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DISCUSSION: Mayor San Juanita Sanchez presented the item and Palmira Cepeda, Interim City Secretary stated that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board nominated Robert Williamson to replace Tomas Vasquez due to Mr. Vasquez's absences since 2016. She went on to say that she included attendance sheet in the packet and the application of the new member.

Motion was made by Commissioner Pete Garcia to approve and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Mario Garza. Motion passed. (5-0)

VI. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO THE FOLLOWING MATTERS:

- a. Discussion and Action the Annual Audited Financial Report for the City of San Juan, Texas for Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2016. (Benjamin Arjona, City Manager)

DISCUSSION: Mayor San Juanita Sanchez presented the item and Benjamin Arjona, City Manager stated that Manuel Garcia from Garcia and Peña PA firm would be giving a presentation. Mr. Garcia mentioned that there were a lot of small funds that were grouped together. He commented that one group was for projects and another group was special revenue funds. Mr. Garcia went on to say that on the independent auditors report it had a report of the financial statements. He also mentioned that each report had a summary to better understand the report. He said that on the general government there were \$3 million and that the total expenses were \$13 million. The utility fund had a profit of \$1,468,000.00 and the benefit payments were \$10,448,000.

Mayor San Juanita Sanchez commented that the following year the City would have more capital outlay once the projects were completed and Mr. Garcia confirmed her statement.

Mr. Garcia stated that they broke up the utility fund into solid waste fund, debt service and utility fund. He mentioned that the numbers were close to the previous year. He went on to say that on the liability section the previous year it was \$17 million and this year it was \$16 million. Mayor Sanchez asked to be given an overall fund balance of the General Fund and Mr. Garcia responded that it was \$1.8 million.

Mr. Garcia recommended that the Accounting Department stay in close communication with all Departments to complete transactions in a timely manner. Mayor Sanchez asked if there were any questions and proceeded with thanking Mr. Garcia for his work.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tempore Mario Garza to approve and seconded by Commissioner Pete Garcia. Motion passed. (5-0)

- b. Discussion and Action on the Exterior Building Finishes for the New Public Safety Building. (Xavier Cervantes, Director of Planning)

DISCUSSION: Mayor San Juanita Sanchez presented the item and Xavier Cervantes, Director of Planning mentioned that Mr. Andre DeMattos with PBK Architects would be giving presentation.

Mr. Andre DeMattos stated that they had a preselection of the colors of the building and that later there would be another presentation for the interior finish. Mayor San Juanita Sanchez mentioned that option number two was better and that those colors would standout more. Mayor Pro-Tempore asked how many flag poles would there be. Mr. DeMattos responded that there would be three. Mayor Sanchez asked if there weren't any questions and if there was a motion for option two.

Motion was made by Commissioner Jesus Ramirez to approve and seconded by Commissioner Pete Garcia. Motion passed. (5-0)

- c. Discussion and Action on canceling this year's May Fest and Focusing on one event which would be the Noche de Paz for the City of San Juan. (Commissioner Jesus "Jesse" Ramirez, Commissioner Raudel Maldonado, and Mayor Pro-Temp Mario Garza)

DISCUSSION: Mayor San Juanita Sanchez presented the item and Commissioner Jesus Ramirez stated that he had requested the item to be placed on the agenda because he had spoken to City staff and was informed that there were no funds to put the event together. He also mentioned that there wasn't any advertising and not enough time to put the event together. Also he mentioned that he would rather focus on one event. Benjamin Arjona, City Manager stated that he spoke to the EDC and stated that the EDC would be donating \$15 thousand towards the event and the other \$16 thousand would be the City's responsibility. It would also be less when the sponsors come in. He stated that if the event got approved, they were ready to advertise. Commissioner Pete Garcia asked if they had already contracted a band. Mr. Arjona replied by saying they couldn't get a band yet until the event was approved. Commissioner Jesus Ramirez asked how the event was being put together if it had not

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been approved yet. Mayor Sanchez stated that the City always has two events per year and that the money had already been allocated. Commissioner Pete Garcia mentioned that the cities don't do events to make profit. Mayor Pro-Tempore Mario Garza stated that he agreed that the event is for the community but four weeks was too short of a notice and it should have been brought up to the commission a long time ago. Commissioner Pete Garcia stated that the commission was informed of the event when they started working on the budget and that the EDC had already had the money allocated on their budget. Commissioner Jesus Ramirez asked EDC Director Oscar Cuellar how many small business grants have been issued out since there was money available for the event. Mr. Cuellar replied by saying none. Commissioner Ramirez went on to say that he was sticking to his recommendation to motion to cancel the event.

Motion was made by Commissioner Jesus Ramirez to approve and seconded by Commissioner Raudel Maldonado. Opposed Mayor San Juanita Sanchez and Commissioner Pete Garcia Motion passed. (3-2)

VII. CONTRACTUALS/RESOLUTIONS

- a. Consideration of Adoption of Resolution to Declare an Emergency Pursuant to Ordinance 17-04 for the Purpose of Hiring Personnel. (David Salinas, Utility Director)

DISCUSSION: Mayor San Juanita Sanchez presented the item and asked if it would be tabled since David Salinas, Director of Utilities was not present. Benjamin Arjona, City Manager stated that the reason the item was listed was because an employee had resigned with a short notice and another employee was transferred to water distribution and a third employee was going to be out for surgery. Due to the resolution that was recently passed, the item needed to be brought up for approval from the Commission. Mayor San Juanita Sanchez asked for clarification if they were going to hire or just post the position. Mr. Arjona stated that they were only going to post the job opening.

Motion was made by Commissioner Jesus Ramirez to approve and seconded by Commissioner Pete Garcia. Motion passed. (5-0)

- b. Consideration of Allowing Utility Department to Employ Necessary Personnel Pursuant to Resolution of Emergency. (David Salinas, Utility Director)

DISCUSSION: Mayor San Juanita Sanchez presented the item and stated that the item followed the previous agenda item.

Motion was made by Commissioner Pete Garcia to approve and seconded by Commissioner Jesus Ramirez. Motion passed. (5-0)

- c. Consideration of Adoption of Resolution to the Texas Department of Transportation Recommending Option 2 Regarding the Proposed Improvements on I-2 and I-69C Interchange for the Portion of the Project Within the San Juan City Limits. (Xavier Cervantes, Director of Planning)

DISCUSSION: Mayor San Juanita Sanchez presented the item and Xavier Cervantes, Director of Planning gave presentation. He mentioned that on March 30th the Texas Department of Transportation held an open house for the three different options for improvements. Mr. Cervantes went on to say that staff was recommending option two. Mayor San Juanita Sanchez asked if option two included that the city keeps all exits. Mr. Cervantes replied by saying the exit ramps would stay as they were.

Motion was made by Commissioner Jesus Ramirez to approve and seconded by Commissioner Raudel Maldonado. Motion passed. (5-0)

- d. Consider the First Amendment to the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement Between Hidalgo County, Texas, the City of San Juan, Texas and the City of Alamo, Texas Concerning Certain Improvements to Cesar Chavez Road from Nolana Loop to Business 83. (Xavier Cervantes, Director of Planning)

DISCUSSION: Mayor San Juanita Sanchez presented the item and Xavier Cervantes, Director of Planning stated that the original interlocal agreement was signed September 15, 2015 for the purpose of widening Cesar Chavez Road to five lanes. The proposed amendment was to expand the project to the south to Ridge Road with no additional contribution from the City.

Motion was made by Commissioner Pete Garcia to approve and seconded by Commissioner Jesus Ramirez. Motion passed. (5-0)

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- e. Consider the Approval of Budget Amendment to the Sanitation Vehicle Line Item 22-700.7951 in the amount of \$862,595.98. (Carmen Gonzalez, Director of Sanitation)

DISCUSSION: Mayor San Juanita Sanchez presented the item and Carmen Gonzalez, Director of Sanitation stated she needed the money to use for the garbage trucks and will later reimburse when the 2017 bond issuance goes in. Mayor San Juanita Sanchez asked when the trucks would be delivered and Ms. Gonzalez stated it would be 45 days after the purchase order was submitted.

Motion was made by Commissioner Pete Garcia to approve and seconded by Commissioner Jesus Ramirez. Motion passed. (5-0)

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Consider an Ordinance in Second Reading for a Conditional Use Permit to operate a drive-thru business (restaurant) in a commercial property, legally described as a 1.828-acre tract of land out of lot 19, block 8, John Closner Subdivision, located at 1911 N. Raul Longoria Road, as Requested by Calixto Hernandez. (Xavier Cervantes, Director of Planning)
- b. Consider an Ordinance in Second Reading for a Conditional Use Permit for the Sale of Alcoholic Beverages for Off-Premise Consumption at the "RGV Coolers" retail store located at 2604 N. Raul Longoria Road, Suite 106, legally described as Lot 1, Storage Depot Subdivision, as Requested by RGV Coolers, LLC. (Xavier Cervantes, Director of Planning)

DISCUSSION: Mayor San Juanita Sanchez presented the item and asked for a motion.

Motion was made by Commissioner Raudel Maldonado to approve and seconded Mayor Pro-Tempore Mario Garza. Motion passed. (5-0)

IX. ADJOURNMENT: 8:47 P.M.

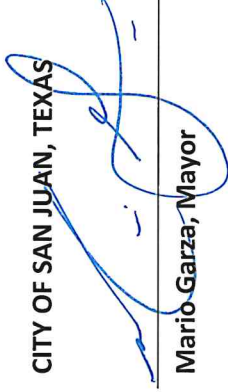
Commissioner Raudy Maldonado motioned to adjourn meeting and seconded by Commissioner Jesus Ramirez. Motion passed. (5-0)

ATTEST:



Diana H. Cavazos, City Secretary

CITY OF SAN JUAN, TEXAS



Mario Garza, Mayor