



**CITY OF LA MARQUE
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
MINUTES
of
JULY 13, 2020**

City Council Workshop Minutes of the City of La Marque City Council held on Monday, July 13, 2020, beginning at 6:00 p.m. via teleconference (ZOOM) with the following members present:

(1) CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hocking called the Workshop to order at 6:00 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

OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Charles "Tink" Jackson	City Manager
Robin Eldridge	City Clerk
Kierra Nance	Deputy City Clerk
Derra Purnell	Acting City Attorney

(3) INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE- Skipped

(4) CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

(5) CONSENT

- a. Discussion relating to adopt Resolution No. **R-2020-0009**, repealing Resolution No. R-2020-0004, and moving the La Marque General Election previously called for Saturday, May 2, 2020 to November 3, 2020, as allowed by proclamation of the State of Texas Governor issued by proclamation on March 18, 2020

There as no further discussion

- b. Discussion relating to enter into a Contract with the Galveston County Clerk and Galveston County Election Officer for the General Election to be held on November 3, 2020, and possible Runoff Election on December 15, 2020

Mayor Pro-Tem Bell asked if the Contract was flexible enough to allow any changes, if they were to be implemented as far as mail ballots were concerned, if it could be adjusted. It was asked to be clarified. (subject to approval by the city attorney and they will make sure they would include a clause)

- c. Discussion relating to approve observed City Holidays for calendar year 2021
The City Manager added a Juneteenth Holiday to the 2021 Employee Holiday schedule. There was no further discussion.

- d. Discussion relating to adopt Resolution No. **R-2020-0010**, designating GrantWorks, Inc. as the administration service provider for the 2020 Community Development Block Grant - MIT Program application and project implementation administered through the Texas General Land Office

The Emergency Management Coordinator and City Manager explained.

Councilwoman Mc Auliffe asked if something could be built into the criteria for grading RFQ's and RFP's for future contractors, that would ensure that they were committed to having equity in their infrastructure, that pursues diversity within their company. It was added during the discussion that according to the city's purchasing and procurement policy, that historically underutilized businesses which are women and minorities, all are given a chance that may otherwise be typically unknown in the field. It was further stated that this criteria would be built in moving forward when going out for bids, RFQ's and RFP's.

- e. Discussion relating to adopt Resolution No. **R-2020-0011**, designating ADICO, LLC and LNV, LLC as engineering service providers for the 2020 Community Development Block Grant - MIT (CDBG-MIT) Program applications and project implementation administered through the Texas General Land Office (GLO)

After a further explanation was given by the City Manager, there was further discussion relating to possibly combining projects (Merry and Melody program and Water and Wastewater infrastructure; I&I Infiltration; Rehabilitation of Lift Stations); applications for grants; how many applications can be submitted; the grant process in general was briefly discussed. In moving forward, the best options for the City will be reviewed and which funding mechanisms to be sought then brought back before City Council.

- f. Discussion relating to ratify the round two Emergency Business Retention Program expenditures

Executive Director of EDC Alex Getty reported that the Review Committee (Mayor Pro-Tem Bell, Gene Smith and Deanie Barrett both of the EDC Board) met and they awarded 61 grants in the amount of \$426,500.00. One applicant was added, after a small typo was found when initially submitted. The grants in both Phase One and Two totaled \$974, 000.00. "I have not seen any city our size do more for

their small businesses than the City of La Marque.” Mayor Hocking thanked Mayor Pro-Tem Bell and all those involved in this process. As a small business owner himself, Mayor Pro-Tem Bell also thanked all that was involved, including all members of the Economic Development Corporation.

- g. Discussion relating to authorize the purchase of one Case 521G Front End Wheel Loader through H-GAC Buy in the amount of \$138,478.58

After this item was explained, no further discussion evolved.

- h. Discussion relating to authorize the purchase of one 2021 Ford F550 Regular Cab w/Versalift Body 5G through H-GAC Buy vendor in the amount of \$102,887.00

After this item was explained, no further discussion evolved.

- i. Discussion relating to authorize ADICO, LLC engineering proposal for the Westwood Subdivision Drainage Improvements in the amount of \$18,100.00 and encumber funds for the additional construction amount of \$66,900 for construction for a total project cost estimate of \$85,000

After this item was explained, no further discussion evolved.

(6) NEW BUSINESS

- a. Discussion relating to adopt Ordinance No. **O-2020-0009**, amending Article III, SPEED REGULATIONS of the La Marque Code of Ordinances, Section 62-88, reducing the speed limit on the Northbound Main lanes and Southbound Main lanes of IH45 from 65 mph to 55 mph, and reducing the speed limit on the Northbound Frontage Road and the Southbound Frontage Road from 50 mph to 45 mph, until the completion of the freeway expansion project by the Texas Department of Transportation **THIS IS THE FIRST READING.**

After this item was explained, no further discussion evolved.

- b. Discussion relating to CARES Act Interlocal Agreement request by County of Galveston

City Manager reviewed and explained the agreement. Basically, the County is asking for 18% of the funding that has been granted to each of the cities in Galveston County, to continue to pay for County Covid testing. It was recommended that once the city’s needs are met, if there any money is left over, then they can decide whether they want to turn over the remaining monies to the County. (75% -medical related and 25% equipment and other) reimbursables. Other discussion including the number of tests conducted, and the fact that County hasn’t paid for any testing done in La Marque. All of the testing has been paid for the City at this time. Currently out of the \$900,000 that was allotted to the City, 25% has been spent. It was further stated that this agreement was not

discussed beforehand with the County. It was also discussed that if the city's number of mail ballot voting was increased due to this Covid virus, some of this money could be also used to help fund this. The County was allotted 2.4 million to cover costs Covid related to the areas in the outer limits not covered within the cities. It was asked for an itemized list of where the County's monies were distributed, to justify the reason for asking for certain percentages from each of the other cities.

- c. Discussion relating to adopt Resolution No. **R-2020-0012**, recognizing and supporting Police Officers and Law Enforcement Professionals

After this item was explained, no further discussion evolved, a few changes were suggested, that will be brought up during the regular meeting when voting on this item.

- d. Discussion relating to Self-Quarantine or Home Bound Assistance During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Councilmember Michetich had asked for this item to possibly come up with a plan or a coordinated effort between churches, and other volunteer programs to work together to try to help elderly and/or alone or disabled during this time, that could possibly help and or lessen the impact. (Food, medication retrieval, etc.) Legal - Derra Purnell added that other cities options include an app or internet log-on to a list of persons that need help but not specifically related to Covid connecting those persons to a volunteer program that can help them with their needs. This will require a lot of effort, planning and energy of several individuals, but can be done. It was asked that maybe the County had already begun some programs or other use of their resources to be used in this effort.

- e. Discussion relating to adopt Ordinance No. **O-2020-0010**, pursuant to Texas Government Code Chapter 418 related to control measures to limit the spread of the COVID-19 virus, including requiring commercial entities providing goods or services directly to the public to develop a health and safety policy mandating the wearing of face masks in their facility; Requiring masks in accordance with Governor's Order GA-29; and making other provisions related to the subject **THIS IS THE FIRST AND FINAL READING**

City Attorney Derra Purnell explained that the ordinance is effectively what the Mayors orders said, adjusted to what has happened in between, relating back to the Governors Orders, encouraging businesses have a health and safety policy. Although there is no real way to enforce the individual mask order, but they are strongly encouraged. Section 6 of the ordinance was clarified by Ms. Purnell, along with the fine imposed for non-compliance (Local Government Code). It was further stated that Code Compliance delivered copies of the order for masks to all local businesses and were met with 99 % positive responses. It was clarified

that the La Marque Police department is asking those to wear masks, no tickets have been written and hopefully it doesn't get to that point.

- f. Discussion/possible action regarding adoption of Ordinance No. **O-2020-0011**, a request for abandonment of an unimproved public right-of-way in the Ambrose subdivision near FM 1765 and Delany Road **THIS IS THE FIRST READING**

After this item was explained, no further discussion evolved.

(7) ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Pro-Tem Bell made a motion to adjourn the Workshop at 7:38 p.m.
Councilwoman Mc Auliffe seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

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.