

MINUTES OF A REGULAR SESSION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JERSEY VILLAGE, TEXAS, HELD ON MARCH 17, 2008, 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	Ken Wall
Interim City Secretary	Kaythie Darnell
Assistant City Secretary	Courtney Rutherford

Additional Staff in attendance: Finance Director Isabel Kato; Fire Chief Assistant Rob Missall; Director of Parks and Recreation Michael Brown; Police Chief Charles Wedemeyer; Public Works Director Danny Segundo; Code Enforcement Officer Gordon Gibson.

II. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Boy Scouts: Travis Henderson, Dustin Tanton, Steven Bierwagen, and Matthew Bierwagen representing Jersey Village Baptist Church Troop gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. PROCLAMATION

No proclamations this month.

IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Jim Fields, 16413 St. Helier Street, addressed the City Council and stated his concerns with the Code Enforcement, Police Department, and FEMA Buy Out.

Jeff Kopecky, 16125 Delozier Street, addressed the City Council and stated his concerns about Code Enforcement.

William Ensell, 313 Crawford Street, addressed the City Council and stated his concerns about street parking and junk cars.

Chuck Monteith, 15810 Jersey Drive, addressed the City Council and stated his concerns about flood control buy out of his home.

Mark Maloy, 7803 Hamilton Circle, addressed the City Council and stated his concerns about the road way noise issue.

Kim-Ling Sun, 16330 Acapulco, addressed the City Council and stated her concerns about fencing and dogs.

V. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Mike Castro reported the following:

1. February 2008 Monthly Fund Balances Report, Governmental Funds, and Enterprise Funds.
2. Departmental Request Report and Open Records Request Report for February 2008.
3. Fire & Emergency Services Departmental Report for February 2008.
4. Jersey Village Police Activity Report, Crime Prevention Unit, Warrant Report and Investigations/Calls for Service Report for February 2008.
5. Municipal Court Collection Report, Municipal Court Activity Report, Municipal Court Courtroom Activity Report, Detailed report, and Revenue Comparison Report for February 2008.
6. Public Works Departmental Report for February 2008.
7. Combined Monthly and Annual Mileage Report.
8. Golf Course Monthly Report, Golf Course Financial Statements Report, and Parks & Recreation Departmental Report for February 2008.
9. 2007 Racial Profiling Report, monthly statement required.
10. Update from Code Enforcement Officer, Gordon Gibson.

City Manager Castro requested that the City Council choose between Friday, May 23, and Saturday, May 24, for the City Council Retreat, and email preferences to him.

VI. PUBLIC HEARING

None

VII. CONSENT AGENDA (Items: A, B, C, D, E, and F)

Motion was made by Councilmember Holden, seconded by Councilmember Wubbenhorst to approve items A, B, C, D, E, and F on the consent agenda as recommended by staff. Motion carried: Ayes: Councilmembers Wubbenhorst, Berube, English, Klein and Holden, No: None, Passed 5-0.

A. Approval of the Minutes of the February 18, 2008 City Council regular meeting.

B. Resolution 2008-06 – Apply for grant monies available through the Governor’s Office by concurrence from the Houston Galveston Area Council, (H.G.A.C.) for portable and mobile radios.

Total of Grant Request: \$118,022.00
City of Jersey Village Participation: - 0 –

Grant monies are available through the Governor’s office by concurrence from the Houston Galveston Area Council, (H.G.A.C.). To compete for granting, the preliminary documents are filed with the H.G.A.C where after their confirming review are sent to the Governor’s office. At this point programs are reviewed and successful efforts given approval funding. It is the intention of the Jersey Village Police Department to apply for some of these grant funds.

At the present JVPD portable and mobile radios are leased from Harris County Communications. In the future Harris County will no longer support a radio lease program with each agency required to repair, replace their inventory. Another complication is that Motorola has terminated manufacturing the current series of portable/mobile radios obtained during the leasing period and utilized at the JVPD.

The end result of this circumstance is that the JVPD will not only assume the unfunded mandate of maintaining its existing radios, but must also address the issue that the current series will exclude the JVPD participating in the Southeast Texas Regional Radio System designated a priority project by the Governor and Homeland Security. Participation in the regional system will be mandatory for our city in the near future.

Staff recommended the approval of Resolution 2008-06.

C. Resolution 2008-07 – Apply for grant monies available through the Governor’s office by concurrence from the Houston Galveston Area Council (H.G.A.C.) to initiate a uniform officer bicycle patrol program.

BUDGETARY IMPACT: Required Expenditure: \$ 0.00
Amount Budgeted: \$ 0.00
Appropriation Required: \$ 0.00

Total of Grant Request: \$90,274.00
City of Jersey Village Participation: - 0 -

Grant monies are available through the Governor’s office by concurrence from the Houston Galveston Area Council, (H.G.A.C.). To compete for granting, the preliminary documents are filed with the H.G.A.C where after their confirming review are sent to the Governor’s office. At this point programs are reviewed and successful efforts given approval funding. It is the intention of the Jersey Village Police Department to apply for some of these grant funds.

Specifically the JVPD desires to initiate a uniform officer bicycle patrol

program. In prior years the JVPD utilized a Bike Patrol officer program. However it was staffed entirely with reserve officers who are no longer with the agency.

In the program years, the JVPD learned that citizens are more likely and frankly do approach a Bike Patrol Officer with greater frequency than even a neighborhood beat officer. Thus establishing the program as a funded effort would optimize a core value in our community oriented or problem oriented policing efforts. In addition the program will provide a stealthy platform for patrol of shopping centers, schools and neighborhoods.

Staff recommended the approval of Resolution 2008-07.

D. Resolution 2008-08 – Apply for grant monies available through Federal Assistance to Fire Fighter Grant.

Expenditure:	\$	0.00
Amount Budgeted:	\$	0.00
Appropriation Required:	\$	0.00

The Federal Assistance to Fire Fighter Grant process has opened. Applications are required to be submitted by April 4th, 2008. Emergency Services will be submitting an application before the deadline date expires. The City's portion is 5% of that cost. Federal assistance portion is 95%. Grant items requested include two EKG Monitors. City portion would be \$3,000, Federal Portion \$57,000.

Staff recommended the approval of Resolution 2008-08.

E. Approval of the preliminary subdivision plat for the Jones Road/290 Commercial Reserve.

Expenditure:	\$	0.00
Amount Budgeted:	\$	0.00
Appropriation Required:	\$	0.00

Partner Vision Investments submitted a preliminary subdivision plat of the Jones Road 290 Commercial Reserve, a 54.88 acre property located at the intersection of the proposed Jones Road extension and Highway 290. The Planning and Zoning Commission approved the preliminary plat at the March 3, 2008 meeting.

Staff and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommended that the City Council approve the preliminary plat as submitted.

F. Resolution 2008-09 – appointing Rick Faircloth as a member of the Planning

and Zoning Commission.

Staff recommended the approval of Resolution 2008-09.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Resolution – Finance: Resolution 2008-10 Received, reviewed and approved the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for fiscal year ended September 30, 2007.

BUDGETARY IMPACT: Required Expenditure:	\$	0.00
Amount Budgeted:	\$	0.00
Appropriation Required:	\$	0.00

The City of Jersey Village is required to publish each year a complete set of financial statements presented in conformity with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and audited in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards by a firm of licensed certified public accountants.

Mr. Christopher Breaux with Null Lairson Certified Public Accountants made an Audit presentation for the City Council.

Staff recommended the approval of Resolution 2008-10.

Motion was made by Councilmember Berube, seconded by Councilmember Holden approving Resolution 2008-10 as recommended by staff. Motion carried: Ayes: Councilmembers Wubbenhorst, Berube, English, Klein and Holden, No: None, Passed 5-0.

2. Ordinance – Police Department: Ordinance 2008-06 amending Chapter 66 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Jersey Village providing rules and regulations implementing a photographic traffic signal enforcement system.

This is to amend the current traffic signal ordinance to allow the use of camera enforcement and civil fines for disregarding red lights. This is designed to enhance safety for dangerous intersections along the US 290 Freeway feeder roads in our city.

There is no cost to the city for this amendment or the Red Light Camera Enforcement Program.

Staff recommended the approval of Ordinance 2008-06.

Motion was made by Councilmember English, seconded by Councilmember Holden approving Ordinance 2008-06 recommended by staff. Motion carried: Ayes: Councilmembers Wubbenhorst, Berube, English, Klein and Holden, No: None, Passed 5-0.

3. Discussion of long-term code enforcement issues in Jersey Village – Code Enforcement.

This matter was discussed previously at the March Council meeting. At the conclusion of last month's discussion, Council had asked the Code Enforcement Officer to provide comment on: 1) What violations he saw most frequently, 2) What tools (new ordinances / adjustments to existing ordinances) he needed to better perform his job. The Code Enforcement Officer will present answers to these questions.

In addition, council discussed the need to develop consensus on code enforcement priorities. Specifically, councilmembers agreed to come to the March meeting with priorities and areas of concern that would be passed on to the city's Planning and Zoning Commission for action.

Gordon Gibson, Code Enforcement, mentioned the concern for repeat offenders, and Councilmember English observed the need for changes to the policy to effectively enforce the codes. Councilmember Holden requested a definition for repeat offenders, Councilmember English requested recommendation for frequency also. City Manager Castro suggested that the Planning and Zoning Commission meet with the City Council prior to the next Council meeting.

There was no official action taken at this time.

4. Discussion as to the possibility of FEMA buy out for resident located at 15810 Jersey Drive.

On March 10th, the City Manager was contacted by a resident of Jersey Village who had been approached by FEMA regarding purchasing his house. The City Manager then contacted the representative from FEMA and learned that indeed FEMA was soliciting for participation in a buyout within Jersey Village.

The resident had been contacted because his home had flooded three times. That qualified the resident for participation in FEMA's "severe repetitive loss" program. This is a new program that FEMA has initiated. The resident's home is eligible. FEMA will not submit an application on the resident's behalf unless Jersey Village submitted a formal statement that the city would not object to the submission. There is no matching portion required of the city.

There could be many benefits as well as downfalls to participation in the program. In checking with staff, we were told that Harris County does an adequate job of maintaining the two "buy-out" lots that have been a part of similar programs in the past.

The representative told the City Manager that he needed the city's response no later than March 20. If the city were unable to respond by then, he would take that as a negative response.

Motion was made by Councilmember Klein approving for residents to participate in the FEMA Buy Out, seconded by Councilmember Holden

approving as recommended by staff. Motion carried: Ayes: Councilmembers Wubbenhorst, Berube, English, Klein and Holden, No: None, Passed 5-0.

5. Contract Resolution 2008-11 – Public Works: Authorizing staff to enter into contract with Insituform Technologies, Inc., in the amount of \$500,000 to rehabilitate sanitary sewer lines in poor condition.

Request Authorization to enter into contract with Insituform Technologies, Inc., in the amount of \$500,000 (five hundred thousand dollars). This project includes lining, repairing and rehabilitating the sanitary sewers in the city. The project is necessary to reduce infiltration into the sanitary sewer system and to rehabilitate sanitary sewer lines in poor condition.

Staff recommended approving Resolution 2008-11 awarding the contract and authorizing the City Manager to sign all necessary contract documents.

Motion was made by Councilmember Wubbenhorst, seconded by Councilmember Berube approving Resolution 2008-11 recommended by staff. Motion carried: Ayes: Councilmembers Wubbenhorst, Berube, English, Klein and Holden, No: None, Passed 5-0.

6. Ordinance 2008-07– Public Works: approving an ordinance amending the Budget FY2007-2008 for sanitary sewer line rehab fifty percent of funds from 2003 Street Bond and fifty percent from the Utility Fund.

This project includes lining, repairing and rehabilitating the sanitary sewers in the city. The project is necessary to reduce infiltration into the sanitary sewer system and to rehabilitate sanitary sewer lines in poor condition. Project funding will be in the amount of \$500,000 (Five hundred thousand dollars). Fifty percent of the funding for this project will come from the 2003 Street Bond. The remaining fifty percent of funding will come from the city's utility fund. This will eliminate having to entirely deplete the funds from the 2003 Street Bond.

Staff recommended approval of Ordinance 2008-07 and allocation of appropriated funds.

Motion was made by Councilmember Wubbenhorst, seconded by Councilmember Berube approving Ordinance 2008-07 recommended by staff. Motion carried: Ayes: Councilmembers Wubbenhorst, Berube, English, Klein and Holden, No: None, Passed 5-0.

7. Discussion – Finance: review of possible options for financing the Jersey Village Police Department expansion.

The Finance Department is making a presentation on the different funding options for the Police Department Expansion Project.

Mayor Hamley requested that this item be a discussion item at the City Council Retreat.

No official action taken on this item.

8. Ordinance 2008-08 – Finance: approving an ordinance amending the FY2007-2008 wages and travel for Interim City Secretary.

This is to provide wages for the Interim City Secretary for the period of 3/4/2008 through 7/6/2008 based on a pay rate of \$32.00 per hour for 40 hours per week (700 hours @ \$32.00/hr.= \$22,400). Mileage for 8400 miles (7 round trips) @ 50.5 cents per mile= \$4,300. The Interim City Secretary is allowed 2 round trips per month to her home town of Lubbock.

Staff recommended approval of Ordinance 2008-08 and this budget transfer.

Motion was made by Councilmember Wubbenhorst, seconded by Councilmember Berube approving Ordinance 2008-08 recommended by staff. Motion carried: Ayes: Councilmembers Wubbenhorst, Berube, English, Klein and Holden, No: None, Passed 5-0.

IX. MAYOR'S ACTIVITY REPORT/COMMENTS

Mayor Hamley extended his appreciation to the volunteers of the Emergency Services, and they are truly a unique group of citizens. The Mayor mentioned that he would appreciate a schedule of the construction which was approved with the Bond dollars, and he mentioned the need for a War Memorial document for the next meeting. He also requested a report from the Parks Advisory Committee.

X. COUNCIL ACTIVITY REPORTS/COMMENTS

Councilmember Klein noted the success of the Spring Fling, Easter Egg Hunt and dance.

Councilmember English praised Councilmember Klein for her support with the above. He also recognized Isabel Kato, Mike Castro, and Gordon for their efforts. Councilmember English thanked Chief Wedemeyer and the Police Department for their safety efforts.

Councilmember Berube wanted to "ditto" all of the above.

Councilmember Holden requested information from City Manager Castro referencing the solicitation of applicants for the City Secretary's position. Castro responded by saying that the overwhelming majority of the 45 applicants were not qualified and there were internal applicants.

Councilmember Wubbenhorst expressed her disappointment in missing the Emergency Services Banquet.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Hamley adjourned the City Council Meeting at 9:02 P.M.

Russell Hamley
Mayor

ATTEST:

Courtney Rutherford
Assistant City Secretary