

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 9, 2012**

(1) CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Hocking called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

(2) ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

Councilmember Brown
Councilmember Trube
Mayor Pro-Tem Bell
Mayor Hocking

ABSENT:

Councilmember Osteen

At this time, Mayor Hocking welcomed the students participating in the "Youth in Government" program for the City of La Marque. Mayor Hocking continued by stating that each student was assigned a mentor, i.e. Mayor, Councilmember, City Manager, or department head. The student "shadowed" the day to day operation of their mentor.

(3) INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pro-Tem Bell led the Invocation and Mayor Hocking followed with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

(4) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Workshop Meeting, March 26, 2012
- b. Public/Regular City Council Meeting, March 26, 2012

Mayor Pro-Tem Bell made a motion to approve the Workshop Minutes of March 26, 2012 and the Public/Regular City Council Minutes of March 26, 2012. Councilmember Trube seconded the motion. The minutes passed unanimously.

(5) CITIZEN'S PARTICIPATION

Comments from the Public (At this time, any person with city-related business who has signed up may speak to Council (limited to three (3) minutes). In compliance with Texas Open Meeting Act the City Council may not deliberate on comments. Personal attacks will not be allowed, and personnel matters should be addressed to the City Manager during normal business hours.

Mary Ann Rodriguez, 1918 Colonial – addressed City Council regarding her concerns on proposition 21 of the proposed charter amendments.

Peggy Phillips, 2902 Pine Shadows- stated that she supported the new City Manager and City Council. She asked that the city be kept informed using the local newspaper.

(6) PRESENTATION

- a. Proclamation – April Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month

Mayor Hocking presented the Proclamation to Tilly Henson, Boardmember – Children's Services Board of Galveston County

- b. Presentation – La Marque Clean City Commission – Poster and Essay Contest

Clean City Commission Chairman Pennington, Commissioner Jeffcoat and Mayor Hocking presented the certificates to the children. Mayor Hocking thanked Clean City Commissioner and Ms. Jeffcoat for all that they do for the city. Chairman Pennington reminded everyone that Spring Clean-Up will take place April 21st.

- c. Presentation – Youth in Government

Mayor Hocking asked his assigned student, Brandon Vallen, to step forward and assist in presenting the certificates to his fellow students.

(7) NEW BUSINESS

- a. Discussion/possible action on appointments to the Fire Department Collective Bargaining Committee

Councilmember Brown made a motion to nominate Mayor Pro-Tem Bell to the Fire Department Collective Bargaining Committee. Councilmember Trube seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Pro-Tem Bell nominated Councilmember Brown to the Fire Department Collective Bargaining Committee. Councilmember Trube seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

b. Discussion/possible action on cancelling the May 28, 2012 Regular City Council Meeting-Memorial Day Councilmember Trube made a motion to cancel the May 28, 2012 Regular City Council Meeting. Councilmember Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

c. Discussion/possible action of Ordinance No. **O-2012-1059** of the City Council of the City of La Marque, Texas providing for the vacating, abandonment, and closing of a portion of a 60-foot street right-of-way, lying north of FM519, out of the Greb Addition. This is the first reading.

Councilmember Brown made a motion to approve O-2012-1059 for the first reading. Mayor Pro-Tem Bell seconded the motion.

After discussion regarding the Code of Ordinances, Section 56-4 and 56-5, Mayor Pro-Tem Bell withdrew his second. Councilmember Brown withdrew his motion.

Mayor Hocking made a motion to table this item. Mayor Pro-Tem Bell seconded the motion. This item was tabled.

d. Presentation - La Marque Police Officer Association

Forrest Gandy, President –La Marque Police Officer Association addressed City Council regarding Charter Amendment Proposition 21 and manpower issues affecting the La Marque Police Department.

(8) CITY MANAGER REPORT – No Council Action Necessary

City Manager Buttler introduced Carl Wessels as Interim Finance Director.

Mayor Pro-Tem Bell asked City Manager Buttler about the recent Medicare payments and if it was a federal issue. City Manager Buttler stated that it was a federal issue, payments are now current and should be regularly deposited in the future. Mayor Pro-Tem Bell asked a question about the dismissal of old warrants. The old warrants are being dismissed due to no identifiers and age of the warrants.

(9) REQUESTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

a. Requests by Mayor and Council Members for items to be placed on future City Council agendas and announcements on city events/community interests

Councilmember Brown – thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and welcomed Interim Finance Director Wessels.

Councilmember Trube – welcomed Mr. Wessels, thanked all the students that participated in the poster and essay contests, and thanked all the students that participated in the “Youth in Government” program.

Mayor Pro-Tem Bell – congratulated all of the students and welcomed Mr. Wessels. Mayor Pro-Tem Bell also commented on the recent newspaper articles and blogs criticizing boards and commission members. It is unfair to criticize the boards for the recommendations made to Council. Mayor Pro-Tem Bell continued by stating that these types of comments discourage citizens from volunteering to serve on city boards and commission. The pool of volunteers will diminish and no one will want to serve their community.

Mayor Hocking- thanked everyone that came to the meeting

(10) ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Trube made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Pro-Tem Bell seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Bobby Hocking, Mayor

Zina Tedford, Interim City Clerk