

The City of Galena Park

City Commission Meeting

Date: July 07, 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 July 7, 2015.

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

Item # 1- Mayor Moya called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Item # 2- Mayor Moya called on Mr. Francisco Sanchez for the invocation.

Mr. Francisco Sanchez, a citizen, said a few words to the council. Ms. Fleischer translated. Last Sunday, the entire Galena Park, the ones who play soccer, are very happy with each of your support. I don't want to say one person in particular, because God says that it is love, and thank you to each of you. With the tournament they were in control and they left the park clean and everyone that went to the tournament and were not from Galena Park, were very satisfied with all of them. Mr. Flores sister Serna, and Mayor Moya were there to accompany them from when it started. Mayor Moya gave out the first kick and they were all there laughing and smiling. We are two Francisco's and they get us mixed up, but can he come to the front. He was the person in charge of the tournament and all of us supported him and I want him to continue because he has dynamics and is good with the kids and the best of all he taught me to not to love money. Thank you to Mr. Defoyd, Mr. Pruet, Mr. Simms, Ms. Killough, Mayor Moya, Ms. Serna, Mr. Flores, and Ms. Gonzales. The audience applauded.

Mr. Francisco said a few words and Ms. Fleischer translated. Good afternoon to all of you. The event that happened this weekend in Galena Park, was a very emotional event for all the people that live in Galena Park. We would like to personally thank Mayor Moya, Ms. Maricela, and Mr. Ernesto Paredes. He would like to thank them because that day they provided them with hotdogs and Gatorade. That day they had more than 100 people show up and they started from 7:00 a.m. and finished at 7:00 p.m. They had to continue the tournament into the following day to play the finals. He would like to have the kids that are there who played in the finals present the city with a gift for all of them. He would like to give the city the cup and the picture of the team. The audience applauded. Mr. Francisco Sanchez thanked Mr. Paredes for being there the whole weekend and even spending his birthday with them. Mr. Sanchez stated he would like to give Mr. Paredes the trophy and he could do with it whatever he wanted. Mr. Francisco stated he would like to thank Mr. Paredes for all his support and the trophy and the plaque is for all of them and he hopes that the city can continue to support them. Mr. Francisco stated that what he is doing is all for the children. Mayor Moya asked Mr. Paredes if they had a display at recreation where they can put the trophy. Mr. Paredes stated that with her permission he would like to display it and he would start a display. Mayor Moya stated that would be great. Commissioner Flores thanked Mr. Paredes.

Continued Minutes of Council Meeting on July 7, 2015- Page 2

Mayor Moya stated that usually they do the announcements at the end, but this is a special occasion. Mayor Moya stated that she has someone that would like to make an announcement. Mr. Garland stated that he grew up in the Galena Park area and he has started a medical and billing service. Mr. Garland stated that they do billing for anything in the medical field. They offer services such as billing and collections and offer sales software for any dentist or doctor's that would want to do their billing themselves. Mr. Garland asked that if anybody knew anyone that was interested he has given Mayor Moya brochures with information.

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

Shelby Simms, a citizen, stated she is Commissioner Simms daughter and she lives in Galena Park part time, she is going to school in Abilene, Texas at Abilene Christian University. Ms. Simms stated that her and a group of friends are starting up a group that is an extension of a community outreach program called Kick It Capes. Ms. Simms stated that it does community outreach for kids with cancer and serious illnesses; what they do is make capes for the kids when they are undergoing chemo or going to doctor offices and they can wear them to school. Ms. Simms stated that she wanted to present it to the community in case they knew a kid who needed encouragement and for them to know that they do have a buddy out there and needed a cape. Ms. Simms stated that they were going to make the capes and distribute them to the children's hospital or the cancer centers downtown, but she thought it would be better to start with family and friends. Ms. Simms stated that she hopes that they will support them in that journey.

Item # 4- Consider approving the minutes of regular meeting on June 2, 2015 and special meeting on June 30, 2015. Commissioner Simms moved to approve the minutes of regular meeting on June 2, 2015 and special meeting on June 30, 2015. Commissioner Flores, 2nd...Vote: 5 Ayes...Motion Carried.

Item #5- Consider ratifying accounts payable from June 26, 2015 through July 2, 2015. Commissioner Killough moved to approve ratifying accounts payable from June 26, 2015 through July 2, 2015. Commissioner Serna, 2nd...Vote: 5 Ayes...Motion Carried.

Item # 6- Consider approving change order no. 1 to add 90 calendar days to the contract for the water rehabilitation phase 1 project and increase the total time to 210 calendar days. Commissioner Simms moved to approve change order no. 1 to add 90 calendar days to the contract for the water rehabilitation phase 1 project and increase the total time to 210 calendar days. Commissioner Serna, 2nd...Vote: 5 Ayes...Motion Carried.

Item #7- Consider approving estimate #4 in the amount of \$162,351.20 for the months of May and June. Mayor Moya asked what this estimate was for. Mr. Pruett stated it was for the ongoing Water Rehabilitation. Mr. Pruett called on Ms. Tojuana Cooper, the water and sewer superintendent. Ms. Cooper stated that it was for the Water rehabilitation in Galena Manor. Commissioner Killough moved to approve estimate #4 in the amount of \$162,351.20 for the months of May and June. Commissioner Simms, 2nd...Vote: 5 Ayes...Motion Carried.

Item #8- Consider approving the 2014 annual drinking water report. Commissioner Killough moved to approve the 2014 annual drinking water report. Commissioner Flores, 2nd... Mayor Moya asked if they have reviewed it. The council answered yes. Vote: 5 Ayes...Motion Carried.

Item #9- Consider authorizing the city secretary to advertise for bids for the gateway project construction. Commissioner Serna moved to approve authorizing the city secretary to advertise for bids for the gateway project construction. Commissioner Simms, 2nd...Vote: 5 Ayes...Motion Carried.

Item #10- Consider approving the full time employments of James Boyett, Jessica Bolanos, and Pablo Orea as Police Officers- Police Department. Commissioner Simms moved to approve the full time employments of James Boyett, Jessica Bolanos, and Pablo Orea as Police Officers- Police Department. Commissioner Killough, 2nd...Vote: 5 Ayes...Motion Carried. Mayor Moya welcomed the officers and asked them if they started the next day. Officers nodded yes.

Item #11- Consider the termination of Markus Rivers- Police Department. Ms. Elizabeth Rios, a citizen, asked how was the council going to consider his termination, when they have already fired him. Mayor Moya asked Ms. Rios who she was directing the question to. Ms. Rios stated to anyone. Mayor Moya stated that she had no idea and called on Ms. Killough. Commissioner Killough stated that was not open to discussion at that time. Ms. Rios stated she was asking the question. Commissioner Killough stated it was not open for discussion and it was an employee matter. Ms. Rios stated that it is never open for discussion. Commissioner Killough stated no ma'am it is not. Ms. Rios stated that Mr. Rivers got fired because he opened his mouth and spoke up. Mayor Moya thanked Ms. Rios and stated note taken. Commissioner Simms moved to approve the termination of Markus Rivers- Police Department. Commissioner Serna, 2nd...Mayor Moya stated that she would Veto the motion, because she does not have enough information at the time. Vote: 4 Ayes.... Mayor Moya Veto. Mr. Defoyd stated to the council that if they would override the veto at that time, they would have to make a motion to override the veto. Commissioner Killough made a motion to override the Mayor's Veto. Commissioner Flores, 2nd...Mayor Moya stated they were supposed to know that on their own. Commissioner Killough asked for the Vote: Mayor Moya stated to Commissioner Killough that she is the presiding officer and Ms. Killough has to wait. Commissioner Killough stated to Mayor Moya to get with it. Mayor Moya stated that she is the presiding officer and Commissioner Serna is the Pro Tem. Mayor Moya called for the Vote to consider the termination of Markus Rivers. Commissioner Flores stated that was not the motion. Commissioner Killough stated that the motion was to override her veto. Mr. Defoyd stated that the motion was to override her veto. Mayor Moya stated yes and Mr. Defoyd was not supposed to intervene in that. Mayor Moya asked for Ms. Gonzales to take note. Commissioner Killough stated they were waiting for the Mayor to call for the vote. Mayor Moya stated that she already took the vote. Commissioner Killough stated that she did not. Commissioner Simms stated he voted Aye. Commissioner Flores stated that he hasn't voted he was waiting for the Mayor to call for the question. Commissioner Killough stated to the Mayor they were waiting for her to call for the vote. Mayor Moya called for the Vote: 5 Ayes... Motion Carried.

Item #12- Consider approving Maria D. Rodriguez and Raul Guerra to the Parks and Recreation Board. Commissioner Flores moved to approve Maria D. Rodriguez and Raul Guerra to the Parks and Recreation Board. Commissioner Serna, 2nd...Vote: 5 Ayes.. Motion Carried.

Mayor Moya asked for announcements from the audience.

Mr. Bobby Gates asked if he could meet with Commissioner Killough and Chief Rader after the meeting. Commissioner Killough stated that would be fine.

Commissioner Killough stated that she would like to thank the Street Department for all the street and bridge work that is being done.

Commissioner Flores stated that he would like to thank everybody that was involved in the fireworks event. Commissioner Flores thanked all the citizens and everyone that was involved in putting the soccer tournament together. Commissioner Flores stated that it was an honor working with them and he hopes they continue to move forward. Commissioner Flores announced if anyone was interested they would be having a meeting at the recreation building to discuss the 80th birthday of the city that will take place in September. Commissioner Flores stated that he had been working on getting some economic development in the city and he has been meeting with the businessmen

in the city. Commissioner Flores stated that he would like to invite anybody interested in being in the committee. Commissioner Killough stated that she had two names for him, Kenneth and Eilene Graham, both born and raised in Galena Park and want to be part of the committee.

Mr. Mark Groba, a citizen, asked why the council could not have the meetings at the community building. Mr. Groba stated that people are having to stand up in the hallway and they cannot see nor hear anything. Commissioner Serna stated that it was voted down by the voters. Mayor Moya stated that she understood what he was saying and she brought it to the table and unfortunately it was turned down, but she will keep trying. Mr. Groba stated that there were pot holes crossing the railroad track. Commissioner Flores thanked Mr. Groba stated that the more citizens that let them know this the better. Mr. Groba stated that the county or the Port of Houston have the levies that have grass over grown and it looks horrible. Commissioner Flores stated that he has been talking to the Port of Houston and they will be having a forum coming up in September, he will be getting the Port of Houston officials together so that they can express their concerns. Commissioner Flores stated that he would do what he can in the meantime about Mr. Groba's concern. Mayor Moya stated that in a couple of weeks they will have some good things coming and she is working with Ms. Leslie and the Port of Houston on some projects. Mayor Moya thanked Leslie and everyone helping her with the project.

Commissioner Simms stated that the fireworks were very nice, but he would like for the citizens to realize that the city has an ordinance against fireworks.

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

Meeting adjourned: 6:30 P.M.


MAYRA GONZALES


APPROVED