



**CITY OF LA MARQUE
CITY COUNCIL EMERGENCY
MINUTES
of
MARCH 13, 2020**

Emergency Meeting Minutes of the City of La Marque City Council held on Friday, March 13, 2020, beginning at 4:30 p.m. at 1109-B Bayou Road with the following members present:

(1) CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hocking called the Emergency Meeting to order at 4:32 p.m.

(2) ROLL CALL

Bobby Hocking	Mayor
Keith Bell	Mayor Pro-Tem, Councilmember District A
Chris Lane	Councilmember, District B
Robert Michetich	Councilmember, District C
Casey Mc Auliffe	Councilwoman, District D (via telephone)

OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Charles "Tink" Jackson	City Manager
Charlene Warren	Assistant to City Manager

(3) Discussion/possible action regarding Declaration of Local State of Disaster for the City of La Marque, Texas - including an Emergency Ordinance prepared by Derra Purnell- Acting City Attorney (E-2020-0001)

A brief discussion was led by City Manager Jackson concerning the rapidly changing conditions that the nation is facing due to the spread of the COVID-19 (corona virus). Galveston County has reported having their first confirmed case of the virus in the County. The Federal Government as well as the Governor of Texas have declared a State of Disaster as well as a disaster for all fifty states. Most cities have followed by declaring each of their city's local disasters, and many of the cities have taken some serious actions to limit interactions, that will hopefully slow down the spread of this virus. Further discussion included that grocery stores are in short supply of some of the basic needs, the time frame that a person could be carrying the virus before actually showing sign that he or she actually has the virus (14 days). He reported that the city's emergency

responders taking necessary precautions in their interactions with citizens to make sure they are kept healthy and that the library will be closing down this afternoon, to limit interactions with citizens, closing exposure of citizens allowing them to Boards and Commissions meetings being canceled until further notice, canceling out of town training, limiting interactions with citizens during the permitting process.

Councilmember Michetich asked whether there was a designated hospital, for those who may have the virus (there was none at this time); they are limiting number of medics on each emergency vehicles, requiring face masks, gloves, and disinfecting everything. Other questions involved what the city's stance would be if a developer tried to push something through during this time, that required the thirty-day approval process.

Mayor Pro-Tem Bell asked for clarification under Section 1- he asked who would determine who is under investigation and under management... (the County Health Department). Also asked for clarification on the part under the severability clause; Section 3- asked how it will be known if portions of the ordinances have been violated and what considerations will be given - to those who are found in violation (this to be taken on a case by case basis). If a person living alone was quarantined, the City would work hand in hand with the Health District to make sure those citizens received their necessities, whether it be medicine, food or other. "I am going to go ahead and go along with this, but there is absolutely no reason for us to be fining people that are quarantined or under investigation for corona virus infection, that is silly to me, but I am going to go ahead because I realize you didn't put it in the ordinance." But it was assured that this would not be a problem in La Marque.

Councilmember Michetich made a motion to adopt the ordinance and authorize the signing of the declaration for the initial seven days with the extension of an additional forty-five days as per our Attorney
Councilmember Lane seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

(4) ADJOURNMENT

****** Councilmember Michetich made a motion to adjourn the Regular meeting at 4:52 p.m.

****** Councilmember Lane seconded. **EMERGENCY MEETING ADJOURNED.**

[This unofficial copy of the minutes from the above meeting are posted for convenience only. Executed or certified copies of the minutes can be requested by contacting the City Clerk.](#)