

MINUTES OF A REGULAR SESSION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JERSEY VILLAGE, TEXAS, HELD ON OCTOBER 15, 2007, AT 7:00 P.M., IN THE CIVIC CENTER AUDITORIUM, 16327 LAKEVIEW, JERSEY VILLAGE, TEXAS.

The meeting was called to order with the following present:

Mayor	Russell Hamley
Mayor Pro-Tem	Frances Wubbenhorst
Councilmember	Joyce Berube
Councilmember	Ernie English
Councilmember	Jill Klein
Councilmember	Greg Holden
City Manager	Mike Castro
City Attorney	Kenneth Wall
City Secretary	LaKeisha Cannon-Scott

Additional Staff in attendance: Finance Director Isabel Kato, Director of Parks and Recreation Michael Brown, Police Chief Charles Wedemeyer, Public Works Director Danny Segundo, City Engineer Frank Brooks, Information Technology Administrator Bob Blevins, and Communications Manager Tracy Martin.

The Jersey Village High School Air Force Jr.ROTC presented the colors. Councilmember Ernie English gave the invocation and Mayor Russell Hamley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

A Jersey Village resident addressed Council and stated his concerns regarding the possibility of a used car lot business being conducted on Wall Street in Jersey Village. He had additional concerns regarding code violation enforcement.

Mark Maloy, 7803 Hamilton Circle, addressed Council and stated his concerns regarding the noise generated by the Harris County Toll Road.

PROCLAMATION

None

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Mike Castro reported the following:

1. September 2007 Investment Report, Monthly Fund Balances Report, Governmental Funds, Enterprise Funds, and Detail Collection Summary Report.
2. Departmental Request Report and Open Records Request Report for September 2007.

3. Fire & Emergency Services Departmental Report for September 2007.
4. Jersey Village Police Activity Report, Crime Prevention Unit, Warrant Report and Investigations/Calls for Service Report for September 2007.
5. Municipal Court Collection Report, Municipal Court Activity Report, Municipal Court Courtroom Activity Report, Detailed Report, and Revenue Comparison Report for September 2007.
6. Public Works Departmental Report for September 2007.
7. Combined Monthly and Annual Mileage Report.
8. Golf Course Monthly Report, Golf Course Financial Statements Report, and Parks & Recreation Departmental Report for September 2007.

In addition, the City Manager briefly reported that Fire Chief Mark Bitz is absent from the meeting because of the weather. He is out watching the water levels of the bayou.

DOCKETED JOINT PUBLIC HEARING:

PURPOSE OF THE HEARING – TO RECEIVE WRITTEN OR ORAL COMMENTS FROM ANY INTERESTED PERSON(S) REGARDING THE JERSEY VILLAGE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE 2007-2008 FISCAL YEAR.
City Council.

Mayor Russell Hamley called the Public Hearing to order at 7:15 p.m.

City Manager Mike Castro gave a brief presentation regarding the proposed budget for the 2007-2008 fiscal year.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

Jeff Kopecky, 16125 Delozier, addressed Council and stated his concerns regarding the proposed budget not including additional patrol officers for the Police Department.

Mark Maloy, 7803 Hamilton Circle, addressed Council and stated his concerns regarding the noise at the Beltway and asked Council to consider allocating funds to conduct a noise study.

COUNCIL/STAFF COMMENTS

Councilmember Ernie English stated that an additional patrol officer position was approved after the services for back door trash pick-up were cancelled.

Mayor Hamley stated the Harris County Toll Road Authority (HCTRA) will be conducting studies and the city would look into this later in the year.

Mayor Russell Hamley closed the Public Hearing at 7:42 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA:

A. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION – APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Minutes of the September 17, 2007, Regular Session held at 7:00 p.m.
2. Minutes of the October 4, 2007, Public Hearing held at 7:00 p.m.
3. Minutes of the October 8, 2007, Public Hearing held at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Pro-Tem Wubbenhorst made the motion, seconded by Councilmember English, to approve Consent Agenda Item A as presented.

Voting “Aye” Councilmembers Wubbenhorst, Berube, Holden, Klein, and English.

Voting “No” None.

Passed 5 to 0.

MATTERS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

None

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Russell Hamley removed New Business Item No. 7 from the agenda.

- 1. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION – ORDINANCE NO. 2007-42 – APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE BUDGET OF THE CITY OF JERSEY VILLAGE, TEXAS, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2007. *City Council.***

Councilmember Holden made the motion, seconded by Councilmember Berube, to approve Ordinance No. 2007-42 adopting the budget for fiscal year 2007-2008.

Voting “Aye” Councilmembers Wubbenhorst, Berube, Holden, Klein, and English.

Voting “No” None.

Passed 5 to 0.

2. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION – APPROVE A MOTION TO SET THE TAX RATE FOR DEBT SERVICE FOR 2007. *City Council.*

Councilmember Berube made the motion, seconded by Councilmember English to set the Debt Service tax rate of \$0.2925 per \$100 value for the year 2007.

Voting “Aye” Councilmembers Wubbenhorst, Berube, Klein, Holden, and English.

Voting “No” None.

Passed 5 to 0.

3. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION – APPROVE A MOTION TO SET THE TAX RATE FOR MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION FOR 2007. *City Council.*

Mayor Pro-Tem Wubbenhorst made the motion, seconded by Councilmember Holden to set the Maintenance and Operation tax rate of \$0.45000 per \$100 value for the year 2007.

Voting “Aye” Councilmembers Wubbenhorst, Berube, Klein, Holden, and English.

Voting “No” None.

Passed 5 to 0.

4. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION – ORDINANCE NO. 2007-43 – PROVIDING FOR THE LEVY AND COLLECTION OF AD VALOREM TAXES BY THE CITY OF JERSEY VILLAGE, TEXAS, FOR THE YEAR 2007. *City Council.*

Councilmember Holden made the motion, seconded by Councilmember Klein, to approve Ordinance No. 2007-43 providing for the levy and collection of ad valorem taxes by the City of Jersey Village, Texas for the year 2007, and to approve the property tax increase reflected in the budget; this budget will raise more total property taxes than last year’s budget by \$583,390, and of that amount, 187,776.46 is tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year.

Voting “Aye” Councilmembers Wubbenhorst, Berube, Klein, Holden, and English.

Voting “No” None.

Passed 5 to 0.

5. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION – DISCUSSION REGARDING THE COST OF EMPLOYEE GROUP HEALTH

BENEFITS. *Ms. Karen Farris, Human Resources Generalist & Mr. Dick Hillyer, Benefits Consultant.*

Benefits Consultant Dick Hillyer gave a brief report regarding the cost of the Employee Group Health Benefits. He gave a brief overview regarding the claims activity of the employees. He stated there may be a possible increase in the cost of Employee Group Health Benefits.

A lengthy discussion ensued among Council and Mr. Hillyer regarding self-funding of insurance and the renewal of the Employee Group Health Benefits.

Additional discussion ensued among Council regarding a reduction in the current plan and a possible self-funded option.

6. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION – MUNICIPAL COURT UPDATE. *Ms. Isabel Kato, Finance Director & Ms. Helen Wo, Municipal Court Administrator.*

Finance Director Isabel Kato gave a brief presentation and update of the Municipal Court Activity.

Councilmember Greg Holden gave brief comments regarding the accomplishments of the Municipal Court Department.

7. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION – REMOVE ORDINANCE NO. 2007-39 FROM THE TABLE. *City Council.*

Councilmember Berube made the motion, seconded by Councilmember English to remove Ordinance No. 2007-39 from the table.

Voting “Aye” Councilmembers Wubbenhorst, Berube, Klein, Holden, and English.

Voting “No” None.

Passed 5 to 0.

8. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION – ORDINANCE NO. 2007-39 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF JERSEY VILLAGE, TEXAS, AMENDING CHAPTER 34 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES; REQUIRING THAT FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS HAVE GREASE TRAPS. *Mr. Danny Segundo, Public Works Director.*

Mayor Pro-Tem Wubbenhorst made the motion, seconded by Councilmember Berube to approve Ordinance No. 2007-39.

Councilmember Holden stated that he would be excluded from the discussion and vote on Ordinance No. 2007-39. He asked the City Attorney to explain the conflict of interest.

City Attorney Ken Wall stated that Councilmember Holden is excluded from the discussion and vote on Ordinance No. 2007-39 because there is a conflict of interest. Councilmember Holden currently owns a business within the city. The action on the matter would have an economic effect on the business entity that is distinguishable from the effect on the public.

Public Works Danny Segundo gave a brief update regarding the proposed grease trap ordinance.

Lengthy discussion ensued among Council and Staff regarding the ordinance.

Additional discussion ensued among Council and Staff regarding the appeal process.

Mayor Pro-Tem Wubbenhorst made a motion to amend the original motion to eliminate the type A limitations so that all daycare centers can be exempt from the ordinance. The motion was seconded by Councilmember English.

Voting "Aye" Councilmembers Wubbenhorst, Berube, Klein, and English.

Voting "No" None.

Passed 4 to 0 with Councilmember Holden abstaining from the vote.

Mayor Russell Hamley moved for the vote on the original motion.

Voting "Aye" Councilmembers Wubbenhorst, Berube, Klein, and English.

Voting "No" None.

Passed 4 to 0 with Councilmember Holden abstaining from the vote.

9. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION – ORDINANCE NO. 2007-41 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF JERSEY VILLAGE, TEXAS, AMENDING SECTION 70-77 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF SAID CITY; ESTABLISHING RATES FOR WATER AND WASTEWATER SERVICE. *Mr. Danny Segundo, Public Works Director.*

Public Works Director gave a brief overview regarding the rates for water and wastewater service.

Councilmember English made brief comments regarding the item.

Councilmember Holden made the motion, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Wubbenhorst to approve Ordinance No. 2007-41.

Voting "Aye" Councilmembers Wubbenhorst, Berube, Klein, Holden, and English.

Voting "No" None.

Passed 5 to 0.

10. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION – RESOLUTION NO. 2007-45 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JERSEY VILLAGE, TEXAS, APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE PARKS REVIEW COMMITTEE. Ms. LaKeisha Cannon-Scott, City Secretary & Mr. Michael Brown, Parks & Recreation Director.

Discussion ensued among Council and Staff regarding the appointment of members to the Parks Review Committee.

Councilmember Berube made the motion, seconded by Councilmember Holden to approve Resolution No. 2007-45 appointing Jon Peterson, Jim Pulliam, Laura Boyd, Paulette Williams, and Nancy Bond to the Parks Review Committee.

Voting "Aye" Councilmembers Wubbenhorst, Berube, Klein, Holden, and English.

Voting "No" None.

Passed 5 to 0.

11. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION – RESOLUTION NO. 2007-46 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JERSEY VILLAGE, TEXAS, ESTABLISHING A FACILITIES RESERVE BALANCE, ESTABLISHING OPERATING GUIDELINES FOR THE FACILITIES RESERVE BALANCE AND AUTHORIZING TRANSFER OF FUND BALANCE FROM THE GENERAL FUND INTO THE FACILITIES RESERVE BALANCE. Mr. Mike Castro, City Manager.

City Manager Mike Castro gave a brief overview regarding a facilities replacement fund.

Councilmember Holden made the motion, seconded by Councilmember Berube to approve Resolution No. 2007-46.

Voting "Aye" Councilmembers Wubbenhorst, Berube, Klein, Holden, and English.

Voting "No" None.

Passed 5 to 0.

COUNCIL ACTIVITY REPORTS/COMMENTS

Councilmember Klein had no reports or comments.

Councilmember English congratulated Staff for such an outstanding job with the Municipal Court system.

Councilmember Berube stated her concerns regarding landscaping companies and late trash pick-up and the overload with the clippings in the sewer system.

Councilmember Holden congratulated Staff for such an outstanding job with the Municipal Court system. He stated the code violation problem on Wall Street needs to be addressed. He made additional comments about his trip to Covington, Kentucky.

Mayor Pro-Tem Wubbenhorst congratulated Staff for such an outstanding job with the Municipal Court system. In addition, she thanked the Fire & EMS Department for the ride in the homecoming parade. She commented on the Recycling Program and participation.

MAYOR'S ACTIVITY REPORT/COMMENTS

Mayor Hamley stated his concerns regarding landscaping companies and late trash pick-up and the overload with the clippings in the sewer system. He congratulated Staff for such an outstanding job with the Municipal Court system. He asked for a report on the prosecutors.

Mayor Russell Hamley adjourned the regular session at 9:25 p.m.

Minutes approved as submitted and/or corrected this the 19th day of November, A.D., 2007.

Russell Hamley
Mayor

ATTEST:

LaKeisha Cannon-Scott
City Secretary