

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JERSEY VILLAGE, TEXAS, HELD ON MAY 11, 2010 AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE CIVIC CENTER AT 16327 LAKEVIEW DRIVE, JERSEY VILLAGE, TEXAS

The meeting location for this meeting was changed due to a power outage at 16327 Lakeview Drive. Accordingly, the meeting was relocated to the Fire Department Training Room at 16501 Jersey Drive, Jersey Village, Texas.

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. with the following present:

Mayor, Russell Hamley
Council Member, Joyce Berube
Council Member, Rod Erskine
Council Member, Curtis Haverty
Council Member, Ernie English
Council Member, Jill Klein

Council Member Elect, Mark Maloy

City Manager, Mike Castro
City Secretary, Lorri Coody

Additional Staff in attendance: Mark Bitz, Charles Wedemeyer, Danny Segundo, Isabel Kato, Michael Brown, Bob Blevins, and Kimberly Maldonado.

BUDGET ITEMS

1. Continue Departmental Presentations not concluded on May 10, 2010

- a. Parks and Recreation – Michael Brown, Parks and Recreation Director gave the presentation. Discussion was had about the playground equipment at Clark Henry Park and the use of this equipment by the local school. Council asked Mr. Brown to check and see if the school would be interested in contributing to the maintenance of this equipment since the children were using it during school hours.

Discussion was also had about the 43 acre detention park and the maintenance thereof. Mr. Brown explained that at one point the City hired out the care for this land, but in recent years, equipment was purchased and the Parks Department currently maintains this land.

Council discussed the fact that the oleander plants along the 290 corridor are dying after the winter freeze. The wanted to know if the City maintained this stretch of roadway as it applies to the oleanders. Mr. Brown explained that the City does maintain the oleanders and that his department has been monitoring the plants. The hope has been that these plants would come back, but it appears that many have in fact died.

In connection with vegetation and plant issues in the City, Council also discussed the by-pass channel and the need to include it in the 2010-2011 budget a supplemental for either the planting of trees or for fencing along this channel. Council would like to

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have a discussion item included on the May 17, 2010 Council agenda in order to gain perspective of the desires of Council by way of preparation for the May 20, 2010 meeting that the Mayor and City Manager will attend with Commissioner Eversole.

Planting and/or fencing the by-pass channel area was discussed at length. Many ideas were discussed as Council tried to recall citizen input from a public session earlier in the year related to the desires for trails and/or landscaping behind the homes along the bayou. Council also discussed the need for a partition wall along the by-pass channel.

- b. Information Technology – IT Director, Bob Blevins made the presentation. Much of the discussion by Council centered on the need for government social networking and how this process might work for our City and benefit our residents. Discussion was also had on the upgrading the City's computers to Windows 7 and Office 2010 products.
- c. City Secretary – Lorri Coody, City Secretary gave the presentation. Council had limited questions concerning this area of the budget.
- d. Communications – Kimberly Maldonado, Communications Supervisor gave the presentation. Ms. Maldonado fielded Council's questions and answered accordingly.
- e. Finance Department – Isabel Kato, Finance Director gave the presentation. Council engaged in discussion about the new auditors and staffs' expectations as well as the judges' compensation and how the changes in same are working.

Mayor Hamley called for a 5 minute recess and reconvened at 8:07 p.m.

- f. Public Works – Danny Segundo, Public Works Director gave the presentation. Discussion was had about the increase in water rates by the City of Houston. Council discussed the possibility of passing these increases on to the residents instead of absorbing the increases in the utility fund. The consensus of Council was that the increases are something that residents could understand more readily than perhaps a tax increase to cover the water cost increases. Council discussed the process in which they would like to implement the water increase, beginning with an item on the Council agenda in May and a letter to the residents explaining the increase to re-coop the costs and then implementation of the increase.

Council discussed the sewer camera and the service connected to same. There was discussion about the possibility of implementing a fee for providing this service to residents.

Council discussed the condition of the City's streets and drainage for future projects.

- g. CIP Budget – Danny Segundo presented the CIP Budget. Discussion was had about the TOD and the City Hall facility and where to place the City Hall Facility in the CIP Budget. It was decided that year 4 was appropriate.

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CONCLUDING REMARKS

Concluding remarks were received from each member of Council and the Mayor. Council Member Elect, Mark Maloy wants noise abatement. He read a statement pertaining to his desires. He would like a 180 foot partition wall along the by-pass channel from Argentina to the Beltway in order to reduce noise in the neighborhood. City Manager Castro explained that a letter had been received from TXDOT in connection with the Environmental Review. The letter basically states that there are no plans for walls in the City of Jersey Village. He told Council that the letter does provide for a response that must be filed within one week. Mr. Castro suggested going on record with Mr. Maloy's notes. Mr. Castro will write the response letter. Copies of the letter will be sent to Senator Dan Patrick, County Judge Emmett, and John Culberson.

Discussion was had on Council's desires for the 2010-2011 budget. Mayor Hamley stated that it is the duty of Council to provide direction to staff concerning their desires as it relates to the preparation of the budget. The current numbers reflect that over \$1 million will be spent from the City's reserves and this would be a budget with limited supplementals. Council discussed passing such a budget. It was the consensus of Council that passing a budget that authorized spending \$1 million of the City's reserves was not acceptable. It seemed to be the consensus that Council did not want to cut staff or services. City Manager Castro explained that he could bring a budget to Council that would be approximately \$500,000 in the "red" that would not cut services or staff, but it also would include only the necessary supplementals. He was directed that this was the desire of Council.

ADJOURN

There being no further business on the agenda the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m., announcing that the meeting set for May 12, 2010 would not be necessary.

Lorri Coody, City Secretary