MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JERSEY VILLAGE, TEXAS, HELD ON JANUARY 17, 2022, AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE CIVIC CENTER, 16327 LAKEVIEW, JERSEY VILLAGE, TEXAS.

A. CALL TO ORDER AND ANNOUNCE A QUORUM IS PRESENT

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Warren at 7:01 p.m. with the following present:

Mayor, Bobby Warren Council Member, Drew Wasson Council Member, Sheri Sheppard Council Member, Michelle Mitcham Council Member, James Singleton

Council Member, Gary Wubbenhorst

City Manager, Austin Bleess City Secretary, Lorri Coody City Attorney, Justin Pruitt

Staff in attendance: Mark Bitz, Fire Chief; Isabel Kato, Finance Director; Kirk Riggs, Chief of Police; Robert Basford, Director of Parks and Recreation; and Harry Ward, Director of Public Works.

B. INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

1. Prayer and Pledge by: Stefanie Otto, Commander of the Jeremy E. Ray American Legion Post #324.

C. PRESENTATIONS

1. Presentation of Police Department Employee of the Fourth Quarter and the 2021 Employee of the Year Award by Stefanie Otto, Commander of the Jeremy E. Ray American Legion Post 324.

Stefanie Otto, Commander of the Jeremy E. Ray American Legion Post #324, along with Mayor Warren, presented the Police Department Employee of the Fourth Quarter award to Officer Ashley Walker and the 2021 Employee of the Year Award to Officer Miguel Torres.

D. CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Citizens who have signed a card and wish to speak to the City Council will be heard at this time. In compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, unless the subject matter of the comment is on the agenda, the City staff and City Council Members are prevented from discussing the subject and may respond only with statements of factual information or existing policy. Citizens are limited to five (5) minutes for their comments to the City Council.

Rep. Lacy Hull, 10190 Katy Freeway, Suite 555G, Houston, TX 77043 – Ms. Hull represents House District #138. Her representation of Jersey Village will take effect in January 2023, but she wanted to introduce herself to the residents now. She gave her contact information (Austin Office number is 512-463-0727 and Houston Office number is 713-647-0042) and asked residents to contact her with issues for which she may be of help.

Jim Fields, 16413 St. Helier Street, Jersey Village, Texas (713) 206-1184 – Mr. Fields thanked the Mayor and City Council for working on alternate solutions for the golf course clubhouse. He gave kudos to City Secretary Coody and City Manager Bleess, stating that they are always willing

to help. He also spoke to a better way to help residents communicate with Council. He suggested that residents not be cutoff in the middle of their comments. Rather, they should be asked how much more time is needed. He also spoke to the grant monies for the fire department. He mentioned code enforcement, stating that he would like to have all of our codes enforced. He also spoke to development in the City.

<u>James MacDonald</u>, 16306 Acapulco, Jersey Village, Texas (832) 253-6167 – Mr. MacDonald congratulated Council Member Drew Wasson for his participation and completion of the Houston marathon. The citizens of the month for January are the members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee. He also spoke to the need for a community garden. He ended with a quote from Martin Luther King, Jr.

Mark Maloy, 7803 Hamilton Circle, Jersey Village, Texas (713) 461-1430 – Mr. Maloy spoke to the method used by the City to present information for the golf course finances. He noted that the fund balance for the course rarely changes, but when it does it is confusing. He gave the figures to support his findings concerning this fund balance and wants to understand how the fund balance is being adjusted. He also mentioned that he and other residents are going to hire an independent auditor to investigate the golf course fund expenditures. He spoke to the TIRZ2 and revenues for this District. He closed with his concern about City Council having a meeting at 1 PM on January 7, since it was not the most opportune time for residents to attend.

<u>Eric Henao, 15601 Singapore Lane, Jersey Village, Texas (832) 567-0974</u> – Mr. Henao thanked everyone for all for their hard work. He thanked Harry Ward for his work on the streets. He recognized Council Member Drew Wasson for completing the marathon. He spoke to the SAFER Grant item on the agenda. He stated that he is in favor of adding paid staff to our Fire Department.

<u>Kimberly Henao, 15601 Singapore Lane, Jersey Village, Texas (832) 689-9878</u> – Ms. Henao told Council that she has been reading the minutes of the City Council that are found on the City website to learn more about how the City was formed. She gave details of what she has learned during these readings.

E. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Bleess gave his report as follows:

- 1. Monthly Fund Balance Report, Enterprise Funds Report, Governmental Funds Report, Property Tax Collection Report November 2021, General Fund Budget Projections as of December 2021, Utility Fund Budget Projections December 2021 and the Quarterly Investment Report December 2021.
- 2. Fire Departmental Report and Communication Division's Monthly Report
- 3. Police Department Monthly Activity Report, Warrant Report, Staffing/Recruitment Report, and Police Open Records Requests.

- 4. Municipal Court Collection Report, Municipal Court Activity Report, Municipal Court Courtroom Activity Report, Speeding and Stop Sign Citations within Residential Areas Report, and Court Proceeds Comparison Report
- 5. Public Works Departmental Status Report
- 6. Golf Course Monthly Report, Golf Course Financial Statement Report, Golf Course Budget Summary, and Parks and Recreation Departmental Report.
- 7. Code Enforcement Report

F. CONSENT AGENDA

The following items are considered routine in nature by the City Council and will be enacted with one motion and vote. There will not be separate discussion on these items unless requested by a Council Member, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered by separate action.

Each Consent Agenda item appears below with background information. The vote on Items 1 through 7 is found at the end of the Consent Agenda.

- 1. Consider approval of the Minutes for the Regular Session Meeting held on December 20, 2021 and the Work Session Meeting held on January 7, 2022.
- 2. Consider Ordinance No. 2022-01, ordering a General Municipal Election to be held on May 7, 2022; authorizing the Mayor, or designee, to enter into a Joint Election Agreement with Harris County to conduct the General Municipal Election on behalf of the City of Jersey Village; designating the places and manner of holding the election; providing for the posting and publication of notice; providing for a runoff election if required; providing a savings clause; providing an open meetings clause; and, providing an effective date.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The general election for the city will be held on May 7, 2022, for the purpose of electing the following officials of the City: Councilmember, Place 1; Councilmember, Place 4; and Councilmember, Place 5.

The deadline for filing for a place on the ballot is February 18, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. and the deadline for ordering an election is also February 18, 2022.

ORDINANCE 2022-01

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JERSEY VILLAGE, TEXAS, ORDERING A GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON MAY 7, 2022; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, OR DESIGNEE, TO ENTER INTO A JOINT ELECTION AGREEMENT WITH HARRIS COUNTY TO CONDUCT THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF JERSEY VILLAGE; DESIGNATING THE PLACES AND MANNER OF HOLDING THE ELECTION; PROVIDING FOR THE POSTING AND PUBLICATION OF NOTICE; PROVIDING

FOR A RUNOFF ELECTION IF REQUIRED; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING AN OPEN MEETINGS CLAUSE; AND, PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

3. Consider Resolution No. 2022-01, rescheduling the Monday, May 16, 2022, Regular City Council Meeting for Wednesday, May 18, 2022, at 7 PM.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The General Election for the City of Jersey Village is May 7, 2022. Upon completion of the General Election, the local canvassing authority (City Council) must conduct an official canvass of the precinct returns in order to declare the returns official. The duty to conduct the canvass is a mandatory, ministerial duty and not subject to the discretion of the governing body.

Section 67.003 of the Texas Election Code sets the period in which the City Council must conduct its official canvass at not later than the 11th day after Election Day. The official canvass may occur before 11th day only if all FPCA ballots have been received, the Early Voting Ballot Board has completed the count of provisional ballots, and there are no deficiencies in mailed ballot carrier envelopes. Governed by this rules, Harris County has confirmed that they will furnish the final canvass numbers to Jersey Village by the close of business on May 16.

Therefore, taking into consideration the traditions of this City concerning the official canvass and the swearing in ceremony for newly elected officials, it is recommended that the official canvass be conducted on Wednesday, May 18, 2022. Setting this date will provide enough time to receive the final canvass numbers and prepare them for the official canvass.

Accordingly, it is suggested that City Council consider rescheduling the May 16, 2022, Regular Session City Council Meeting for Wednesday, May 18, 2022, to conduct the official canvass and swearing in ceremony of newly elected officials in accordance with the City's traditions.

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-01

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JERSEY VILLAGE, RESCHEDULING THE MONDAY, MAY 16, 2022, REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 2022, AT 7 PM.

4. Consider Resolution No. 2022-02, receiving and approving the Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Report for Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone Number 2.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Tax Increment Financing Act requires all cities or counties that designate a tax increment reinvestment zone to file an annual report with the Comptroller's office and the chief executive officer of each taxing unit that levies property taxes on real property in a reinvestment zone. The report must include:

- the amount and source of revenue in the tax increment fund established for the zone;
- the amount and purpose of expenditures from the fund;
- the amount of principal and interest due on outstanding bonded indebtedness;
- the tax increment base and current captured appraised value retained by the zone;
- the captured appraised value shared by the municipality or county and other taxing units, the total amount of tax increments received, and any additional information necessary to demonstrate compliance with the tax increment financing plan adopted by the governing body of the municipality or county.

The TIRZ district saw a slight increase in value from the FY20 certified numbers to the FY21 certified numbers. However, the value for was still lower than the base value of the TIRZ. As such the city saw no revenue to the TIRZ fund.

The TIRZ Board met on January 10, 2022 and reviewed this report. They are recommending the City Council receive and approve this report.

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-02

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JERSEY VILLAGE, TEXAS, RECEIVING AND APPROVING THE FISCAL YEAR 2021 ANNUAL REPORT FOR TAX INCREMEMNT REINVESTMENT ZONE NUMBER 2.

5. Consider Ordinance No. 2022-02, receiving the Planning and Zoning Commission's Preliminary Report and calling a Joint Public Hearing of the City Council and the Planning and Zoning Commission concerning the proposal to amend the City's Zoning Ordinance to grant a Specific Use Permit to allow the operation of an Assisted Living and Memory Care Center on the tract of land located at Lot 2, Block 5 of the Northwest Station, Section 2, with a street address of 9300 Savile Lane within the City of Jersey Village in Zoning District G.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The City has received an application from Vernon R. Young (Managing General Partner of 9300 Savile, LLC) filed on behalf of Jersey Village Lifestyle Ltd. (Applicant) for a specific use permit to allow the operation of an Assisted Living and Memory Care Center on a tract of land located at 9300 Savile, Jersey Village, TX 77040 within the city limits in zoning District G.

The Planning and Zoning Commission met on January 10, 2022 to review this request and to prepare a preliminary report containing its findings.

Accordingly, the Planning and Zoning Commission presents its preliminary report in connection with its findings to City Council tonight and asks that it be received, and to proceed with a joint public hearing.

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-02

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF JERSEY VILLAGE, TEXAS, RECEIVING THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION'S PRELIMINARY REPORT AND CALLING A JOINT PUBLIC HEARING OF THE CITY COUNCIL AND THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION CONCERNING THE PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE CITY'S ZONING ORDINANCE TO GRANT A SPECIFIC USE PERMIT TO ALLOW THE OPERATION OF AN ASSISTED LIVING AND MEMORY CARE CENTER ON THE TRACT OF LAND LOCATED AT LOT 2, BLOCK 5 OF THE NORTHWEST STATION, SECTION 2, WITH A STREET ADDRESS OF 9300 SAVILE LANE WITHIN THE CITY OF JERSEY VILLAGE IN ZONING DISTRICT G.

6. Consider Resolution No. 2022-03, making amendments to the "Removal from Office and Vacancies" requirements for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee and approving the creation of a Parks and Recreation Membership, Duties, and Meeting Procedures document.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

On October 19, 2020, City Council under Resolution 2021-51, established the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee formerly known as the Parks and Recreation Committee.

On October 18, 2021, City Council under Resolution 2021-68, made amendments to the membership and term of office for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee.

This it is to make amendments to the "Removal from Office and Vacancies" requirements for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee and approve the creation of a Parks and Recreation Membership, Duties, and Meeting Procedures document.

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-03

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JERSEY VILLAGE, TEXAS, MAKING AMENDMENTS TO THE "REMOVAL FROM OFFICE AND VACANCIES" REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND APPROVING THE CREATION OF A PARKS AND RECREATION MEMBERSHIP, DUTIES, AND MEETING PROCEDURES DOCUMENT.

7. Consider Resolution No. 2022-04, authorizing the receipt of bids or proposals through electronic transmission and adopting rules pertaining thereto.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Section 252.0415 of the Local Government Code provides that a municipality may receive bids or proposals through electronic transmission if the governing body of the municipality adopts rules to ensure the identification, security, and confidentiality of

electronic bids or proposals and to ensure that the electronic bids or proposals remain effectively unopened until the proper time; and

This item is to consider a Resolution adopting an electronic bid/proposal submission process.

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-04

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JERSEY VILLAGE, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE RECEIPT OF BIDS OR PROPOSALS THROUGH ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION AND ADOPTING RULES PERTAINING THERETO.

Council Member Wubbenhorst moved to approve items 1 through 7 on the Consent Agenda. Council Member Singleton seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Council Members Wasson, Sheppard, Mitcham, Singleton, and Wubbenhorst

Nays: None

The motion carried.

G. REGULAR AGENDA

1. Consider Resolution No. 2022-05, authorizing the Fire Chief to apply for a grant through FEMA for Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) and, if approved and funded, authorizing the City Manager to add six (6) new firefighters into the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Jersey Village Fire Department has been a mostly volunteer fire department for the last 65 years. We currently have 22 volunteer members in the department. In 1992, we began adding part time paid staff for daytime coverage. In 2010, we added 1 fulltime Captain per shift to satisfy the requirement of having a paramedic on duty 24 hours a day. In 2019/2020 budget, we added two fulltime firefighters on day shifts to cover a shortage of staffing we had experienced for nearly the entire year by our part time personnel during daytime hours.

Over many years, we have been making attempts to recruit volunteer firefighters into our department. We have added some, but the struggle is real. Over the past several years, although adding people, we have seen a reduction in volunteer response on many of our calls. There are many factors that contribute to the reduction of volunteer response. Some of those factors include younger firefighters no longer available to respond due in part that they are now working in the industry and not available. Another factor includes many of the current responders that are active are not trained in firefighting mostly due to their age and/or they are EMS only responders. Many of the firefighters we have now are over 60

years of age and are not capable of fighting fires anymore or holding heavy equipment any longer.

When we look at call types that require full response on fire apparatus and heavy rescue trucks, these vehicles, at a minimum require three people to respond on each apparatus. We have many volunteers who can be the right responder, but their response numbers are so low we cannot rely on them. For sure, we cannot plan ahead. 911 is not planned and response to a particular call type is not planned.

The department has two fire trucks and one rescue truck, which needs to have multiple people on each apparatus when they respond to calls. On a structure fire call for example, that would be a minimum of 3 people per truck. The ideal amount of firefighters per truck is minimum of 4, but we can do it with 3 people. That is 9 people in total. On a motor vehicle accident, we send at least one fire truck, a rescue truck and an ambulance. That is a minimum of 2 people on the ambulance, 3 people on the rescue truck and 2 people on the fire truck. That is 7 people for this call type. Our current average of volunteer personnel responding to calls is 4.3 people per call and at least 2 of those personnel are EMS only and most of them are over the age of 60. The graph included in the packet shows average response for volunteers from 2001 to the present.

Firefighting and rescue work requires physically fit people who are capable of lifting heavy items, working hard for lengthy periods of time in atmospheres that are most times unbearable. Wearing the gear, the air pack and going into these atmospheres is not for everyone. Lifting heavy equipment such as the Jaws of Life or rescue jacks takes people capable of lifting 50-100 pounds for lengthy periods of time.

There was a time when volunteer firefighters were so captivated in doing this that they spent every waking minute of their day coming to the station, getting on every call and being part of helping the community. We have some people like this still, but not enough to protect the community in a way it needs protecting. The day of that volunteer who is so enthralled and motivated to respond has changed and not just in Jersey Village. This is something happening all across Harris County, the State of Texas and our Nation.

It is time that we looked at adding more personnel on shift work to assist the active volunteers and making sure the right equipment and apparatus gets to the emergency and that there is enough personnel on each scene to help manage each scene and deal with each emergency. We listen to the current active volunteers that care and respond to the needs of the community. We listen to the volunteers that are saying to the fire chief and talking amongst themselves, that they believe it is time for the city to add full time people to help us out. It is time for us to consider this once again. We are not trying to get rid of our volunteers. We want them to be here and respond. This is to supplement the volunteers and give them the desired help they need.

We can do this with the assistance of the government through a FEMA program called SAFER (Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response). This grant funds staffing

for 3 years. The first and second year funds 75% of a firefighters Salary, Benefits and Overtime). The 3rd year funds 35% of a firefighters Salary, Benefits and Overtime). A breakdown of the cost is included in the meeting packet.

There is no share cost in this. The grant pays 100% of a firefighter's salary, benefits and overtime for the first three years. Year four moving forward is 100% the responsibility of the city to pay for Salary, Benefits and Overtime. The program does not pay for protective equipment or uniforms.

I have recommended to the city manager to add six more fulltime firefighters through this program. The SAFER Grant program opened on January 3, 2022 and closes on February 4, 2022. If awarded the grant, we will know before September 30, 2022. We would implement this in the 2022-2023 fiscal budget years.

This program would supplement our personnel and allow us to provide the necessary staffing needed to run emergencies. Adding six personnel would allow us have five fulltime personnel to each 48-hour shift and allow us to meet the two in two out rule.

This request is for council to consider authorizing the fire chief to move forward with applying for the SAFER Grant and, if awarded and funded, authorize the Fire Chief to add six (6) new firefighters in the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget.

Council engaged in discussion about the grant request. There was discussion about the out-of-pocket costs for these fire fighters in 2026. Chief Bitz stated that it would be approximately \$110,000 per fire fighter. With this information in hand, City Manager Bleess explained how the grant will work and explained that once the funds from the grant, if approved, are expended, the City will use funds from the FCPEMS District to cover the cost of this additional staffing. The grant will pay 100% for the first three (3) years.

The odds of getting the grant were discussed. Chief Bitz stated he is hopeful. He stated he will reach out to our State Representatives for their assistance.

Additional information concerning the call volume was discussed and how there is a staff shortage many times, requiring the Chief and other departmental staffing to assist with these calls.

The grant and what it can do for our Fire Department was discussed.

With no further discussion on the matter, Council Member Singleton moved to approve Resolution No. 2022-05, authorizing the Fire Chief to apply for a grant through FEMA for Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) and, if approved and funded, authorizing the City Manager to add six (6) new firefighters into the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget. Council Member Wubbenhorst seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Council Members Wasson, Sheppard, Mitcham, Singleton, and Wubbenhorst

Nays: None

The motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-05

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JERSEY VILLAGE, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE FIRE CHIEF TO APPLY FOR A GRANT THROUGH FEMA FOR STAFFING FOR ADEQUATE FIRE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE (SAFER) AND, IF APPROVED AND FUNDED, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ADD SIX (6) NEW FIREFIGHTERS INTO THE FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 BUDGET.

H. MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Pursuant to Texas Government Code § 551.0415, City Council Members and City staff may make a reports about items of community interest during a meeting of the governing body without having given notice of the report. Items of community interest include:

- Expressions of thanks, congratulations, or condolence;
- Information regarding holiday schedules;
- An honorary or salutary recognition of a public official, public employee, or other citizen, except that a discussion regarding a change in the status of a person's public office or public employment is not an honorary or salutary recognition for purposes of this subdivision;
- A reminder about an upcoming event organized or sponsored by the governing body;
- Information regarding a social, ceremonial, or community event organized or sponsored by an entity other than the governing body that was attended or is scheduled to be attended by a member of the governing body or an official or employee of the municipality; and
- Announcements involving an imminent threat to the public health and safety of people in the municipality that has arisen after the posting of the agenda.

<u>Council Member Wubbenhorst</u>: Council Member Wubbenhorst commented on the achievements made with the golf course. He feels that most residents think of the course as a recreational area, but it currently serves as a flood mitigation area as well. It is a strong asset.

Council Member Singleton: Council Member Singleton had no comments.

<u>Council Member Wasson</u>: Council Member Wasson recognized today as Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. He gave a quote from Martin Luther King, Jr. concerning service. He closed by stating, as we pride ourselves as a community that involves service, he encouraged all to serve. He thanked all for their support for his running in the Houston marathon.

<u>Council Member Sheppard</u>: Council Member Sheppard thanked Kimberly Henao for her sharing of information concerning the history of Jersey Village.

<u>Council Member Mitcham</u>: Council Member Mitcham recognized Council Member Drew Wasson for his participation in the Houston marathon. She also thanked Kimberly for her educational tidbits.

<u>Mayor Warren</u>: Mayor Warren gave congrats to Council Member Drew Wasson on completing the Houston marathon. He also echoes the importance for the call to service. He encouraged all to get involved and serve the community. The beauty of volunteering is the change it will bring in you as an individual.

I. ADJOURN

There being no further business on the Agenda the meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m.



Lorri Coody, TRCM, City Secretary