



**CITY OF LA MARQUE
CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MINUTES
of
JULY 24, 2023**

Minutes of a **Regular Meeting** held in the **Council Chambers** at **1109-B Bayou Road La Marque, Texas** as **well as via videoconference hosted through Zoom** on **July 24, 2023**, beginning at **6:00 PM** :

7/24/2023 - Minutes

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Bell called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

All members of council were present.

3. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Bell gave the invocation and Councilmember Ross led the pledge.

4. CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

Robert Michetich (24 N Curlew) spoke to share his disapproval of the potential wastewater discharge agreement.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS

***Mayor Bell recessed the regular meeting at 6:19 p.m. and opened the public hearing.*

5.I. Ordinance No. O-2023-0004

There was no public input.

5.II. Ordinance No. O-2023-0006

This item was pulled from consideration.

6. ORDINANCES

***Mayor Bell closed the Public Hearing at 6:20 p.m. and reconvened the Regular Meeting.*

6.I. Ordinance No. O-2023-0004

Discussion relating to the publications of this item ensued.

Mayor Pro Tem stated that he did not support this item previously and will not support it again because he feels that this item was brought to the council too far past.

Councilmember Yancy made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. O-2023-0004. Councilmember Carlson seconded. **MOTION CARRIED 4 AYES AND 1 NAY (COMPIAN).**

6.II. Ordinance No. O-2023-0005

City Attorney Knebel explained the changes made to this item. Whereas the item before the council is still to approve the fees however, the signing of the contract is now a separate item to be presented to the council at a later date.

Mayor Pro Tem Compian asked clarifying questions regarding the language of the ordinance attachments.

Councilmember Carlson made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. O2023-0005. Mayor Pro Tem Compian seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

6.III. Ordinance No. O-2023-0006

This item was pulled from consideration.

6.IV. Ordinance No. O-2023-0007

City Attorney Knebel clarified that this item is in line with state legislation that removes juvenile curfews statewide.

Councilmember Carlson made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. O-2023-0007. Councilmember Ross seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

7. OLD BUSINESS

7.I. Wastewater Discharge Agreement

City Manager Garcia stated that the wastewater treatment plant takes on approximately 1.8 gallons of wastewater per day if the

Alex Griffin and Modesto Dominguez of Republic Services spoke regarding the history of Republic Services' wastewater discharges both in the City of La Marque and the City of Hitchcock.

Mayor Bell and Councilmember Carlson asked clarifying questions of both Public Works Director Sailer and the Republic Services representatives regarding capacity, ammonia, and copper levels.

Mayor Pro Tem shared his thoughts that while he is comfortable with the plan presented, he feels that more information should be shared with the public to make them understand what is happening.

Councilmember Carlson questioned the testing method and who pays for it. It was clarified that Republic Services will pay for third-party testing.

Discussions relating to testing processes ensued.

Mayor Bell requested that a page on the city's website be dedicated to posting of water sample testing results and flow capacity. Councilmember Ross requested that baseline information from the plant prior to the acceptance of Republic Waste be added.

Mayor Pro Tem Compian requested that the council be provided with a written policy for the process of a shut-off in the case of a weather event.

Mayor Pro Tem made a motion to authorize the 90-day trial period with the requirement of the City to publish the data on the city's website and create a policy regarding shut-off for weather events. Councilmember Ross seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

8. CITY MANAGER REPORT

Stood as submitted.

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.I. Event Request

Joanna Alvarado, Gilbert Robinson, and Mary Limones all spoke representing Coastal Community Federal Credit Union and LULAC Mainland to present a proposal to council for assistance with their annual Back to School event.

Councilmember Carlson asked if the council has accepted a similar fee waiver request this fiscal year, it was clarified that they had.

Mayor Pro Tem Compian authorized a special event fee waiver to Coastal Community Federal Credit Union and LULAC Mainland Council 22427. Councilmember Yancy seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

9.II. Pavilion Reservation Fee Waiver Request

Mayor Pro Tem Compian made a motion to authorize a Highland Bayou Park Pavillion Reservation Fee Waiver to Coastal Conservation Association - Texas, Mainland Chapter. Councilmember Carlson seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

9.III. Citywide Street Sign Design

City Manager Garcia and Public Works Director Sailer shared design options for new street signs. Public Works Director Sailer shared that the signs are approximately \$30, and it would take a few years to replace all of the signs in the City.

Mayor Pro Tem Compian made a motion to authorize the proposed street design. Councilmember Carlson seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

9.IV. Request For Proposal

Councilmember Carlson made a motion to approve the advertisement and Request for Proposal for Citywide Lift Station Upgrade - Package 1. Mayor Pro Tem Compian seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

9.V. Items For The Good Of The Order

Councilmember Ross shared his experience at the Newly Elected Officials training and he looks forward to more budget hearings.

Councilmember Yancy asked the residents to share their concerns with the council during this budget season and shared that she is falling in love with Downtown La Marque.

Councilmember Carlson shared that it is good to be back and among friends. He donated \$1000 to the Back to School event presented earlier tonight. He shared that downtown is beautiful and that the Economic Development Corporation funds this revitalization.

Mayor Pro Tem Compian welcomed new residents and asked the community to participate in the budget discussions.

Mayor Bell also reminded the community of the budget schedule, asking residents to please discuss with the council where they believe their tax dollars should be spent. He acknowledged the reunion of the Bell, Britton, Hobgood, and Caldwell families this past weekend, a family that is so intertwined with the city's history.

City Manager Garcia announced a joint venture with TCISD to volunteer to spread mulch at the playgrounds that our youth utilize.

9.VI. Upcoming Events

Stood as submitted.

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no executive session.

11. ACTIONS TAKEN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

No actions were taken.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Yancy made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Carlson seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

***Meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m.*

Keith Bell

Mayor

Kierra K. Nance, TRMC

City Clerk