CITY OF LA MARQUE
CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MINUTES
of
March 11, 2024

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER
Mayor Bell called the meeting to order at 4:13 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL
All members of Council were present with Mayor Pro Tem Compian attending virtually from 1020 Duroux Rd La Marque, TX 77568.

3. NEW BUSINESS

3.I. Current Financial Status Analysis
City Manager Garcia gave a brief overview of where the city is currently in terms of operating budget. To date, 28% of the utility fund and 36% of the operating fund have been expended.

Mayor Pro Tem Compian questioned the amount shown in the overall Utility Fund and whether the total was accurate. He requested modifications regarding how these items are reported.
Mayor Bell questioned some of the overages and outlier expenses, requesting a review and report to be brought to council at a later date. He followed with questions regarding the departments who are below the 33% expected expenditure amount. It was determined that most are due to either not reaching the point in the year when their expenses are required, or due to vacancies within the department. He also requested updates on projected revenues in future reports.

Lengthy discussions relating to limitations with the city's financing software ensued. Finance Director Turner spoke to thank her team for all of their dedication and commitment to updating and providing financial services.

3.II. Proposed Ordinance
City Manager Garcia began by stating that of the 12 amendments presented, very few of them effect the "bottom line." Many of the amendments are related to restructuring positions.

***Mayor Bell exited the meeting at 4:56 p.m. and returned at 4:57 p.m.*
***Mayor Pro Tem Compian exited the meeting at 5:01 p.m. due to connectivity issues.*

Mayor Bell questioned reclassifying the Receptionist position to HR Clerk due to public perception regarding customer service. He feels that it is in the interest of the people of La Marque that a designated receptionist remain, whose primary role is to answer the calls of the public and provide first-line service. He also asked clarifying questions regarding Amendment 2, reclassifying an administrative assistant position from Department 10 to Department 13. He shared his support for a project coordinator but not a grant administrator. He also questioned the reclassifications of positions within the Public Works Department.

A discussion ensued regarding the $150,000 overall impact. It was determined that there would be no need to expend additional resources. The $150,000 is a representation of the changes. However, there are not additional funds needed.

Mayor Pro Tem Compian questioned what the grant administrator would do beyond the contracted administrators. It was determined that this position was intended to work with the smaller grants obtained in-house and oversee the contract administrators. He questioned the need for an in-house inspector and did not support that amendment at the time.

***Mayor Pro Tem Compian arrived in person at 5:16 p.m.*

3.III. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds

***Councilmember Yancy exited the room at 5:36 p.m.*
City Manager Garcia gave a brief overview of the timeline provided for the American Rescue Plan Act grant as provided by city staff in accordance to the timeline provided by the funding agency.

***Councilmember Yancy reentered the room at 5:39 p.m.*
Mayor Pro Tem Compian questioned if these items had been confirmed as allowable expenses. It was confirmed that they have. He identified the General Land Office Grant Matches, street lighting and sidewalk projects, financing software, digitizing records, water usage client software, and street repair as priority items. He also requested Small Business microloans or grants for consideration.
Mayor Bell asked for clarification regarding the Service Center allocation. It was clarified that the allocation was to ensure that there is proper storage for city equipment, an issue that the city is currently having.

Discussions regarding ambulance remounts ensued.

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN ON THIS ITEM.

4. EXECUTIVE SESSION
There was no executive session.

5. ACTIONS TAKEN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION
No actions were taken.

6. ADJOURNMENT
Councilmember Ross made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Leyva Allred seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

***Meeting was adjourned at 5:56 p.m.*