



**CITY OF LA MARQUE
CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MINUTES
of
February 9, 2026**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Bell called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

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

3. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All assembled stated the Lords Prayer in unison and Mayor Keith Bell led the pledge.

4. PRESENTATIONS

4.I. Introduction: Development Services Director - Joshua McConnell

Fire Chief David Merryman introduced the new Development Services Director, Joshua McConnell, who is a certified building official and has over 16 years of experience in development services.

4.II. Presentation: Fleet Update

***This item was taken after item 4.V*

Finance Director Worth Ferguson shared that the city is rightsizing its fleet by reducing the number of vehicles, selling the larger trucks, and acquiring smaller hybrid trucks to maximize cost savings. He believes that this transition will save "tens of thousands" of dollars.

Mayor Bell questioned how council could ensure that the city has an adequate fleet without acquiring too many vehicles. After a brief discussion regarding the process of coming to this decision, he identified the need for a process to be crafted for fleet management.

Mayor Pro Tem Compian asked clarifying questions regarding fleet maintenance and take-home vehicles.

4.III. Presentation: Habitat for Humanity - Heroes Village

***This item was pulled from consideration.*

4.IV. Presentation: Public Works Status Update

Public Works Director Shannon Breaux gave a brief Public Works Status Update including updates on grant projects, revised maintenance schedules, significant reductions in water loss, an upcoming water leak detection survey, sanitary sewer overflows, and staff certifications.

Councilmember Lowry questioned how many people were on the stormwater team. It was confirmed that there were four crew members and a foreman. He followed with questions regarding equipment.

Mayor Pro Tem Compian asked additional questions regarding equipment usage.

Councilmember Yancy asked clarifying questions regarding reporting processes.

Councilmember Griffin shared her support and gratitude for the explanations given.

Mayor Bell asked questions regarding Public Works Director Breaux's career path. He asked additional questions regarding the water leak detection survey, culvert materials, staffing of crews, and department processes.

***Mayor Pro Tem Compian exited the meeting at 7:10 p.m. and returned at 7:15 p.m.*

4.V. Recognition: La Marque Fire Department - Gaspar Gonzales and Isaias Reyes

***This item was taken after item 4.I*

Chief Merryman and Mayor Bell acknowledged Firefighter Gaspar Gonzales and Captain Isaias Reyes after receiving a letter of commendation from a resident.

5. CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

***Councilmember Lowry exited the meeting at 7:23 p.m. and returned at 7:24 p.m.*

- Robert Harvey (*declined to give address*) stated that a councilmember admitted to a previous felony online and proceeded to air grievances against a sitting councilmember.
- Hayley Winkelmann (*declined to give address*) gave a shout-out to Public Works for starting the drainage project in District C. She invited the residents to join the "Friends of District C" Facebook page. She requested a "see something, say something" policy, GPS on all city vehicles, and all public works reports be given a ticket number. She acknowledged that February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month and one in ten teens experience teen dating violence.
- Clarence Caldwell (*Prairie St*) stated that there are no lights on his street, and there are individuals parking against the flow of traffic. He cited penal code violations.
- Natalie Ruiz (*declined to give address*) spoke regarding concerns in the community, asking for people to "work together."
- Re'Chard Loftis (*declined to give address*) spoke to his grievances regarding public records.

6. MINUTES

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

- 6.I. City Council Minutes 01.26.2026
- 6.II. City Council Minutes 11.10.2025
- 6.III. City Council Minutes 09.08.2025
- 6.IV. Special City Council Minutes 08.04.2025

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

***Mayor Bell recessed the Regular Meeting and entered into Public Hearings at 7:40 p.m.*

- 7.I. Ordinance No. O-2026-0002
There was no public comment.
- 7.II. Removal of Member from Zoning Board of Adjustments - Virginia Manett
There was no public comment.
- 7.III. Removal of Member from Zoning Board of Adjustments - Ariel Nixon-Guillory
There was no public comment.

8. OLD BUSINESS

***Mayor Bell closed the public hearings and reconvened the regular meeting at 7:42 p.m.*

- 8.I. Ordinance No. O-2026-0002
Mayor Pro Tem Compian made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. O-2026-0002. Councilmember Yancy seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**
- 8.II. Events and Promotions
***This item was pulled from consideration.*
- 8.III. Boards and Commissions
City Clerk Kierra Nance acknowledged that while a public hearing was initially noticed for Ms. Crystal Cooper, she resigned in lieu of the hearing. Councilmember Griffin nominated David Pennington, Mary Limones, and Billy Jefferson for reappointment to the Building Standards Commission, Parks Board, and Board of Adjustments respectively. She also requested to be named as Parks Board Ex-Officio, and nominated Ray Medina as an alternate on the Parks Board.
Councilmember Yancy nominated Alexa Cross, Re'Chard Loftis, and Shawntale Woodland for reappointment to the Board of Adjustments, Keep La Marque Beautiful Commission, and Ordinance Review Committee respectively. She also requested to remain the Ex-Officio of the Building Standards Commission. Mayor Pro Tem Compian requested that he be named the Ex-Officio of the Keep La Marque Beautiful Commission and Ordinance Review Committee. He

also nominated Mayor Bell as Ex-Officio of the TIRZ Board, and Terry Taylor for Board of Adjustments.

Mayor Bell nominated Jaylyn Perry for the Board of Adjustments and Jaylen Henderson as an alternate on the Board of Adjustments.

Mayor Pro Tem Compian made a motion to remove Virginia Mannett from the Board of Adjustments due to attendance concerns. Councilmember Yancy seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Councilmember Yancy made a motion to remove Ariel Nixon-Guillory from the Board of Adjustments due to attendance concerns. Mayor Pro Tem Compian seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY..**

Mayor Pro Tem Compian made a motion to approve all nominations.

Councilmember Griffin seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Councilmember Griffin made a motion to appoint Hayley Winkelmann to the Ordinance Review Committee. Councilmember Yancy seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

8.IV. Budget Priorities

Mayor Bell shared that his budget priority is to continue to cut costs and become more efficient. He is interested in seeing a zero-based budget at the budget sessions this year and budget preparation courses for city leadership.

Mayor Pro Tem Compian acknowledged that he is supportive of the other council members' priorities, as he represents a newer area of the city. He is concerned with the I45 expansion, signage, and identifying no-match grant opportunities to support parks.

Councilmember Yancy stated her priorities are the Delany Cove traffic study, implementing the street repair program, increasing the city's credit rating, policy and process updates, additional lighting, economic development, restoring relationships, and cosmetic upgrades to city facilities.

Councilmember Lowry declined to comment.

Councilmember Griffin requested expediting missing street and stop signs, drainage ditch maintenance, treescape maintenance, conservation programs, and sidewalk repair, removal, and maintenance.

NO ACTION TAKEN.

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.I. Ordinance No. O-2026-0003

Councilmember Yancy made a motion to approve Ordinance No. O-2026-0003. Councilmember Griffin seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

9.II. Ordinance No. O-2026-0004

Councilmember Griffin made a motion to approve Ordinance No. O-2026-0004. Councilmember Lowry seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

9.III. Ordinance No. O-2026-0005

Councilmember Griffin made a motion to approve Ordinance No. O-2026-0005. Councilmember Lowry seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- 9.IV. Ordinance No. O-2026-0006
Councilmember Griffin made a motion to approve Ordinance No.O-2026-0006.
Councilmember Lowry seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**
- 9.V. Resolution No. R-2026-0003
Councilmember Griffin made a motion to adopt Resolution No. R-2026-0003.
Councilmember Lowry seconded. It was clarified that this provisions is only for
noncause termination within the first three years of employment. **MOTION
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**
- 9.VI. Resolution No. R-2026-0004
Mayor Pro Tem Compian made a motion to adopt Resolution No. R-2026-0004.
Councilmember Lowry seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**
- 9.VII. 431 Bayou Road Remediation
Councilmember Griffin made a motion to approve a contract to remediate
mold, asbestos, and air quality at 431 Bayou La Marque, TX 77568.
Councilmember Lowry seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**
- 9.VIII. City Work Day
After brief discussion, Councilmember Griffin made a motion to approve a
staff day to clear and inventory 4916 Texas Ave ste A, La Marque, TX.
Councilmember Lowry seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**
- 9.IX. Medium Pace, LLC
Mayor Pro Tem Compian asked clarifying questions about what type of storage
would be on the property.
After lengthy discussions regarding timelines and taxability. Mayor Bell shared
concerns regarding the payment timeline.
Councilmember Lowry shared his dismay with the fee schedule, stating that
the process is not "welcoming" to businesses, and he believes that the city
should honor a previous fee structure that would require a payment of
\$12,000.
Councilmember Yancy shared concerns about the length of the timeline,
stating that what we do for one we will have to do for all. She suggested a six-
month repayment term.
Mayor Pro Tem Compian supported issuing a lien on the property, minimum
interest, and a repayment plan.
It was recommended that the organization contact the La Marque Economic
Development Corporation.
Mayor Pro Tem Compian made a motion to approve a payment arrangement
with Medium Pace, LLC that requires an initial \$12,000 payment with
additional terms be negotiated with city administration and brought back to
council. Councilmember Yancy seconded. **MOTION CARRIED WITH 4 AYES AND
1 NAY (LOWRY).**
- 9.X. Chief of Police
Chief Frankland was welcomed by the city administration and council.
Mayor Pro Tem Compian made a motion to confirm the appointment of Byron

Frankland as the Chief of the La Marque Police Department. Councilmember Griffin seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

***Mayor Pro Tem Compian exited the meeting at 9:23 p.m.*

10. CITY MANAGER REPORT

The City Manager's Report stood as submitted.

10.I. Finance Report

10.II. City Clerk's Report

10.III. Items for the Good of the Order

***Mayor Pro Tem Compian returned at 9:24 p.m.*

Interim City Manager Holly stated that there would be an upcoming meet and greet for the police chief. The City also received three awards from the Houston Galveston Area Council. She gave an update on street lighting and explained documents presented by the Texas Department of Transportation.

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no executive session.

12. ACTIONS TAKEN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN.

13. REQUESTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember Griffin declined to comment.

Councilmember Lowry asked for the city to provide his agenda as it has done "for the last 18 months or so". Interim City Manager Holly explained that the City was currently out of three ring binders. Councilmember Lowry demanded that this not happen again. He questioned the status of a \$5 million grant, and stated that "there was a ethics complaint nobody responded to". After a brief back and forth on the dias, City Clerk Nance interjected and identified that this portion of the meeting did not allow for discussion. Councilmember Lowry rebutted by asking for the City Clerk's job performance be placed on the next agenda.

Councilmember Yancy requested alerts from the Galveston County Health District regarding current viruses, a proclamation for both Black History Month and Christine Greenwood, a Juneteenth recognition, and a presentation from College of the Mainland. She requested a resolution affirming the city's commitment to local businesses. She shared concerns regarding activity on Rosa Lee Street, welcomed Beauty Empire to District A, and requested a discussion regarding an opportunity zone. She requested an All America City banner at the railroad crossing.

Mayor Pro Tem Compian requested a proclamation for Red Cross Month, and thanked Chief Merryman for his assistance with Emergency Management. He spoke to housing assistance resources in the area. He wished everyone a happy Valentine's Day.

Mayor Bell welcomed Police Chief Frankland. He again requested Habitat for Humanity to appear. He requested the "low-hanging fruit" from the La Marque Vision 2050 Plan. He requested policy regarding police records.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Griffin made a motion to adjourn. Mayor Pro Tem Compian seconded.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

*****MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 9:39 P.M.***