

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF SAN JUAN COMMISSION

DATE: Tuesday, December 11, 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
Ernesto Guajardo, Commissioner
Rick Palacios, City Attorney

STAFF PRESENT: Benjamin Arjona, City Manager
Diana Cavazos, City Secretary
Tirso Garza, Chief of Fire
Juan Gonzalez, Chief of Police
Leroy Gonzales, Director of Finance
Adelaida Cordero, Director of Human Resources
Armandina Sesin, Library Director
Patrick Willingham, Director of Parks & Recreation
Robert Escobar, 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
Pat Karr, Director of Information Technology

ORDER OF BUSINESS

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Garcia called meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. INVOCATION

Benjamin Arjona, City Manager led the Invocation.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Pro Tem Pete Garcia.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Resident Rick Ramirez stated that he was disappointed on the outcome of the open house for the New Plans for the City of San Juan. He also stated that not one member from the Commission attended the Open House, but at the Noche De Paz event all the members of the City Commission attended.

V. PRESENTATIONS

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

DISCUSSION: Benjamin Arjona, City Manager introduced and welcomed Roel Garza as the new Department of Sanitation Director. Mr. Garza thanked the mayor and commissioners for the opportunity. Benjamin Arjona, City Manager mentioned that he attended the Texas Water Development Board meeting at Austin, Texas. He also mentioned that the city was awarded 2.2 million plus an additional \$500,000 as loan forgiveness for the Lift Station and Waste Water Department.

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Benjamin Arjona, City Manager stated that all department directors are present to answer any questions the commission may have. Commissioner Jesus “Jesse” Ramirez asked Mr. Arjona for any future trip meetings he would like to know the purpose of the trip and if possible to get invited to attend any future meetings first hand. Commissioner Jesus “Jesse” Ramirez asked Roberto Escobar, Director of Planning and Zoning for the Health Ordinance that is in process if it would be finalized before somebody is hired. Mr. Escobar responded that the first public reading will be on the first meeting of January. He also mentioned that they will hire somebody to start training for code enforcement then transition to health inspector.

Commissioner Jesus “Jesse” Ramirez asked Armandina Sesin, Library Director if the children’s librarian is going out to promote children activities, because the numbers are low. Mrs. Sesin replied that yes she is going out to schools and to the head starts. Commissioner Jesus “Jesse” Ramirez asked Patrick Willingham, Director of Parks and Recreation when he can get a final report and breakdown of the expenses and the revenue for Noche de Paz event. Mr. Willingham responded that he is missing a couple of items, but he is working on it and will present a full report on the first meeting of January.

Commissioner Leonardo “Lenny” Sanchez asked Mr. Garza to find a better way to secure the garbage trucks when hauling trash to the Edinburg location as he has been notified that debris is being blown off the trucks. Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Garcia asked Mr. Arjona if Code Enforcement went out to inform residents on 1st street where to place the brush. Mr. Arjona replied yes they did. Mayor Pro-Tem Garcia asked Mr. Arjona if the city received any quotes from third party’s companies to do the sweep. Mr. Arjona replied that yes he received a couple of quotes but still working on one. Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Garcia stated that before educating and citing residents the city needs to do a complete city clean-up.

VI. PUBLIC HEARING/ORDINANCE

- a. Hold Second Public Hearing for the Voluntary Annexation of the Proposed Hinojosa Acres Subdivision being a 2.0 acre tract of land out of Lot 7, Block 9, Lot 4, Block 13, and Lot 5, Block 13, John Closner et. al Subdivision, as per Volume 0, Pages 4-5, H.C.M.R., Hidalgo County, Texas located on South Nebraska Avenue, along the North side of Conway Road.

Public Hearing opened at 6:44pm

Public Hearing Closed at 6:45pm

Commissioner Jesus “Jesse” Ramirez motion to approve and seconded by Commissioner Leonardo “Lenny” Sanchez. Motion passed (4-0).

VII. APPOINTMENTS

- a. Consider Appointment of a Board Member to the City of San Juan Parks and Recreation Board.

DISCUSSION: Benjamin Arjona stated that no applications were submitted however it doesn’t mean the commission cannot appoint somebody. Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Garcia asked the commission if there was anyone they would like to appoint.

Commissioner Jesus “Jesse” Ramirez motion to tabled and seconded by Commissioner Ernesto “Neto” Guajardo. Motion Passed. (4-0)

VIII. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ALL THE FOLLOWING MATTERS:

- a. Consider Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into a Contract Agreement with Texas Police Chiefs Association Foundation in Connection with the Best Practices Standards in Law Enforcement.

DISCUSSION: Juan Gonzalez, Chief of Police mentioned that this is just a monitored process to where police agencies in Texas approve their compliance with 166 Texas Law Enforcement Best Practices. He further stated that this recognition program has clearly become the new Gold Standard for Texas Law Enforcement. Commissioner Jesus “Jesse” Ramirez asked Chief Gonzalez if this recognition will help in any of the grants. Chief Gonzalez replied yes.

Commissioner Jesus “Jesse” Ramirez motion to approve and seconded by Commissioner Leonardo “Lenny” Sanchez. Motion Passed. (4-0)

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- b. Consider and Approve Renewal of Inter local Cooperation Agreement between the City of San Juan and County of Hidalgo.

DISCUSSION: Mary Enriquez, Court Administrator stated that the purpose of this agreement is to state the terms and conditions under which the County Tax Assessor – Collector may refuse to register certain motor vehicles. When the County Tax Assessor-Collector receives information from the city that individuals have an outstanding warrant failure to appear or have not paid a fine that involves a traffic violation they cannot renew the registration on their vehicles. Commissioner Jesus “Jesse” Ramirez asked Mrs. Enriquez if there is a fee the city needs to pay. Ms. Enriquez answered no. Benjamin Arjona, City Manager mentioned that there is no yearly fee that they charge on the transaction.

Commissioner Leonardo “Lenny” Sanchez motion to approve and seconded by Ernesto “Neto” Guajardo. Motion passed. (4-0)

- c. Consider Authorizing the City Manager to Declare 22 Seized Vehicles and 2 Seized Trailers Awarded to the City of San Juan by the Criminal District Attorney of Hidalgo County as Surplus Property and Authorize the Auction of said Seized Property.

DISCUSSION: Rene Jaime, Purchasing/Risk Manager mentioned that he is asked to declare the following vehicles and 2 trailers as salvage or surplus. He also mentioned that salvage means that is unusable and someone would like to buy it for parts. He stated he provided the commission with a list of all the vehicles. Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Garcia asked if any of these vehicles can be used by any other department. Benjamin Arjona answered that not for the departments but maybe the police department can use them. Juan Gonzalez, Chief of Police stated that Mr. Arjona was correct; the vehicles can only be used by law enforcement officers. Chief Gonzalez also stated that with the exception of a few they’re just vehicles that need to be auction and utilize that money to purchase other equipment.

Commissioner Jesus “Jesse” Ramirez motion to approve and seconded by Commissioner Leonardo “Lenny” Sanchez. Motion Passed. (4-0)

IX. CONTRACTUALS/RESOLUTIONS

- a. Consider entering into a memorandum of understanding between the City of San Juan and the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Services (TEEX).

DISCUSSION: Tirso Garza, Fire Chief mentioned that the following item is on MOU to get his facility trained and certifies with TEEX. He also mentioned that it’s all free of charge.

Commissioner Leonardo “Lenny” Sanchez motion to approve and seconded by Commissioner Ernesto “Neto” Guajardo. Motion passed. (4-0)

- b. Consider and Approve a Resolution to Adopt the Proposed Update to the Hidalgo County Metropolitan Planning Organization Throughfare Plan.

DISCUSSION: Benjamin Arjona mentioned that the item before the commission where TexDot is recommending that from four lanes to six lanes between Business 83 through Frontage road and that from four lanes to six lanes between Frontage road through Nolana Loop. Mr. Arjona mentioned their recommendation to the commission that maybe not the one from Business 83 to Frontage Road because it’s going to reduce and it will do away with the parking area that business rely on between Business 83 through the Frontage Road. He also stated that they don’t have a problem with anything between Frontage Road to Nolana Loop. Commissioner Jesus “Jesse” Ramirez asked Roberto Escobar, Director of Planning and Zoning what was his recommendation. Mr. Escobar said his recommendation was only from Frontage road to Nolana loop.

Commissioner Jesus “Jesse” Ramirez motion to approve as recommended and seconded by Commissioner Ernesto “Neto” Guajardo. Motion passed. (4-0)

- c. Consider Resolution Designating Hidalgo County Metropolitan Planning Organization Members.

DISCUSSION: Benjamin Arjona, City Manager mentioned that the following item is to assign the Technical Advisory committee for the Hidalgo County Metropolitan Planning Organization. Roberto Escobar, Director of Planning and Zoning also mentioned that a designee and alternate need to be assign in the case of Mayor Mario Garza not being available. He also mentioned that

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usually the designee is the Mayor Pro-Tem. Mayor Pro-Tem stated that he is not the secondary. Ricardo Palacios, City Attorney stated that by nature of the office as the Mayor Pro-Tem he has the authority to attend the MPO meetings. Mr. Palacios also stated that it could be done more official.

Commissioner Jesus “Jesse” Ramirez motion to appoint Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Garcia as a designee and to appoint Roberto Escobar as the alternative member for the TAC seconded by Commissioner Leonardo “Lenny” Sanchez. Motion passed. (4-0)

X. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Consider Second and Final Reading of an Ordinance for a Conditional Use Permit to operate a Drive- Thru Business at “ Popeye’s Snow Cone” legally described as Lots 17 and 18, Tierra del Sol #2 Subdivision, located at corner of Veteran’s Boulevard and 7th Street, as Requested by Virginia Garza.
- b. Consider Budget Expenditure Report- October 2018

Commissioner Jesus “Jesse” Ramirez motion to approve and seconded by Commissioner Ernesto “Neto” Guajardo. Motion Passed. (4-0)

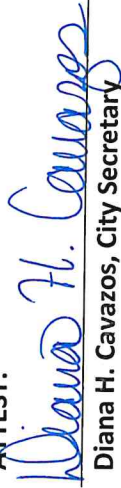
XI. ADJOURNMENT 7:00 pm

Commissioner Jesus “Jesse” Ramirez motion to adjourn and seconded by Commissioner Leonardo “Lenny” Sanchez. Motion passed. (4-0)

CITY OF SAN JUAN, TEXAS

Mario Garza, Mayor

ATTEST:


Diana H. Cavazos, City Secretary