

**CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
OCTOBER 22, 2012**

(1) CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Hocking called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.

(2) ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

Councilmember Brown

Councilmember Trube

Councilmember Osteen

Mayor Pro-Tem Bell

Mayor Hocking

(3) INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

(4) MINUTES

a. Public Hearing/Regular City Council Meeting, October 8, 2012

Councilmember Trube made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Councilmember Osteen seconded the motion. The minutes were approved 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.

Geraldine Sam, 2412 Stonewall, asked what the city is doing in the way of economic development, asked for an update on the status of the FEMA funds and what the city is doing to address the increase in crime on Lake Drive. Mayor Hocking stated the city is working diligently on economic development.

City Manager Buttler stated that an update on the FEMA funds and crime would be provided in the near future.

(6) PRESENTATION

a. Proclamation–Friends of the Library

Mayor Hocking presented the Proclamation to the Friends of the Library.

(7) OLD BUSINESS

a. Discussion/possible action – **Ordinance No. O-2012-1068** an ordinance of the City of La Marque, Texas,

repealing Chapter 17, Article III, Coin-Operated amusement machines, of the Code of Ordinances, City of La Marque, Texas, and in its place adopting a new Chapter 17, Article III, Coin-Operated amusement machines, providing for definitions; providing for occupation tax; requiring a receipt to be attached to the machine, providing for exemptions; providing that illegal machines are not authorized; providing that skill or pleasure coin-operated machines are prohibited near schools; regulating amusement redemption machines and game rooms; and amending Appendix A, schedule of fees and charges, coin operated amusement machines, to increase the license fee for each machine, payment of fee and issuance of a license regulating Article III, Coin-Operated machines. This is the first reading – Development Services Ana Tims

Mayor Hocking asked the City Clerk to read the proposed ordinance with the proposed application fee. Councilmember Osteen clarified the change in distance (300 ft) is mandated by state law. Mayor Pro-Tem Bell made a motion to approve Ordinance **No. O-2012-1068** for the first reading. Councilmember Osteen seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

(8) NEW BUSINESS

a. Discussion/possible action – Ordinance No. **O-2012-1069** an ordinance of the City Council of the City of La Marque, Texas, amending the Code of Ordinances, City of La Marque, Texas by adding a new Section 2-150 to modify health insurance eligibility for certain retirees; repealing all ordinances or parts of ordinances or resolutions in consistent or in conflict herewith; and providing for severability. This is the first reading –City Manager C. Buttler

Councilmember Trube made a motion to approve Ordinance No. **O-2012-1069** for the first reading. Councilmember Osteen seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

b. Discussion/possible action – LM-03-12 for annual EMS medications and LM 04-12 for EMS supplies to Bound Tree Medical- Chief T. Weidman

Chief Weidman was not available for the meeting due to a call. City Manager Buttler outlined the bids with the staff recommendation to award the bid to Bound Tree Medical. Mayor Pro-Tem Bell asked if this was the lowest responsible bid. City Manager Buttler stated that looking at the overall bid, Bound Tree is the lowest. Mayor Pro-Tem Bell stated that Bound Tree Medical did not bid on the medication amyl nitrate inhalants and asked if this medication was essential in a life threatening situation. Council was informed that the medication was not essential.

Councilmember Osteen discussed page 88- regarding the dollar amounts. City Manager Buttler stated that the bids should reflect unit prices. The bid specification process will be modified next year to reflect unit prices. Mayor Pro-Tem Bell made a motion to approve awarding LM-03-12 for EMS medications and LM 04-12 for EMS supplies to Bound Tree Medical. Councilmember Osteen seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

(9) CITY MANAGER REPORT – No Council Action Necessary

Mayor Pro-Tem Bell - discussed the vacancy in Code Enforcement and the importance of hiring a qualified person with the ability to enforce. This is a vital position.

City Manager Buttler stated that she is looking at other options as well, i.e. volunteers. Mayor Pro-Tem Bell stated that he appreciates the volunteers, but volunteers can only do so much.

Mayor Pro-Tem Bell inquired as to the inability of the Fire Department to fill the 4 vacancies. We need to look at alternatives such as FF/EMT B/Intermediate. City Manager Buttler informed Council that she would be meet with Chief Weidman and City Clerk Tedford to discuss options. Mayor Hocking asked Mayor Pro-Tem Bell to participate in this meeting as well.

Councilmember Trube - stated that it may be the opportunity to look at Volunteer Fire Department. Councilmember Trube also stated that she had not received the reports on number of calls where the Fire Department assists other cities and the animal control report. Councilmember Trube asked when the final version of the budget will be ready and the employee pay scale.

Councilmember Osteen - stated that Firefighter/Paramedics are not participants in collective bargaining.

Mayor Hocking - stated we are moving forward in the rehabilitation of the image of our city.

(10) REQUESTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember Brown - we had a spectacular show with Bayou Fest. Councilmember Brown thanked all the Parks/Street/Police Department and all those involved in making this successful event.

Councilmember Trube- stated that she was impressed with Bayou Fest and thanked all the city employees for an excellent job.

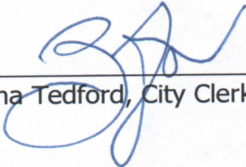
Councilmember Osteen - none

Mayor Pro-Tem Bell - congratulated City Council and city employees for Bayou Fest. Mayor Pro-Tem Bell stated that he was not able to attend due to allergies, but hear that it was a great event. Mayor Pro-Tem Bell concluded by extending condolences to the Holmes family for their loss, Estelle Holmes, passed away this morning. Ms. Holmes was also a La Marque School Board Member and will be greatly missed.

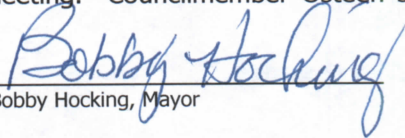
Mayor Hocking - thanked Brian Bagley for his assistance this evening. Mayor Hocking thanked all those that participated in making Bayou Fest one of the most successful events this year. Mayor Hocking thanked Public Works Director Mike Morgan and his department for going above and beyond the call of duty before, during and after Bayou Fest. Mayor Hocking thanked City Council for their participating during the Workshop.

(11) ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Trube made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Osteen seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.



Zina Tedford, City Clerk



Bobby Hocking, Mayor