

The City of Galena Park

City Commission Meeting

Date: May 5, 2015

A regular meeting of the City Commission of the City of Galena Park was held at City Hall in the Council Chambers, Tuesday evening at 6:00 P.M. on May 5, 2015.

Present were:	Esmeralda Moya	Mayor
	Danny Simms	Commissioner
	Lois Killough	Commissioner
	Maricela Serna	Commissioner
	Juan Flores	Commissioner
	Mayra Gonzales	City Secretary
	Robert Pruett	City Administrator
Absent:	Jim DeFoyd	City Attorney

Item # 1- Mayor Moya called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Item # 2- Mayor Moya recited the Lord's prayer.

Item # 3- Mayor called for comments from the audience.

Ms. Taggy Hall, a citizen, stated that Ms. Goodbeer has been in the hospital with pneumonia and Ms. Goodbeer made a comment about the paramedics. Ms. Goodbeer stated that they got to her house fast and they knew what they were doing. Ms. Hall stated that they did well on the events in the senior Olympics.

A citizen asked Mayor Moya to translate for him. Commissioner Killough stated that they needed an independent translator. A citizen stated that she would translate for him. The citizen stated he came to the last meeting and talked to the council about setting up the soccer fields. He stated that he would like to thank them for starting the process. The citizen stated that the league used to practice on the high school fields, but the school is doing construction and has blocked it off. The citizen stated that they would practice on a field at Our Lady of Fatima, but too many other kids are practicing there. The citizen stated that he took to Mr. Paredes the measurements of the soccer fields. The citizen asked if the council looked into the website that Mr. Broussard had mention at the last meeting in regards to a grant to get the soccer fields set up. Mr. Ernesto Paredes, Parks and Recreation Director, stated that it is a grant from the soccer foundation and they ask for a lot of requirements. Mr. Paredes stated that one of the requirements is that whoever is going to use the field must be under the status of a league and they are not a registered league. The citizen stated that if they don't have a field to practice on how can they have a league. Mr. Paredes stated that it is a working progress and David Binning the Public Works Director and himself were going out to the fields tomorrow to have them measured. Mr. Paredes stated that the people that marks the fields for Galena Park ISD are going to help him. Mr. Paredes stated that they must have the league before they can use the fields. Mr. Paredes stated that there are a lot of requirements when it comes to the leagues including safety and coaches. Commissioner Killough stated that they also must have insurance. Mr. Paredes stated that all that can be done and they can work together to get it done, and hopefully they will have the fields and everything taken care of for next season. Commissioner Serna stated that creating a league is not easy and requires a lot of time. Commissioner Serna stated that they will not use city grounds until they have proper insurance and proper registration. Commissioner Serna suggested that he starts now to get that done. The citizen stated that they don't have to worry about that, because he is already in contact with the correct

people for that. Commissioner Flores stated that the city is willing to help them get the league started. Commissioner Flores stated that they want to have a meeting with him next week to get everything together. The citizen stated that he doesn't know what to tell the kids, because they don't have anywhere to practice. Mr. Paredes stated that little league is using the fields at the moment and he can't take the fields from them to give it to the soccer players. Commissioner Flores stated that Commissioner Serna, Mr. Paredes, and himself will try to work on getting a schedule so that all the leagues can use the fields and maybe work out an agreement with the school district. The citizen asked why the city didn't ever make use of the fields before and just let them go to waste. Commissioner Serna stated that they have only been there a year and they are working on getting the fields ready. Commissioner Serna stated that he must be patient and he will get the fields. The citizen stated that he wanted to thank the committee for a better galena park for donating soccer balls and equipment to the soccer league.

Item # 4- Consider approving the minutes of regular meeting on April 21, 2015. Commissioner Killough moved to table the minutes of regular meeting on April 21, 2015. Commissioner Serna, 2nd...Vote: 5 Ayes...Motion Carried.

Item #5- Consider ratifying accounts payable from April 21, 2015 through May 1, 2015. Mayor Moya asked if the council could turn to page 4. Mayor Moya stated that she noticed that there was \$21,470.00 was for a 2014 F-150 pickup. Mayor Moya asked where the vehicle was going. Mr. Pruett stated that the vehicle was budget for and it went to Public Works. Commissioner Simms stated that he saw the vehicle there already. Mayor Moya asked if the vehicle was purchased before it was approved. Mr. Pruett stated that the council approved it in the budget and they were waiting for taxes to come in before making big purchases. Mayor Moya asked the council to turn to page 5 of the payables. Mayor Moya asked what was the \$24,567.00 of heavy equipment being used for. Mr. Pruett stated that went into the water and sewer department to purchase an excavator that is big enough to handle the cave ins on the streets. Commissioner Flores moved to approve ratifying accounts payable from April 21, 2015 through May 1, 2015. Commissioner Serna, 2nd...Vote: 5 Ayes...Motion Carried.

Item #6- Consider approving the renewal agreement between the City of Galena Park and Economic Alliance Houston Port Region. Mayor Moya stated that the contract states that it should be for 36 months and the contract states it is for 1 year and 11 months. Mr. Pruett stated that Mayor Moya is correct and the term of the contract should be for 36 months and we will have it corrected before it is signed. Commissioner Killough moved to approve the renewal agreement between the City of Galena Park and Economic Alliance Houston Port Region as corrected. Commissioner Serna, 2nd...Vote: 5 Ayes...Motion Carried.

Item #7- Consider changing Fabian Huerta's employment status from part time to full time- Fire Fighter/EMT-B. Commissioner Simms moved to approve changing Fabian Huerta's employment status from part time to full time- Fire Fighter/EMT-B. Commissioner Serna, 2nd...Vote: 5 Ayes...Carried. Mayor Moya congratulated Mr. Huerta. Commissioner Flores stated that he has volunteered with Fabian and seen him transition into part time and now into full time and the fire department is honored to have him. Commissioner Killough stated that they recently received a phone call giving kudos to the EMT guys for the way they handled a call at El Potosino.

Item #8- Consider the part time employment of Carlos Deleon- Parks and Recreation Department. Commissioner Flores moved to approve the part time employment of Carlos Deleon- Parks and Recreation Department. Commissioner Serna, 2nd...Vote: 5 Ayes... Motion Carried.

Mayor Moya asked from comments from the audience.

Ms. Taggy Hall stated that National Day of Prayer was that Thursday at city hall.

Mayor Moya stated that on May 29, 2015 the Galena Park will be collaborating with Galena Park ISD and Galena Park Fire Department along with several sponsors will have the first annual Galena Park CPR AD field day.

Commissioner Killough announced a police report from the police department. Ms. Killough stated they had 762 service calls, 25 traffic accidents, 39 arrest, 231 traffic violators, and 55 dogs handled. Commissioner Killough stated that if someone has lost their dog the city only keeps them for 5 days due to the facility being small.

Mayor Moya asked about the pending cases in Galena Park. Chief Rader stated that they have a lot of pending cases and he does not discuss pending cases in public. Mayor Moya stated that she just needed to know the status on them and if they are being worked on. Chief Rader stated that they were being worked on.

Mr. Ernesto Paredes stated that he is working on a flyer to announce info on the swimming pool. Mr. Paredes stated that he is hiring life guards and most of them are from Galena Park High School. Mr. Paredes stated that the pool will open on June 9th and be closed on August 23, 2015. Mr. Paredes announced the schedule for the pool. Mr. Paredes stated that the cost per person is \$4.00 a person, and he is going based on what the price was in the past years. Mr. Pruett stated that he will get with Mr. Paredes on setting up a program to help people who cannot afford to pay.

A citizen stated that he wanted to know how much it cost to run the city. Mr. Pruett stated that the city budget annually is \$10 million dollars. Mr. Pruett stated that the city is working on a program to replace the streets and pave hem. Mr. Pruett stated that it is going to cost millions and millions of dollars and these contractors require extensive bidding by law. The citizen stated that he has lived in Galena Park for many years and his street has never been fixed. Mr. Pruett stated that if he comes in to meet with him, he could explain the planning process to him.

Commissioner Simms made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Killough, 2nd.... Vote: 5 Ayes... Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned: 6:40 P.M.


MAYRA GONZALES


APPROVED