

# The City of Galena Park

## City Commission Meeting

**Date: September 6, 2016**

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 September 06, 2016.

**Present were:**

**Esmeralda Moya  
Rodney Chersky  
Oscar Silva, Jr.  
Eric Broussard  
Barry Ponder  
Robert Collins  
Mayra Gonzales**

**Mayor  
Commissioner  
Commissioner  
Commissioner  
Commissioner  
City Attorney  
City Secretary**

- I. Mayor Moya called meeting to order.
- II. Invocation was led by the Mayor
- III. Pledge of Allegiance
- IV. Consideration and possible approval of the minutes of regular meeting on August 16, 2016 and Special meeting on July 15, 2016. Commissioner Chersky moved to approve the minutes of regular meeting on August 16, 2016 and Special meeting on July 15, 2016. Commissioner Broussard, 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mayor Moya called for the vote. Commissioner Chersky... Aye, Commissioner Silva... Aye, Mayor Moya... Aye, Commissioner Broussard...Aye, Commissioner Ponder... Aye...5 Ayes...Motion Carried.
- V. Consideration and possible approval of the accounts payable through September 6, 2016. Commissioner Chersky moved to approve the accounts payable through September 6, 2016. Commissioner Ponder, 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mayor Moya called for the vote. Commissioner Chersky... Aye, Commissioner Silva...Aye, Mayor Moya...Aye, Commissioner Broussard...Aye, Commissioner Ponder...Aye...5 Ayes...Motion Carried.
- VI. Consideration and possible approval of the City Secretary advertising for bids for trash collection and disposal service. Commissioner Broussard moved to approve the City Secretary advertising for bids for trash collection and disposal service. Commissioner Chersky, 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mayor Moya called for the vote. Commissioner Chersky... Aye, Commissioner Silva...Aye, Mayor Moya...Aye, Commissioner Broussard...Aye Commissioner Ponder...Aye... 5 Ayes...Motion Carried.
- VII. Consideration and possible approval of the request to donate 32 800 MHz radios, 1 Motorola 6-Bank charger and 4 Mobile Radios to Matagorda County Emergency management and Sheriff's office. Commissioner Chersky moved to consider an

possibly approve the request to donate 32 800 MHz radios, 1 Motorola 6-Bank charger and 4 Mobile Radios to Matagorda County Emergency Management and Sheriff's Office. Commissioner Silva, 2<sup>nd</sup>... Mayor Moya called for the vote. Commissioner Chersky...Aye, Commissioner Silva...Aye, Mayor Moya...Aye, Commissioner Broussard...Aye, and Commissioner Ponder...Aye...5 Ayes...Motion Carried.

- VIII. Consideration and possible approval of Ordinance 2015-14 (A)- Amending Ordinance 2015-14 to change 3<sup>rd</sup> Street between Main Street and Keene Street from 1500 Block of 3<sup>rd</sup> Street to a two way traffic. Commissioner Chersky moved to approve Ordinance 2015-14 (A)- Amending Ordinance 2015-14 to change 3<sup>rd</sup> Street between Main Street and Keene Street from 1500 Block of 3<sup>rd</sup> Street to a two way traffic. Commissioner Ponder, 2<sup>nd</sup>... Commissioner Ponder stated that several officers told him that it was causing a nightmare for the Police Officers. Commissioner Ponder stated that he spoke to Chief Mata and asked for the Chief to get with the school and make sure that they did not have any issues with taking away the one way street, the school did not have any issues with changing it back. Commissioner Ponder stated that a lot of money was spent on the signs and would like to know if there is anything else that they can use them for. Commissioner Chersky suggested a sign that reminds motorist to stay off their cell phones. Commissioner Ponder stated that he would like feedback from citizens and their ideas. Mayor Moya called for the vote. Commissioner Chersky...Aye, Commissioner Silva...Aye, Mayor Moya...Aye, Commissioner Broussard...Aye, and Commissioner Ponder...Aye...5 Ayes...Motion Carried.
- IX. Consideration and possible approval of Ordinance 2016-06 Adopting the budget for the City of Galena Park beginning October 1, 2016 and ending September 30, 2017. Commissioner Chersky moved to approve Ordinance 2016-06 adopting the budget for the City of Galena Park beginning October 1, 2016 and ending September 30, 2017. Commissioner Broussard, 2<sup>nd</sup>... Mayor Moya called for the vote. Commissioner Chersky...Aye, Commissioner Silva...Aye, Mayor Moya...Aye, Commissioner Broussard...Aye, and Commissioner Ponder...Aye...5 Ayes...Motion Carried.
- X. Consideration and possible approval of Resolution R09-2016 authorizing the City Attorney to carry out investigation of allegations of violation of the State, Federal, and Local Law or of any policy or ordinance of the City and concerning any potential claim for or against the city, having the power to summon and control the attendance of witnesses and the production of books and papers whenever it may be necessary, and the power to punish for contempt before it with the same fines and penalties as the county Judge may punish for contempt before the county court at law. Commissioner Chersky moved to approve Resolution R09-201 authorizing the City Attorney to carry out investigation of allegations of violation of the State, Federal, and Local Law or of any policy or ordinance of the City and concerning any potential claim for or against the city, having the power to summon and control the attendance of witnesses and the production of books and papers whenever it may be necessary, and the power to punish for contempt before it with the same fines and penalties as the county Judge may punish for contempt before the county court at law. Commissioner Ponder, 2<sup>nd</sup>...

Commissioner Chersky stated that he has a question that has been brought up to his attention. Commissioner Chersky asked Mr. Collins about the policies or procedures to carry out the power under the City Charter? Mr. Collins stated that is what the City Charter provides, the charter says that the commission is allowed to carry out investigations to compel testimonies by witnesses , to compel the required documents that are produced, there has been a number of things that several of people at one time or another for reasons required that we be able to obtain documents. Mr. Collins stated that this language comes from the charter and it empowers in the charter the commission to carry this out and the commission is the entity that the commissioners have been elected to and by this entity; this carries it out by the attorney and that is the method of which to do this. Otherwise for questions that need to be asked, there will have to be a public meeting; it is not only unworkable to have any other method but this is the method by which we can carry out with the Charter. Commissioner Chersky stated the entity is not a person but the commission. Mr. Collins stated that is why a resolution like this is required, so a majority of you have to decide that you want to have that carried out and designate the person and naturally that would be your attorney to do that. Mr. Collins stated that if you see any committee for legislative body or committee of congress question people, they do it through their lawyer who is usually the staff attorney for the committee who carries out the investigation for them. Mr. Collins stated that usually the Charter provides this power. Commissioner Broussard asked Mr. Collins, how was it done before? Mr. Collins stated that he was not sure how it was done before. Commissioner Ponder stated to Mr. Collins that there has been a lot of chatter that the city attorney will have all the power. Commissioner Ponder stated that at the bottom of the resolution it shows were the Mayor and City Secretary have to sign off on anything before the city attorney can do anything. Mr. Collins stated that is provided in the charter, that subpoenas to be issued would be signed by the Mayor and the information in there about the ability to hold people who refuse to answer questions or refuse to provide documents in contempt that is also found in the Charter. This is a home ruled City and the city has the powers that are not limited, it has police powers. Commissioner Ponder stated that this city has needed this for a long time and when he was out talking to citizens before the election, they all said the city needs a clean sleight and this is the way we can do that. Commissioner Ponder stated that he likes that the city attorney will be doing it because it takes them out of the loop. Commissioner Ponder also stated that if a present or past employees needs to be called in Mr. Collins would do that .Commissioner Broussard stated that he would like to table this and have Mr. Hightower look at this, he stated that he was not comfortable with it . Mayor Moya called for the vote. Commissioner Chersky...Aye, Commissioner Silva...Nay, Mayor Moya...Aye, Commissioner Broussard...Nay, Commissioner Ponder... Aye. 3 Ayes...2 Nays...Motion Carried.

- XI. Consideration and possible agreement of the Tyler Technologies contract for new ticket writers, printers, software, and hardware. Commissioner Chersky moved to approve the agreement of the Tyler Technologies contract for new ticket writers, printers, software, and hardware. Commissioner Ponder, 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mayor Moya called for the vote. Commissioner Chersky...Aye, Commissioner Silva...Aye, Mayor Moya...Aye,

Commissioner Broussard...Aye, and Commissioner Ponder...Aye...5 Ayes...Motion Carried.

- XII. Report by Mayor Moya and Commissioner Ponder on discussions with county commissioner for joint efforts with Harris County on infrastructure, flood, mosquito control, parks and recreation facilities, and other projects to improve Galena Park. Commissioner Chersky moved to approve the report by Mayor Moya and Commissioner Ponder on discussions with county commissioner for joint efforts with Harris County on infrastructure, flood, mosquito control, parks and recreation facilities, and other projects to improve Galena Park. Commissioner Broussard, 2<sup>nd</sup>, Mayor Moya called for the vote. Commissioner Chersky...Aye, Commissioner Silva...Aye, Mayor Moya...Aye, Commissioner Broussard...Aye, and Commissioner Ponder...Aye...5 Ayes...Motion Carried. Commissioner Ponder stated that him and the Mayor met last Monday with Commissioner Morman to discuss possibly getting some help for Galena Park. Commissioner Ponder stated that the main reason they had the meeting is because of the flooding in Galena Park. Commissioner Ponder stated that the city has cleaned 4,500 feet of drains and that did not solve the problem, what they are going to do is start at Clinton and replace the culverts and that will take care of some of the flooding. Commissioner Ponder stated that Mayo Shell has no owner and Harris County will start cleaning it up and Galena Park is going to have to maintain it. Commissioner Ponder stated that all of the Galena Park water ends up in Panther Creek and when Panther Creek fills up, there is nowhere the water can go. Commissioner Ponder stated that Commissioner Morman will look into some engineering and do some research to see what they can do. Commissioner Ponder stated that they have an alley way between fidelity a Galena Manor; the problem is that Harris County has not been cleaning it and everybody dumps trash there, Commissioner Morman told Mr. Ponder that he can have crews to come out and clean it out. Commissioner Morman advised Commissioner Ponder that he would put up a pavilion in Woodland Acres with lighting, a street to connect Galena Park with Galena Manor, and also a fence along Panther Creek and maybe a turning lane to turn off Clinton Dr. to Center Street. Commissioner Ponder stated that the new lights are coming in November, they are already getting started in Woodland Acres. Mayor Moya stated that they will like to see Galena Park as a whole and to have patience, but changes are coming.

Commissioner Ponder made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Chersky, 2<sup>nd</sup> ... Mayor Moya called for the vote: Commissioner Chersky....Aye, Commissioner Silva... Aye, Mayor Moya...Aye, Commissioner Broussard...Aye, Commissioner Ponder...Aye...Vote: 5 Ayes... Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned: 6:40 P.M.

  
Mayra Gonzales

  
APPROVED