



**CITY OF LA MARQUE
CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MINUTES
of
May 1, 2025**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Bell called the meeting to order at 2:09 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

Keith Bell	Mayor
Joe Compian	Mayor Pro Tem/ District B
Kimberley Yancy	District A
Joseph Lowry	District C
James Ross	District D

3. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pro Tem Compian gave the invocation and Councilmember Yancy led the pledge.

4. CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

Melissa Duarte, Superintendent of Texas City Independent School District, gave an impassioned plea to the council to consider a request to waive the remaining permitting fees due for the construction of the new La Marque High School which totaled an approximate \$300,000.

5. EXECUTIVE SESSION

***Mayor Bell recessed the Special Meeting and entered into Executive Session at 2:17 p.m.*

5.1. Section 551.074 (Personnel Matters)

6. ACTIONS TAKEN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

***Councilmember Yancy exited the meeting at 5:32 p.m.*

***Mayor Bell closed the Executive Session and reconvened the Special Meeting at 5:48 p.m.*

6.1. Section 551.074 (Personnel Matters)

Mayor Bell asked City Clerk Nance to convey to the public the process that has been completed, and the next steps moving forward.

Ms. Nance shared that the Council had previously advanced 12 applicants to the "semi-final" interview stage. Of those 12 initial candidates, six were interviewed today, as some of the candidates, for various reasons, were no longer able to

proceed. At the completion of the six interviews, each Councilmember was asked to submit to Ms. Nance their top candidates, and their responses were tallied to create the final 3 candidates. At the time of the reconvening of the meeting, no Councilmember was aware of the final three candidates, only Ms. Nance, because the responses were submitted to her in order to prevent deliberation.

At this time, Mayor Bell asked for Ms. Nance to name the three candidates advancing to final interviews.

After a brief discussion regarding the Council's preference for disclosure, Ms. Nance identified the final three candidates as Gilbert Salas, Joshua Pritchett, and Marco Villarreal.

It was questioned what should happen in the event that a finalist withdraws. The Council recommended moving to the next person in the rankings. Ms. Nance identified that the next ranking was tied with two candidates as not all members of the Council submitted beyond the top three candidates. Mayor Pro Tem Compian suggested interviewing both candidates tied for the fourth ranking in the event that one of the original three was unable to proceed.

Mayor Pro Tem Compian made a motion to conduct final interviews in person on May 12, 2025, beginning at 1 p.m. of Gilbert Salas, Joshua Pritchett, and Marco Villarreal. In the event that one of these finalists is unavailable, the two candidates that are tied for fourth place would be interviewed in lieu of that individual, and the city would reimburse any candidate's travel that coincides with the city's travel policy. Councilmember Ross seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

7. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Bell acknowledged that all six candidates were great.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

***Meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.*