



**CITY OF LA MARQUE
CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MINUTES
of
April 22, 2024**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Bell called the meeting to order at 6:16 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

All members of Council were physically present except Councilmember Leyva Allred.

3. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

4. PRESENTATIONS

4.I. Proclamation - Crime Victims Week (April 21-27)

Jessica Roach, Community Outreach Coordinator of the Galveston County Resource Crisis Center, accepted the proclamation honoring Crime Victims Week.

4.II. Proclamation - Lemonade Day (May 4)

Library Director Amy Miller accepted a proclamation in honor of Lemonade Day.

4.III. Proclamation - Drinking Water Week (May 5-11)

Public Works Director Rick Sailer, Water Services Superintendent Shannon Breaux, Water System Lead Operator Martin Saucedo, and Brent Berthier from ADICO LLC accepted a proclamation celebrating Drinking Water Week.

4.IV. Presentation - Vision 2050 Plan - Collaborate

Saul Valentine, Founder & CEO, and Chris Cane, Planner & Architect, gave a brief presentation discussing the process the company uses to create a strategic plan, including community discussions and collaboration, as well as reviewing the plan currently in place.

Discussion relating to the facilities usage planning portion of the Vision 2050 Plan ensued.

5. CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

Joseph Lowry (2503 Cedar) requested an audit of grant money being given to people in the city. He believes that grant money is being funneled through the EDC to contractor friends of certain council members. He asked for updates relating to certain Open Records Requests.

Robert Michetich (24 N Curlew) spoke to express his disapproval of a council decision to approve a development near a former Superfund site and his position regarding transferring streets from Omega Bay to the City.

Carl Beard (5707 Armstrong Dr) questioned the validity of a council candidate's application.

6. MINUTES

Mayor Pro Tem Compian made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Councilmember Yancy seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

6.I. Special City Council Minutes 04.08.2024

6.II. Regular City Council Minutes 01.22.2024

7. OLD BUSINESS

7.I. Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson, LLP
This item was removed from discussion.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.I. Proposed Resolution

Mayor Pro Tem Compian questioned what services the Municipal Utility District (MUD) would provide. The MUD would construct water, sewer, and drainage lines and then the area would be dedicated to the city.

Mayor Pro Tem Compian made a motion to adopt Resolution No. R-2024-0024. Councilmember Yancy seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

8.II. Proposed Resolution

Mayor Pro Tem Compian made a motion to adopt Resolution No. R-2024-0025. Councilmember Ross seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

8.III. Proposed Resolution

Discussions about matching funds ensued. Mayor Bell requested that future grant items include the source of the matching funds.

Mayor Pro Tem Compian made a motion to adopt Resolution No. R-2024-0026. Councilmember Yancy seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

8.IV. Water Conservation Plan

Mayor Pro Tem Compian questioned the prohibition of the wasteful water section and requested clarification on what triggers enforcement.

Public Works Director Sailer shared that the city currently does not have an enforcement ordinance but is looking to bring one soon.

Discussions regarding the timeline of this item and clarification of language ensued.

Mayor Pro Tem Compian made a motion to approve a draft Water Conversation Plan with a change in Section 3 to say "strive to implement." Councilmember Ross seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

8.V. Drought Contingency Plan Update

Public Works Director Rick Sailer gave a brief overview of the uses of a drought contingency plan, including that it is a multiphase approach determined by the severity of the drought.

Mayor Pro Tem Compian asked clarifying questions regarding the amount of potable water from well water, which was clarified to be only 2% and what the third source of water would be since Gulf Coast Water Authority provides surface water. It was clarified that the third source is water sourced from aquifers. Mayor Pro Tem Compian made a motion to approve the draft drought contingency plan. Councilmember Yancy seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

8.VI. La Marque Emancipation Trail

Councilmember Yancy made a motion to approve an Advance Funding Agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) for the State Highway (SH) 3 Emancipation Trail Project. Councilmember Ross seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

8.VII. Award of Funding

Discussion regarding matching funds ensued.

Mayor Pro Tem Compian made a motion to approve and accept the Award for Funding by the Texas Department of Emergency Management (TDEM) for the stormwater Management Plan Project. Councilmember Ross seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

8.VIII. Funding Agreement

Councilmember Yancy made a motion to approve an agreement with the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) for a Community Development Block Grant for the Wisteria Storm Sewer Project in the amount of \$500,000. Councilmember Ross seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

8.IX. Grant Application

Councilmember Yancy made a motion to authorize submission of a grant application to the Texas Book Festival for \$2500.00. Councilmember Ross seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

8.X. Preliminary Plat Extension

Mayor Pro Tem Compian made a motion to extend approval of a Preliminary Plat for Trails of Woodhaven Lakes Section 2 for six months. Councilmember Ross seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

8.XI. TIRZ #2 Board Request

Members of the TIRZ #2 Board, Al Horcica, Sherryl Gray, and Leslie Cruz, requested support from the city regarding funding the new TIRZ Board financing plan.

In her absence, a statement sharing Councilmember Leyva Allred's support for this item was read into the record.

Mayor Pro Tem Compian supported splitting costs between the City and the TIRZ Board 50-50.

Mayor Bell made a motion to provide up to \$5000 towards the TIRZ #2 financing plan, with any additional costs to be assumed by the TIRZ Board. Councilmember Ross seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

8.XII. Request for Proposal

Councilmember Yancy made a motion to approve issuing a Request for Proposal for Disaster Debris Monitoring and Consulting Services. Councilmember Ross seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

8.XIII. Request for Proposal

Councilmember Yancy made a motion to issue a Request for Proposal for Disaster and/or Storm Recovery Services (debris removal). Councilmember Ross seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

8.XIV. Vision 2050 - Award of RFP

Councilmember Yancy made a motion to award a Request for Proposal to Collaborate for the completion of the Vision 2050 Plan. Councilmember Ross seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

8.XV. Memorandum of Understanding

Mayor Pro Tem Compian made a motion to table this item. Councilmember Yancy seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

9. CITY MANAGER REPORT

9.I. March 2024 Permit Report

Mayor Pro Tem Compian questioned the number of remodeling permits reported and clarified some permitting requirements.
Item stood as submitted.

9.II. March 2024 Fire Department Reports

Item stood as submitted.

9.III. March 2024 Library Statistics

Item stood as submitted.

9.IV. March 2024 Crime Statistics

Item stood as submitted.

9.V. Ticket Writers

Item stood as submitted.

9.VI. Walmart Community Grant Program

Item stood as submitted.

9.VII. Keep La Marque Beautiful Gold Award

The Keep La Marque Beautiful Commission was recognized for its Gold Award and the hard work it took to get the designation.
Item stood as submitted.

9.VIII. Items for the Good of the Order

9.IX. Memo

10. REQUESTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember Ross expressed his excitement for the May the 4th event. He also invited the community to attend the "Tolling of the Bells" Ceremony on Memorial Day at the VFW.

Councilmember Yancy thanked everyone for the Stop the Violence Week participation. She shared her condolences and memories surrounding the passing of Rev. Benford and asked for additional prayers for the city during this time.

Mayor Pro Tem Compian shared his sympathies for the passing of Rev. Benford and also, for Mark Ciavaglia after the passing of his father. He thanked the staff for their collaboration during the CHARM workshop and notified the public of the approaching termite season.

Mayor Bell expressed his sympathies with the Rising Star community for the passing of Rev Benford; "our world is better because of Pastor Benford's presence." During today's events, 14 arrests were made in the city in conjunction with the Organized Crime Task Force, of which La Marque is a huge participant. He gave a quick recap of the meeting, commissioning the La Marque 2050 Plan, awarded \$5.2 Million toward new sidewalks for the Emancipation Trail, and the \$2500 Library Grant request. He asked that the public do their own research on the topics being discussed in the public. He shared his condolences for the passing of Mr. Wayne Hobgood's, representative of Drainage District #2, mother.

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION

***Mayor Bell recessed the regular meeting and entered into executive session at 8:25 p.m.*

11.I. Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney)

12. ACTIONS TAKEN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Bell closed the Executive Session and reconvened the regular meeting at 8:44

12.I. Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney)

No action was taken.

13. ADJOURNMENT

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

***Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.*