

**MINUTES
PUBLIC HEARING/REGULAR MEETING
26 MARCH 2012**

(1) CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Hocking called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

(2) ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

Councilmember Brown
Councilmember Trube
Councilmember Osteen
Mayor Pro-Tem Bell
Mayor Hocking

(3) INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Jake Feigel led the Invocation and Mayor Hocking followed with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

At this time, Mayor Hocking deviated from the agenda and proceeded with agenda items 7b, c, and d. Proclamations.

(4) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Regular City Council Meeting, March 12, 2012

Mayor Pro-Tem Bell moved to approve the minutes as written. Councilmember Osteen seconded. 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.

SSgt. Walter West addressed his concerns regarding the Fire Department.

(6) PUBLIC HEARING

Public Hearing- Ordinance No. **O-2012-1058**, an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of La Marque, Texas, amending Chapter 14, Buildings and Regulations, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of La Marque, Texas, by repealing Sec. 14-60, Electrical Board Generally, of Article III, Electrical; Repealing Sec. 14-61, Appeal from Action of Electrical Board, of Article III, Electrical; and Repealing Sec. 14-188, Plumbing Board, of Article IV, Plumbing

The public hearing opened at 6:21 p.m.

No citizens spoke during the public hearing.

The public hearing closed at 6:24 p.m.

(7) PRESENTATION

- a. Introduction of new city employees
- b. Proclamation - Galveston County Food Bank Day - April 29, 2012
- c. Proclamation - Parkinson's Awareness Month - April 2012
- d. Proclamation - National Public Safety Telecommunicates Week - April 8-14, 2012

Mayor Hocking deviated from the agenda to item 4-Approval of Minutes.

(8) OLD BUSINESS

a. Discussion/possible action of Ordinance No. **O-2012-1058**, an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of La Marque, Texas, amending Chapter 14, Buildings and Regulations, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of La Marque, Texas, by repealing Sec. 14-60, Electrical Board Generally, of Article III, Electrical; Repealing Sec. 14-61, Appeal from Action of Electrical Board, of Article III, Electrical; and Repealing Sec. 14-188, Plumbing Board, of Article IV, Plumbing. This is the second reading.

Councilmember Brown made a motion to approve Ordinance No. O-2012-1058 for the second reading. Councilmember Osteen seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

(9) NEW BUSINESS

a. Discussion/possible action of accepting the audit for FY 2010-11

Councilmember Osteen made a motion to accept the audit for FY 2010-11 with the changes to the transmittal letter that will provide a true picture of the City of La Marque. Councilmember Brown seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

b. Discussion/possible action on proposed pipeline route through a section of Highland Bayou Park

Parks Board Chairman McGaffey and representatives from Mustang Pipeline and Dow Chemicals presented this item to City Council. Parks Board Chairman McGaffey informed Council that the Parks Board had received a request from Mustang Pipeline and Dow Chemical to survey Highland Bayou Park for a project that would consist of a 12-inch pipeline for the transportation of propane from Dow Hydrocarbons and Resources LLC (DHRLLC) storage facility at Stratton Ridge, Brazoria County, to a DHRLL facility in Texas City.

Specifics to Highland Bayou Park, DHRLL proposes constructing the pipeline 5-Feet (5') southerly of and adjacent to an existing 6" DHRLL pipeline, and located within the current easement DHRLL already possesses and maintains, so as not to encroach any additional park space.

The Parks Board met on March 15th to discuss the request and voted to recommend that City Council approve the request to survey Highland Bayou Park for the proposed pipeline route.

Councilmember Brown asked several questions regarding safety requirements.

Council was assured that if the project comes to fruition, all plans and specifications would be presented to Council. The proposed pipeline would meet or exceed federal guidelines regarding all environmental and safety requirements.

Mayor Pro-Tem Bell stated that Councilmember Brown's questions were extremely helpful. Mayor Pro-Tem Bell asked if an outside agency would conduct the inspections. Council was informed that inspections would be conducted by the Army Corp of Engineers and the City.

Councilmember Osteen made a motion to approve the request to survey Highland Bayou Park for a proposed pipeline route through a section of Highland Bayou Park. Councilmember Trube seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

c. Discussion/possible action on Planning & Zoning Commission's recommendation on proposed rezone for a property described as ABST 2, S F AUSTIN SUR TR 66 1.603 ACRES; 304 Newman from (R-1) single family residential to (C-1) general commercial

Mayor Pro-Tem Bell made a motion to deny the request to rezone property described as ABST 2, S F AUSTIN SUR TR 66 1.603 ACRES; 304 Newman from (R-1) single family residential to (C-1) general commercial. Councilmember Trube seconded the motion. Discussion involved the owner's plans to store flammable material tanks on-site and concerns regarding the close proximity of an elementary school and senior living apartment complex. Motion to deny proposed rezone for a property described as ABST 2, S F AUSTIN SUR TR 66 1.603 ACRES; 304 Newman from (R-1) single family residential to (C-1) general commercial passed unanimously.

Mayor Hocking deviated from the agenda to item 7a-introduction of new city employees.

At this time, Development Services Director Ana Tims introduced Linda Knippa- Code Enforcement Clerk. Public Works Director Mike Morgan introduced Valentin Garcia -Plant Operator III. City Council welcomed the new city employees.

d. Discussion/possible action of appointment of a Chairman to the Board of Adjustments

Councilmember Osteen made a motion to appoint C.J. Leggett as Chairman to the Board of Adjustments. Councilmember Trube seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

e. Discussion/possible action on authorizing the City to enter into a license agreement with Alejandro Medellin for use of certain property in Mahan Park

Parks Board Chairman McGaffey presented this item to City Council. Chairman McGaffey informed Council that Mr. Medellin had been in discussions with the Parks Board for the use of Fields 1, 2, 3 & 4 and the concession stand. After discussions, the Parks Board recommended City Council approve the lease agreement with Alejandro Medellin. Mr. Medellin also addressed City Council. Mr. Medellin is excited about the opportunity to bring this activity to the youth of the area. Councilmember Osteen asked if this agreement will interfere with a family wanting to enjoy the park. Mr. Medellin stated that it is their intent to work with individuals wishing to use the park. Mayor Pro-Tem Bell asked questions regarding leagues and tournaments. Mr. Medellin informed Council that it is their goal to bring in leagues and tournaments to the area. Mayor Pro-Tem Bell also asked about funding for children that may not be able to afford his fees. Mr. Medellin informed Council that there are many avenues to assist the families in paying the fees.

Mayor Pro-Tem Bell made a motion to authorize the City to enter into a license agreement with Alejandro Medellin for use of certain property in Mahan Park. Councilmember Trube seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

(10) CITY MANAGER REPORT – No Council Action Necessary

Councilmember Trube asked about the availability of on-line training.

There was discussion regarding individuals living within the city limits of La Marque and the school district. Councilmember Trube asked for more detail on page 254- the types of fires listed in the report, page 264- public works report indicates man hours but not the number of employees and page 288- inquired as to the expense paid to Texas Municipal League. Councilmember Trube was informed by Mayor Hocking that this was a conference for Elected Officials which addressed Emergency Management Preparedness for City Officials. Mayor Hocking continued by stating that he and Councilmember Brown had attended and it was very informative. The Mayor of Bastrop was the guest speaker and addressed how his community handled the wildfires that destroyed 18,000 homes and the loss of life.

Councilmember Osteen had a question regarding a check paid to the IRS – was this a payment for penalty? City Manager Buttler stated that staff would research and provide the information to City Council.

Mayor Pro-Tem Bell stated that he appreciated the comments by Councilmembers Trube and Osteen regarding employees living within the city. Mayor Pro-Tem Bell continued by stating that he thinks it is important for citizens that city leaders reside close to the city, if not within the city, in order to be empathic to the needs of the citizens. This is very important to his constituents.

Mayor Pro-Tem Bell asked several questions regarding Intermedix regarding a proposed meeting and if the billing issues had been resolved. The meeting has not taken place and Finance Director Cooper informed Council that the billing issues involve several entities and staff has been assured that the billing has been re-filed. City Manager Buttler informed City Council that the request for proposals is ready and staff is preparing to solicit for proposals.

(11) 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 – congratulated Mr. Payne. Thanked Ms. Cooper and staff for the audit. Councilmember Brown also thanked his fellow Councilmembers and Mayor for a job well done. The City is moving forward.

Councilmember Trube – apologized for missing the workshop meeting. Councilmember Trube also stated that she appreciates Ms. Iles and all department heads for their reports.

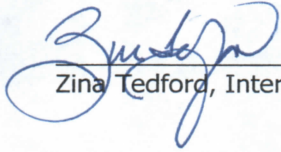
Councilmember Osteen –thanked all the citizens for being at the meeting. Citizens need to know what is going on. Councilmember Osteen concluded by stating that he is a strong advocate of Open Government.

Mayor Pro-Tem Bell – welcomed our new employees. Extended his appreciation to Finance Director Karen Cooper and Ms. Iles for the presentation of the audit. It is not good news, but we got the truth, and that is good news. Mayor Pro-Tem Bell thanked the Parks Board for their presentations of the agenda items pertaining to the pipeline survey and parks use agreement. Let's move forward.

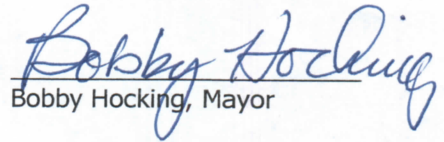
Mayor Hocking – concurred with Council comments regarding Finance Director Cooper and Ms. Iles presentation of the audit. Mayor Hocking thanked Council for the Workshop Meeting.

(12) ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Trube made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Brown seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.



Zina Tedford, Interim City Clerk



Bobby Hocking, Mayor