



**CITY OF LA MARQUE
CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MINUTES
of
September 25, 2023**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Bell called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

All members were physically present except for Councilmember Carlson.

3. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Ross gave the invocation, and Councilmember Yancy led the pledge.

4. PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations.

5. CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

- Joseph Lowry (2503 Cedar) spoke regarding an issue of safety at City Council meetings, the use of Point of Order at meetings, an incident among citizens at a previous meeting, and the Mayor's residency.
- Sharon Sellers (103 Longridge) spoke regarding an issue of safety at the last meeting, stating that she was afraid for her life.
- Robert Michetich (24 N Curlew) spoke regarding the previous TIRZ Board meeting and the request for an agenda item for discussion between the Council and TIRZ.
- Lois Jones (2606 Meadow Lane) spoke regarding comments that have been made about her family and asked that everyone come together.
- Leonard Ford (1915 Oaklawn) *chose not to speak.*
- Michael Howell (2421 26th St N - Texas City, TX) spoke to see if there was a Council liaison for the Texas City Independent School District, asking for the council to look into the money that was intended for existing schools in the City of La Marque from the State of Texas. He believes that the city has been ripped off.
- Re'Chard Loftis (309 Johnson) spoke regarding the issues of safety that were previously mentioned, stating that many members of the community have been harassed and something needs to be done.

***Councilmember Yancy exited the meeting at 6:19 p.m. and returned at 6:20 p.m.*

6. MINUTES

Councilmember Yancy made a motion to approve minutes as submitted.
Councilmember Ross seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

6.I. Regular City Council Minutes 09.11.2023

6.II. Special City Council Minutes 07.27.2023

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

***Mayor Bell recessed the Regular Meeting and entered into Public Hearing at 6:22 p.m.*

7.I. Ordinance No. O-2023-0011

There was no Public Comment.

8. ORDINANCES

***Mayor Bell closed the Public Hearing and reconvened the Regular Meeting at 6:23 p.m.*

8.I. Ordinance No. O-2023-0011

Councilmember Yancy made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. O-2023-0011. Mayor Pro Tem Compian seconded.

Mayor Pro Tem Compian provided clarification to the public that this is a reallocation of funds already approved and received by previous councils.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

9. RESOLUTIONS

9.I. Resolution No. R-2023-0060

Mayor Pro Tem Compian made a motion to adopt Resolution No. R-2023-0060. Councilmember Yancy seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

9.II. Resolution No. R-2023-0061

Councilmember Yancy made a motion to adopt Resolution No. R-2023-0061. Councilmember Ross seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

9.III. Resolution No. R-2023-0062

Mayor Pro Tem Compian made a motion to adopt Resolution No. R-2023-0062. Councilmember Ross seconded.

Mayor Pro Tem Compian informed the community of the strenuous process regarding bidding projects such as this, reassuring everyone that the city is not delaying the projects. The process is just tedious.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. CITY MANAGER REPORT

Stood as submitted.

10.I. La Marque Public Library August Statistics

10.II. La Marque Public Library Accreditation Letter

10.III. LMPD Crime Statistics for August 2023

10.IV. Public Works Monthly Report

Mayor Pro Tem Compian identified and correlated water breakages with current extreme weather. He thanked Public Works for the work that they have done.

11. NEW BUSINESS

11.I. Public Bid for Main Street Waterline Project

Councilmember Yancy made a motion to authorize a public bid for the Main Street Waterline Project. Councilmember Ross seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

11.II. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Big Brothers Big Sisters

Councilmember Yancy made a motion to authorize a Memorandum of Understanding with Big Brothers Big Sisters. Mayor Pro Tem Compian seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

11.III. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Communities in Schools

****Mayor Pro Tem Compian abstained from this vote due to a conflict of interest.**
Councilmember Ross made a motion to authorize a Memorandum of Understanding with Communities in Schools. Mayor Bell seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

11.IV. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the League of Women Voters

Mayor Pro Tem Compian made a motion to authorize a Memorandum of Understanding with the League of Women Voters. Councilmember Ross seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

11.V. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with 21st Century After-School Centers on Education

Mayor Pro Tem Compian made a motion to authorize a Memorandum of Understanding with 21st Century After-School Centers on Education. Councilmember Ross seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

****Mayor Bell recessed the Regular City Council meeting at 6:58 p.m.**

12.I. 551.071 (Consultation w/ Attorney)

13. ACTIONS TAKEN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

****Mayor Bell closed the Executive Session and reconvened the Regular Meeting at 7:25 p.m.**

13.I. *La Marque Economic Development vs. Texas City Terminal Railway Company*

Councilmember Ross made a motion to authorize the execution of a settlement agreement in *La Marque Economic Development vs. Texas City Terminal Railway Company* Number 20-CV-0633 in the 122nd District Court of Galveston County, Texas. Councilmember Yancy seconded.

Mayor Pro Tem Compian stated that this item is a carryover from previous

councils, but he is glad to have this issue settled.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Ross hopes that we as a city can move forward and treat the person next to you the same way you would want to be treated.

Councilmember Yancy announced the District A Clean Up on Saturday from 8-11, followed by a community discussion and a celebrity basketball game. What is happening in La Marque is growing pains. With great progress can come great friction. Requested a resolution regarding decorum in Council meetings.

Mayor Pro Tem Compian gave a brief update on the previous TIRZ Board meeting and asked for an update from the board at the next meeting. Thank you to the hardest working individuals in the City, the Public Works Department. The City of La Marque was the only small home-ruled city awarded funding under the Safe Streets and Roads for All program.

Mayor Bell announced that National Night Out will be celebrated in the City of La Marque on October 7, 2023, and the Small Business Summit will be held on October 17, 2023. The Mayor will not be distracted, and the council will continue to work. He reiterated that he is a physical, legal, and practical resident of the City of La Marque, and progress continues to be made.

City Manager Garcia announced a blood drive held on September 30 in partnership with the Rotary Club of the Mainland and Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center.

Councilmember Yancy made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Ross seconded.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

***Meeting was adjourned at 7:27 P.M.*

Kierra K. Nance, TRMC
City Clerk

Keith Bell
Mayor