

Minutes of Public Hearing held July 11, 2011

Public hearing with the following present: Mayor Pro-tem Jerry Stone; Aldermen Ruble Farmer, Ward Sanders, Sam Cortez and Kevin Keith; City Secretary Josie Campa; Director of Public Works James McGrath; Police Chief Richard Priest; City Attorney Tom Cate; Library Director Cassandra Cortez. Mayor Bowen was absent.

Visitors: Kevin Osborne, Paul Jette, Linda Mask, Lori Ralph, Roy Garza, Ronald Garza, Patricia Garza, Ofelia Ivarra, George Harris, Mr. and Mrs. Royce Todd, Luz Padro, Jim Becker, Debbie Trautner, Tom Trautner, Betty Kroeger, Ernie Kroeger, Chuck Bayne, Kara Vaughn, Niraj Desai, Hasu Bhakta, Charles Jeffers, Richard Crain, Rudy Ruiz, Mrs. William Dee, Jose Garcia, Diana Rios, Robert Wilson, Veronica Skilling, Bartholomew Sykes.

Mayor Pro-tem Jerry Stone opened the public meeting at 6:35 p.m. by announcing the purpose of the hearing.

Debbie Trautner and Charles Jeffers talked to Council about the recommendations of the Zoning Commission and asked that the 28 acres be rezoned to B-3 not B-1. They told Council that if Mr. Harris and Joe Garcia had received B-2 zoning they should at least receive that on the 11 ½ acres. Mayor Pro-tem Jerry Stone asked about a buffer being given and Mr. Jeffers said that a fence could be put up like H.E.B. built.

Highland Park residents Linda Mask, Robert Wilson, Luz Padro and Lori Ralph expressed their concerns about having businesses so close to their homes. They also expressed their concerns about Priest Blvd. being opened all the way to IH 35.

After lengthy discussion, Council agreed that they could vote on the recommendations that do not have any controversy, and send the others back to the Zoning Commission. Council also agreed that they need to check with TxDot on their plans for Priest Blvd.

The public hearing was closed at 7:20 p.m.