

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF SAN JUAN COMMISSION

DATE:

Tuesday, August 14, 2018

TIME:

6:30 p.m.

PLACE:

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

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mario Garza, Mayor
Pete Garcia, Mayor Pro-Tempore
Lenny Sanchez, Commissioner
Jesse Ramirez, Commissioner
Criselda Palacios, City Attorney

STAFF PRESENT:

Benjamin Arjona, City Manager
Brenda Escalante, Administrative Clerk
Nayeli Guerrero, Records Manager
Tirso Garza, Chief of Fire
Juan Gonzalez, Chief of Police
Leroy Gonzalez, Director of Finance
Adelaida Cordero, Director of Human Resources
Armandina Sesin, Library Director
Patrick Willingham, Director of Parks & Recreation
Antonio Jaramillo, Interim Director of Planning
David Salinas, Interim Director of Sanitation/ Public Works
Rene Jaime, Purchasing/Risk Management
David Salinas, Director of Utilities
Mary Enriquez, Court Administrator
Amy Martinez- Nagy, Interim Director of Information Technology

ORDER OF BUSINESS

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Mario Garza called meeting to order at 6:30p.m.

II. INVOCATION

Benjamin Arjona, City Manager led the Invocation.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Mario Garza led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Rick Ramirez and Esmer Marmolejo.

V. PRESENTATIONS

A. Presentation of Department Reports: Department of Planning and Zoning, Department of Parks and Recreation, San Juan Memorial Library and Department of Sanitation.

DISCUSSION: City Manager, Benjamin Arjona stated that under presentations we had departmental reports from Planning and Zoning, Parks and Recreations, San Juan Memorial Library and The department of Sanitation. Every department director is present and available should you have any questions. Mayor Mario Garza asked if there were any questions for the directors at this time. Commissioner Jesus “Jesse” Ramirez, ask if Mr. Benjamin Arjona was the one that provided the report for the 4th of July celebration. Mr. Benjamin Arjona responded that it had been Patrick Willingham from Parks and Recs not himself. Commissioner Jesus “Jesse” Ramirez was unsure if anyone could answer his question but wanted to know if there had been any revenue coming in from given event. Mr. Arjona answered that in fact there had been some revenue coming from the food booths, and asked Leroy Gonzalez, Director of Finance exactly how food booths did they have. Patrick Willingham answered there had been \$900 worth of revenue and \$623 from the drinks. Commissioner Jesus “Jesse” Ramirez asked if there had been any contribution on behalf of the EDC this time. Benjamin Arjona explained that the pending sponsorship from EDC was for Noche de Paz not the 4th of July. Also mentioning there was \$9500 that came in from the sponsors for Noche de Paz that were still pending but that sponsorship had just came in today.

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Mayor Pro-Tem, Pete Garcia asked if David was the one working on the issue about the drain. Benjamin Arjona stated that was an item he wanted to discuss himself. He explained the Utilities Director, David Salinas was already working on an item to present to the commission, there seems to be some roots growing inside the pipes. The utility director is well aware of the drainage problem and we are working on that so that we can take care of that matter. Commissioner Leonardo “Lenny” Sanchez stated that since the first day that there was a stretch of rain Mayor Mario Garza, Benjamin Arjona and David Salinas and he were there and that’s when they identify the issue. Mayor Mario Garza explained that this was not the first time that the issue has arisen; this has been going on like Ms. Esmer mentioned. Adding that he knows it’s been falling through the cracks and he’s aware that it’s an issue that needs to be addressed. City Manager, Benjamin Arjona agreed, explaining that in fact they were addressing the item but it wasn’t going to be as simple as just going in. We will need to open up those lines, some of them are kind of old, but we are going to be redoing them. Benjamin Arjona directed himself to resident Esmer Marmolejo advising her if there were any questions he would be in his office. Mayor Mario Garza reestablished anyone can feel free to call Mr. Arjona so he can go ahead and better assist and thanked Mrs. Marmolejo for being present. Commissioner Leonardo “Lenny” Sanchez, emphasized he wanted to make sure that when projects are completed somebody is there to inspect those same projects after the fact, because the contractors leave a lot of mess. For example you drive on Oblate St right now there’s house of rocks and dirt along the curb which stops the water from actually going through and into the drainage if you go to Citrus and Oblate and you look to the North East corner there is a drain that is totally clogged of debris. Adding that he talked to Mayor Mario Garza about it the other day; it looks really bad even right now when he drove by he could see the wads of debris. The intersection of Ebony it’s really dirty with a lot of rocks in the area. Explaining he wasn’t sure if it was the contractor’s responsibility or the cities but once the contractor is done someone from the city should go inspect it. Benjamin Arjona assured it would get taken care of by tomorrow. Resident Esmer Marmolejo, added a comment that Frontage Rd going east were Steward Rd hits that’s another one that is clogged. Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Garcia said there use to have a white stripe in the sides and they don’t have them are they going to put them on. Benjamin Arjona responded that was not part of the bid it isn’t required by the city because it’s a city street, but if they’d like the stripe could get done.

Pete Garcia continued with his concern coming from the weekends the church that is there and the area a lot of cars parked in the side and it would be kind of neat to have the stripe. Benjamin Arjona asked if this was on the church side. Pete Garcia explained on one side there is the fire lane they have a whole strip in red but on the opposite side to the west side it had the white stripe. Commissioner “Neto” Guajardo asked how we were doing with the materials to cover up some of the potholes and if we needed any more material. Eric Muñoz, Streets and Alleys Supervisor answered on the potholes asphalt was just ordered and will be arriving tomorrow. We’re going to order a boatful which is a trailer full and I do have some addresses that we have to take care off. Erick Munoz adding it’s was the same material that had been used recently which last longer out there. Commissioner “Neto” Guajardo questioned if one of the city vehicles she saw parked on 9th street was in working conditions or not. Erick Muñoz went on to explain the bearings had given out on that vehicle but the proper budget adjustment to go ahead and move some monies over so that part was ordered already, it was approved and there is a PO so we’ll be getting that part and we’ll finish up that area. Mayor Mario Garza, Any other questions? If not we’ll move on.

B. Presentation on National Night Out.

DISCUSSION: Benjamin Arjona started with the next item which was the presentation on National Night Out. Captain Cazares and Sargent Lopez were welcomed in. My name is Jose Robles, San Juan Police Department. I’m here to do a brief presentation on the National Night Out it’s on the 31st and we’ll be having it at our new police department at 301 E Ridge Rd from 5 pm to 8 pm. We already have generators allocated for the event because we’ll have it behind the new PD since we have no electricity that’s why we have the generators. Restrooms will be available for the public within the lobby. We have backpacks to give away and we have over 20 vendors from snacks, drinks to arts and crafts. We also have multiple agencies to be attending. For the music we have two bands, we have Texas Sweethearts out of Weslaco and Modos for entertainment.

Mayor Mario Garza was curious as to who decided on the change of mind from Mayfield Park to the Police department and also who made that decision if it was the Police Department or the Crime Stoppers. Captain Cazares answered the reason why it was moved to the Police Department is because the departments is still not well known to the community so the idea was to bring more notice to the department. Let the community know we’re here locally with them so that was one of the reasons why we decided to do it at the Police Department.

Mayor Mario Garza responded he figured that in Mayfield Park there is more parking and it has easier access but you brought up a good point. He showed appreciation and thanked them. That’s the only

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question he had for the gentleman. Police Chief, Juan Gonzalez came forward wanted to also add the fact that one of our officers that's assigned to a Drug Task Forces has received a very prestigious award as narcotic officer of the year for our South Texas Region so that's a plot for the work we're doing with those federal agencies, plus the department. The commission allowing us to be in partnership with the task forces, the department was built through asset forfeiture funds for the majority rate. So he just wanted to share that with the commission. Mayor Mario Garza thanked him.

VI. Discussion and Possible Action

A. Discussion and Possible Action to Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Budget Amendment out of Retained Earnings in the Sanitation Department to Cover Repair Cost for the Sanitation Department and Authorize the City Manager to Execute All Related Documents and Budget Amendment as Needed.

DISCUSSION: Benjamin Arjona proceeded with this is the item that we're pending in repairs on a unit. The cost on that particular unit is \$11,000 it's in the shop so we are asking for authorization to go ahead and authorize this budget amendment so that we can fix the truck and put it back to operation. Commissioner Jesus "Jesse" Ramirez questioned if the amount \$11,000 was correct. It was. Mayor Mario Garza asked if there were any questions. There wasn't.

Mayor Mario Garza made motion to approve and was seconded by Commissioner Sanchez. Motion Carried Unanimously (5-0)

B. Discussion and Consider Proposed Tax Rate for the City of San Juan for Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018 and Setting Public Hearings.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Leroy Gonzalez, Director of Finance began, Good afternoon Mayor and Commissioners. In accordance with the property tax law if the proposed tax rate of 6993 will exceed the effective tax rate of 6988 or a roll back tax rate of 7480 a record vote must be taken and also scheduled two public hearings. The two public hearings will be scheduled for Tuesday August 28th at 6:30 pm, For the first hearing and the second hearing on Tuesday September 11th at 6:30 pm. This item is to take a cote to set up the meetings for the first public hearing and the second. Mayor Mario Garza asked if there were any questions for Mr. Leroy but there wasn't.

Mayor Pro Tem Pete Garcia made motion to approve and was seconded by Commissioner Ramirez, motion passed (5-0)

C. Discussion and Possible Action Authorizing City Manager to Execute Budget Amendment for Retained Earnings in the Amount of \$35,000.00 for the Purchase of Tires and 90 Gallon Containers.

DISCUSSION: City Manager, Benjamin Arjona informed that this was an item that was brought before the last meeting however there was a question as to whether it was 28,000 or 35,000 that was brought up by Commissioner Jesus "Jesse" Ramirez. And the answer is 28,000 however when we went back to the office the following day it was discovered that indeed it was a \$35,000 so we decided to bring it back so it was approved accordingly. Commissioner Jesus "Jesse" Ramirez questioned if they were approving an additional \$7,000 or \$35,000. Benjamin Arjona answered \$7,000 and asked the last action to be disregarded. Commissioner Jesus "Jesse" Ramirez asked if a total was going to be written. Benjamin Arjona answered yes, so it's a total of \$35,000 instead of \$28,000. Commissioner Jesus "Jesse" Ramirez directed himself to counsel Criselda Palacios, he asked if on the previous agenda item that was already approved they would have to go back and resend that vote. Criselda Palacios answered yes.

Commissioner Jesus "Jesse" Ramirez motioned to resend that portion of the item and was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Pete Garcia, Motion carried (5-0).

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

A. City Commission Meeting Minutes- June 26, 2018

DISCUSSION: City Manager, Benjamin Arjona started on the last item for consent agenda; we have the City Commissions Meeting minutes from June 26, 2018.

Mayor Pro Tem made motion to approve and was seconded by Commissioner Sanchez. Motion passed (5-0)

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VIII. ADJOURNMENT: 6:52 pm

Mayor Pro Tem Pete Garcia made motion to Adjourn and was seconded by Commissioner Sanchez.
Motion passed (5-0)

CITY OF SAN JUAN, TEXAS

Mario Garza, Mayor

ATTEST:


Diana H. Cavazos, City Secretary