

MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JERSEY VILLAGE, TEXAS, HELD ON OCTOBER 17, 2016 AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE CITY OF JERSEY VILLAGE, CIVIC CENTER, 16327 LAKEVIEW DRIVE, JERSEY VILLAGE, TEXAS.

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

Mayor, Justin Ray	City Manager, Jim Gray
Council Member, Andrew Mitcham	City Secretary, Lorri Coody
Council Member, Greg Holden	
Council Member, C. J. Harper	
Council Member, Sheri Sheppard	
Council Member, Gary Wubbenhorst	

Staff in attendance: Mark Bitz, Fire Chief and Christian Somers, Building Official.

Mayor Ray called the next item out of order.

C. Receive and discuss a presentation by Texas Central concerning the Texas Bullet Train activities in the US HWY 290 area.

Jeff Mosley, State Vice President, Texas Central introduced himself and staff members accompanying him for the presentation. He thanked City Council for the invitation to present information about the Texas Bullet Train activities.

Mr. Mosely, in conjunction with Michael Moore and Saud Memon, gave a PowerPoint presentation concerning the Texas Bullet Train. Information covered in the presentation is as follows:

1. Texas is ready for something big;
2. High-speed rail is needed due to population growth;
3. Particulars about the bullet train – 200 miles per hour, three stations/stops, trains leave every 30 minutes, and 400 seats per train;
4. Travel is not dependent upon weather;
5. Elevated rail with dedicated line;
6. 90 minute trip from Houston to Dallas;
7. \$10 Billion investment;
8. 10,000 jobs;
9. Comfortable, reliable, and convenient ride;
10. Variable pricing;
11. Route map;
12. Privately funded; and
13. Rail alignment for Jersey Village.

During the presentation discussion was had regarding:

- Security protocols;
- Biggest challenges;
- Possibility of more stops with increased ridership; and
- Traffic congestion relief.

WORK SESSION MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF JERSEY VILLAGE, TEXAS – OCTOBER 17, 2016

Mayor Ray resumed the regular order of the agenda by calling the next item as follows:

B. Receive and discuss a presentation by the Gulf Coast Rail District concerning commuter rail activities in the US HWY 290 area.

Maureen Crocker, Gulf Coast Rail District, introduced the item. She told the Council that the concept of commuter rail began back in 2007. The proposal is to run commuter rail from Hempstead to Houston under the elevated high-speed rail lines. Currently, a stop is proposed for Jersey Village and research has shown that ridership will triple if the rail goes into downtown as opposed to stopping at IH610.

Ms. Crocker showed a table reflecting the daily cost calculations between commuter rail, the HOV lanes, and US HWY 290 travel options.

Council engaged in discussion about the other corridors being considered for the commuter rail. Ms. Crocker explained that alternate routes include West Park and US 90a. However, US HWY 290 is better positioned because of the high-speed rail project.

Council also engaged in discussion about the daily cost table. Ms. Crocker explained the calculations.

In closing the discussion, Ms. Crocker told City Council that commuter rail's biggest obstacle is funding. Currently, there is no source of funding for the commuter rail project.

D. ADJOURN

With no other items on the agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Lorri Coody, City Secretary