

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JERSEY VILLAGE, TEXAS, HELD ON MAY 18, 2016 AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE CIVIC CENTER, 16327 LAKEVIEW, JERSEY VILLAGE, TEXAS.

A. CALL TO ORDER AND ANNOUNCE A QUORUM IS PRESENT

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

Mayor, Justin Ray	City Manager, Mike Castro, PhD
Council Member, Andrew Mitcham	City Secretary, Lorri Coody
Council Member, Greg Holden	
Council Member, C. J. Harper	
Council Member, Sheri Sheppard	
Council Member, Tom Eustace	

Staff in attendance: Mark Bitz, Fire Chief; Eric Foerster, Chief of Police; Isabel Kato, Finance Director; Kevin T. Hagerich, Public Works Director; and Kimberly Terrell, Director of Parks and Recreation.

B. BUDGET ITEMS - Continued

1. Continue Departmental Presentations not concluded on May 17, 2016:

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|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| a. Police Department | e. City Secretary |
| b. Fire Department | f. Finance |
| c. Public Works | g. Information Technology |
| d. Parks and Recreations | |

Mayor Ray asked for any additional input/comments on this agenda item. Hearing none, he called the next item on the agenda.

C. CONCLUDING REMARKS AND SUMMARY

Mayor Ray called for additional remarks for this item. Hearing none, Mayor Ray called the next item on the agenda.

D. APRIL 18, 2016 FLOOD EVENT

1. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding the City's long-term response to the April 18, 2016 flood event.

Mike Castro, City Manager, opened discussion on this item by presenting the Council with a PowerPoint presentation including the following information:

- Chronology of Events;
- Current Status; and
- Long-Term Recovery – Proposed RFQ.

City Manager Castro closed his presentation with the following questions:

- What are your expectations of staff going forward?
- Did staff respond to the event appropriately?
- Do you have suggestions for improvement?

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In connection with the presentation, City Council asked the following questions to which Staff responded:

1. How does the 911 Notification System work? The system operates through Harris County 911. It calls registered addresses within the City that have a home phone and cell phones that were registered with a home address.
2. What are the City's FEMA reimbursements and what is the breakdown? FEMA reimbursements are made at 75% of cost. However, there are incentives added for early reporting.
3. What is the 50% rule? Basically, homes requiring repairs costing more than 50 percent of their value must conform to the requirements for new buildings in connection with design flood elevation. The calculation is made on the market value of the home, not the appraised value.
4. How do residents become eligible for FEMA assistance? To be eligible for FEMA assistance/buy-outs, there must be a presidential declaration. With such a declaration, the City's role for the buy-out process includes agreeing to the buy-out. There are programs at the State, County, and City level. A buy-out program must have a local sponsor. It is important to keep in mind that just because the City may be willing to participate in a buy-out program, it does not mean that it will get the program support requested as it is a competitive process, meaning there are other entities also requesting these program funds and those in most need get the funding. Additionally, it is a long process involving both the State and Federal Governments. As disasters are declared, there are funds set aside for which application is made. Accordingly, there are funds currently available from prior disasters that are still open; however, it is most likely that disbursements from these funds will go to those local communities for which the disaster occurred. Therefore, the best chance to compete for funds will be once our disaster is declared and monies are appropriated.
5. Are home elevations and home buy-outs eligible for reimbursement? Yes
6. Are tear-down and rebuild programs a consideration? FEMA will not dedicate funds to tear down and rebuild a home that is larger than 1,200 square feet or costs more than \$150,000. In learning this, it was felt that perhaps residents could assist in getting this rule changed through lobbying efforts.
7. What happens once a buy-out program is approved? Once approved, there will be paperwork that must be approved and worked on by the City. It is a lengthy process that will require that the City hire project managers to assist Staff.

In concluding the question and answer session on flooding, City Council next directed its attention to discussion on conducting an engineering study for flood mitigation in Jersey Village and going out for an RFP/RFQ for such a study. The following items were discussed and suggested for inclusion in the study that will help the City understand the impact of flooding and how to mitigate same:

1. The scope should be large, all inclusive;
2. Specific to Jersey Village;
3. Include flood impact and flood waters;
4. Include information on the Bayous;
5. Consider street drainage and impact on flooding;

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6. Make recommendations with ranking of options;
7. Answer the question: When all proposed work is done with White Oak Bayou, what will flooding of homes look like in Jersey Village?;
8. Consider the effects of flooding on the City's water and wastewater facilities;
9. Answer the questions: What are the causes of the flooding in Jersey Village? and what can be done to mitigate the flooding?;
10. Look at future development and how it will affect flooding;
11. Include a specific study of the streets that traditionally flood during heavy rains;
12. Include the effects of waters from up-stream that affect flooding in Jersey Village;
13. Review any uses for the Golf Course to mitigate flooding; and
14. List of 12 points from Citizen's Committee.

During the discussion, Kevin T. Hagerich, Public Works Director, gave an update on our water and waste water treatment plants. The update included what we have and what we need and how it fits into the City's Capital Improvements Plan. He explained where the SCADA system is installed.

City Council expects that an engineering study on the flooding will produce remedies that will help mitigate flooding in the City.

With no further discussion, City Council Member Mitcham moved that Staff develop an RFQ for an engineering study for flood mitigation in Jersey Village and include in said RFQ, at a minimum, the elements discussed in this meeting. The motion was seconded by Council Member Harper. The vote follows:

Ayes: Council Members Mitcham, Holden, Harper, Sheppard, and Eustace

Nays: None

The motion carried.

City Council then discussed creating a Citizens' Flood Committee. Some felt that creating such a committee would provide a mechanism for the residents to work with the City's consultants/engineers on the flood study by sharing feedback, flooding experiences, and ideas. Such input will build confidence in the study's results.

Council discussed how such a committee should be formed or composed. Some felt it should be a formal committee composed of seven (7) members, who submit application for appointment, and would have the ability to lobby elected officials on behalf of the City for targeted funding/grants, and is assigned a Council Liaison. Both Council Member Holden and Harper volunteered to serve as the Council Liaison for such a Committee should it be created.

Council discussed that the process should be deliberative and participative, engaging the residents. Some felt that making appointment by an application process may delay or extend the results of the flood study. City Manager Castro explained that Staff initially planned that the study process would be completed in 90 to 120 days. However, if that time frame is extended by 30 to 60 days to include

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resident input, it may be worth it. Nonetheless, City Manager Castro cautioned that once the Federal government sets deadlines for funding, the City must be ready to act.

Council continued to discuss the composition of such a committee and the pros and cons of making it formal or informal. There was discussion about eliminating the committee idea and conducting town hall meetings to gather resident input. Detailed discussions were had regarding what the residents really want by way of participation. To aid in the discussion, Council received input from residents attending the meeting who stated that the residents want to interact/dialogue with the City Council on a regular basis concerning flooding mitigation efforts in the City.

The parameters to facilitate a partnership with the residents were discussed, including special meetings, work sessions, town hall meetings, and items placed on regular session agendas. It was the consensus of Council that these points be shared with the engineering firm conducting the study, and that the firm conduct a follow-up meeting with responses to the residents and provide for feedback.

It was the consensus of City Council that a Citizens' Flood Committee should not be formed at this time. Council Member Mitcham moved to place an item on the agenda to set a date for a meeting with residents, the engineering consultant, and City Council to assess flood mitigation strategies. The motion was seconded by Council Member Sheppard. The vote follows:

Ayes: Council Members Mitcham, Holden, Harper, Sheppard, and Eustace

Nays: None

The motion carried.

E. ADJOURN

There being no further business on the Agenda the meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Lorri Coody, City Secretary