

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF SAN JUAN COMMISSION

DATE: Monday, August 3, 2020

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mario Garza, Mayor
Leonardo "Lenny" Sanchez, Mayor Pro-Tempore
Marco "Markie" Villegas, Commissioner
Rick Palacios, City Attorney

STAFF PRESENT: Benjamin Arjona, City Manager
Diana Cavazos, City Secretary
Juan Gonzalez, Chief of Police
Adelaida Cordero, Director of Human Resources

ORDER OF BUSINESS

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

Mayor Mario Garza called meeting to order at 6:00p.m.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

No public comments. Mayor Mario Garza asked how the other Commissioners were notified of the meeting to which Diana Cavazos, City Secretary responded in person when packets were delivered Friday and over the phone.

III. PRESENTATIONS:

- A. Presentation on Proclamation to Declare the City of San Juan, Texas as an Area of Local State of Disaster - Hurricane Hanna.

DICUSSION: Benjamin Arjona, City Manager stated everyone had the proclamation in their packet. The proclamation was in reference to the FEMA funding to qualify for the reimbursement the city would have to declare as a state of disaster. Mayor Mario Garza read the Proclamation.

- B. Presentation on Departmental Reports: Department of Finance, Department of Utilities, Police Department, Fire Department and Municipal Court.

DICUSSION: Benjamin Arjona, City Manager stated Directors were available virtually should there be any questions on behalf of the City Commission. Mayor Pro-Tem Leonardo "Lenny" Sanchez asked for a status the improvement response based on Hurricane Hanna to which Mr. Arjona responded sand bags had been distributed on Saturday and there were a lot of residents present. Mr. Arjona further stated the night of the storm staff were on standby although there were no major issues aside from flooding on Hall Acres Road, a couple of subdivisions and a sewer back up. Mr. Arjona explained these issues presented themselves before when residents would open up the breathers or cleanouts and water was going straight to the sewer and because it was too much water going through the sewer it backups. Mr. Arjona expressed his gratitude towards city staff as well as with Precinct II for allowing the city to use their generators.

Mayor Pro-Tem Leonardo "Lenny" Sanchez asked if there were any major structural damages for residents within the city to which Mr. Arjona responded only the damage to the canopies at both parks with very minimal fence damage. Mr. Arjona stated the proper steps had been taken and a claim had been submitted to TML. Mayor Pro-Tem Sanchez asked if residents were provided and aware of a direct line of communication for life threatening situations, keeping in mind the safety of our first responders of course to which Mr. Arjona responded the EOC was activated but for the future a public announcement would be placed on the city webpage to avoid direct calls to City Hall. Mayor Mario Garza asked regarding damages to city resident's homes, car ports and fences what is being done in reference to FEMA to which Mr. Arjona responded the process for helping private property damages is taken case by case. Mr. Arjona stated he was either

approving or denying request depending on the situation and with a harmless agreement to be signed off before. Mr. Arjona further stated whether the city is reimbursed or not what matters is the safety of the citizens. Mayor Pro-Tem Leonardo "Lenny" Sanchez congratulated the employees that were out in the sandbag distribution, the emergency management was phenomenal. Mr. Arjona stated there had been some complaints about only having one location but unfortunately the second location being the Mayfield Park was having some work done at the moment. Commissioner Villegas expressed his gratitude towards all the departments involved. Mayor Garza stated information regarding FEMA should be on the city website for the citizens and possibly setting up 6 months' notice on any new information out there for the residents to which Mr. Arjona added the FEMA notice had been placed on the city website already.

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

- A. Consider an Amendment to the Cooperation Agreement of the Hidalgo County Urban County Program for Fiscal Years 2021-2023.

DISCUSSION: Benjamin Arjona, City Manager stated the agreement was in regards to the grants under the small cities CDBG programs. Mr. Arjona further stated the City of San Juan would not be able to apply for any additional grants for this fiscal year due to the Hidalgo County applying for the grants themselves. Mr. Arjona added it was a standard agreement for the city to receive the funds for the reconstruction of streets from the County after they get the funds and then the city dictates the street projects.

Commissioner Marco "Markie" Villegas made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Leonardo "Lenny" Sanchez. Motion passed (3-0).

- B. Consider Authorizing the City Manager to Declare Various Items as Surplus Property.

DISCUSSION: Benjamin Arjona, City Manager explained Fire Department gear and a ladder truck that hasn't been used for years were being declared as surplus. Mr. Arjona added the ladder truck could be sold or donated to Mexico but it was not usable through the guidelines in the United States. Mayor Pro-Tem Leonardo "Lenny" Sanchez suggested reaching out to the City of Mission as they had a good rapport with the cities across the border.

Mayor Pro-Tem Leonardo "Lenny" Sanchez made a motion to approve and was seconded by Commissioner Marco "Markie" Villegas. Motion passed (3-0).

- C. Ratification of Emergency Vehicle Purchase from Boggus Ford in McAllen, Texas Due to COVID-19 in the Amount of \$286,385.75.

DISCUSSION: Benjamin Arjona, City Manager stated because of the COVID-19 guidelines there couldn't be 4 employees per vehicle therefore it was an emergency to acquire additional vehicles with COVID-19 money to have only 2 employees per vehicles. Mr. Arjona further stated it was for four pickups and cargo vans so the custodians can transport chemicals back and forth to the buildings that need to be sanitized. Mr. Arjona added because of the urgency and COVID-19 money the county had allowed the city to spend the monies. Mr. Arjona stated this item had been scheduled for approval at the last meeting but since it was rescheduled and because of the emergency he was now asking for ratification. Mayor Garza asked how many cargo vans were being requested to which Mr. Arjona responded six: one for Fire, one for Streets and four for the Parks and Recreation Department. Mayor Garza asked if the insurance had been cleared to which Mr. Arjona responded the insurance was getting looked at as they were trying to issue the vehicles out to the departments as soon as possible.

Mayor Pro-Tem Leonardo "Lenny" Sanchez made a motion to approve and was seconded by Commissioner Marco "Markie" Villegas. Motion passed (3-0).

V. CONTRACTUALS:

- A. Consideration and Action on an Interlocal Agreement for the 2020 - 2021 Fiscal Year with the Hidalgo County Urban County Program.

DISCUSSION: Benjamin Arjona, City Manager stated the item was for the annual agreement the City had with Urban County. Mr. Arjona further stated there were no changes just a renewal of contract.

Commissioner Marco "Markie" Villegas made motion to approve and was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Leonardo "Lenny" Sanchez. Motion passed (3-0).

VI. CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Consider Second and Final Reading of an Ordinance for a Rezoning Request of Tract I – from Single-Family Residence District (R-S) to Light Industrial District (L-I) of the East 500 feet, of the South 990 feet of Lot 48, Stewarts Addition to the Conway Gardens. Tract II from SingleFamily Residence District (R-S) to Light Industrial District (L-I) of the South 500 feet of the West 820 feet of Lot 48, Stewarts Addition to the Conway Gardens located at the Northwest corner of Dicker and Stewart Road, as Requested by George Lazaro.
- B. Tax Collection Report - June 2020.
- C. Budget Expenditure Report - June 2020.
- D. Investment Report Qtr. Ending June 2020.

Commissioner Marco “Markie” Villegas made a motion to approve and was seconded by Leonardo “Lenny” Sanchez. Motion passed. 3-0

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- A. The San Juan City Commission will Convene in Executive Session, in Accordance with Texas Open Meetings Act, Vernon's Texas Statutes and Codes Annotated, Government Code Chapter 551 (Consultation with Attorney).
 - 1. Pursuant to Section §551.074 PERSONNEL MATTERS; Discuss the Appointment, Employment, Evaluation, Reassignment, Duties, Discipline or Dismissal of a Public Officer or Employee. (Juan Gonzalez, Chief of Police)

Mayor Pro-Tem Leonardo “Lenny” Sanchez made motion to go into executive session at 6:21p.m. and was seconded by Mayor Mario Garza. Motion passed (3-0).

VIII. RECONVENE:

- A. The City Commission will Reconvene in Open Session to Take Necessary Action, if any, in Accordance with Chapter 551, Open Meeting, Subchapter E, Procedures Relating to Closed Meeting 551, Requirements to Vote or Take Final Action in Open Meeting.

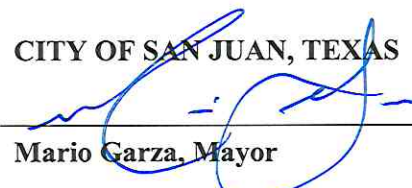
Mayor Pro-Tem Leonardo “Lenny” Sanchez made motion to reconvene at 6:31 p.m. and was seconded by Commissioner Marco “Markie” Villegas. Motion passed (3-0).

Commissioner Marco “Markie” Villegas made motion to accept the recommendation made by City Manager and was seconded by Mayor Mario Garza. Motion passed (3-0).

IX. ADJOURNMENT 6:32 p.m.

Mayor Pro-Tem Leonardo “Lenny” Sanchez made motion to adjourn and was seconded by Commissioner Marco “Markie” Villegas. Motion passed (3-0).

CITY OF SAN JUAN, TEXAS


Mario Garza, Mayor

ATTEST:


Diana H. Cavazos, City Secretary