

**LA MARQUE CITY COUNCIL**  
**LA MARQUE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
 1109-B BAYOU ROAD  
 LA MARQUE, TEXAS 77568  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**May 23, 2011**  
**6:00 P.M.**

The La Marque City Council met in a duly-called and announced Regular Meeting on May 23, 2011. Mayor Pro-Tem Bell called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The invocation was given by Pastor Bobby Hocking. Mayor Pro-Tem Bell led the pledge to the U.S. Flag and Texas Flag.

**065-2011      ROLL CALL –**

Present: Mayor Pro-Tem Keith Bell, Councilmember Connie Trube, City Attorney Ellis Ortego, City Manager Eric Gage and City Clerk Carolyn E. Anderson

Department Directors: Police-Chief Randall Aragon, Public Works-Mike Morgan, Fire Chief Larry Damrell, Judge Stephen Baker, Court Clerk Lisa Snider

**066-2011      PRESENTATION –**

Oath of Office – James Osteen

Judge Stephen Baker administered the Oath of Office to Council Member James Osteen, District B. At this time Council Member Osteen took his seat at the Council table.

**067-2011      APPROVAL OF MINUTES -**  
**Regular Meeting of May 9, 2011**

Council Member Trube made a motion to approve the minutes of May 9, 2011. Council Member James Osteen seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**068-2011      REPORT FROM CITY MANAGER –**

Council Member Trube made a motion to approve the City Manager's report. Council Member James Osteen seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

**069-2011      NEW BUSINESS -**

**Elect a Mayor Pro-Tem**

Council Member James Osteen made a motion that acting Mayor Pro-Tem Bell continue as Mayor Pro-Tem. Council Member Connie Trube seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

**Consider, Discuss and Approve Resolution 1159 – A Resolution of the City of La Marque, Texas, establishing the procedure for the Run-Off Election for Council Member District D, in La Marque, Texas and providing for related matters**

Council Member Trube made a motion, seconded by Council Member James Osteen, to approve Resolution 1159. Council Member Osteen stated that he had asked the City Manager to go over the costs if the City were to hold the election themselves. Mr. Gage stated, along with clarification from the City Clerk Carolyn Anderson, that the costs would remain comparatively the same. Council Member Osteen asked for clarification that the school district would be splitting the cost of the election. Mayor Pro-Tem Bell asked for clarification on the \$14,000 quote and how the costs would be split. Ms. Anderson said that until LMISD's board meets, the City would not know if the costs will be split between the two entities. Council Member Trube questioned the costs if there is a run-off. A discussion was held concerning the clarification of the 3-year terms and the requirement of elections. There being no further discussion, Mayor Pro-Tem Bell called for the vote and the motion passed unanimously.

**Consider, Discuss and Approve Resolution 1160 – A Resolution of the City of La Marque, Texas, establishing the procedure for the Election for the Unexpired term of Mayor in La Marque, Texas, and providing for related matters**

Council Member Trube made a motion, seconded by Council Member Osteen. Council Member Osteen asked for clarification on the signatures on the contract reflecting Mayor Sam's signature. Mr. Gage stated that an amended contract is being written. Mayor Pro-Tem Bell called for the vote and the motion passed unanimously.

**Consider, Discuss and Approve establishing Robert's Rules of Order for the conduct of meetings**

Council Member Trube made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Bell. During the discussion Council Member Osteen stated that Robert's Rules of Order would conflict with the City Charter. He suggested waiting until the charter is updated before the Council adds Robert's Rules of Order. Council Member Trube stated that eventually the Council should incorporate Robert's Rules of Order. Mayor Pro-Tem Bell asked Mr. Gage if staff had any input. Mr. Gage stated that the purpose was to bring formality to City Council meetings. Council Member Osteen stated that the Charter states that Council is allowed to make their own rules of order and that Robert's Rules of Order would be a great guide to go by. He suggested waiting until the Charter is updated. Mayor Pro-Tem Bell shared that he also feels that establishing rules by which City Council conducts themselves. He feels that there the Council needs to be fully seated before changes are made. Mayor Pro-Tem Bell asked for clarification from Mr. Ortego. Mr. Ortego outlined how Council is currently conducting meetings versus Robert's Rules of Order. There being no further discussion, Mayor Pro-Tem Bell called for a vote. The motion failed, Council Member Trube voting for and Mayor Pro-Tem Bell and Council Member Osteen voting against.

**Consider and Discuss Appointing a Negotiating Committee for Police Collective Bargaining Contract.**

Council Member Osteen nominated Council Member Trube and Mayor Pro-Tem Bell to the Negotiating Committee. The motion was seconded by Council Member Trube. Mayor Pro-Tem Bell asked Mr. Ortego if there would be any appearance of conflict without full council. Mr. Ortego stated that right now, the Council is the majority and it might not be a good idea to have two council members on the committee. Because of the clarification by Mr. Ortego that it might be better to have full Council, the nominations were withdrawn. He also stated that it would be good to have a City administrator. Council Member Osteen nominated Council Member Trube, City Manager Eric Gage and Ms. Cooper, Finance Director. Mayor Pro-Tem Bell seconded the and the motion passed unanimously.

**070-2011 CITIZEN'S REQUEST FOR HEARING –**

Comments from the Public: (At this time, any person with city related business who has signed up may speak to Council. 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: Ms. Sam addressed the Council about plans to address repairing the streets in La Marque and when repairs will begin. She stated that promises have been made to the citizens. She also spoke to redistricting and since La Marque is 56 percent out of compliance she wanted to know when the City plans start the redistricting process.

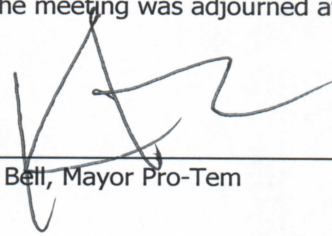
- Larry Mann – 2402 Duroux: Mr. Mann congratulated Council Member Osteen. He expressed that the last couple of years have been a sad chapter in the City of La Marque. He expressed the desire to move forward and make the City better.

**071-2011****ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM COUNCIL –**

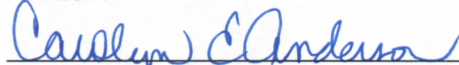
Council Member Trube thanked everyone for coming. She congratulated Council Member Osteen. She asked that the people keep Missouri in their prayers. Council Member Osteen thanked all of the citizens that supported him in the election. He stated that he would like to see a section called Citizens Request to Speak on Agenda items only. He asked Council to think on the matter and speak to Mr. Gage. Mayor Pro-Tem Bell thanked everyone for coming out. He thanked former Mayor Sam, Council Member Mann and Judge Baker for attending. He shared that the City is moving forward despite the things that have happened in the past and that he is very optimistic about moving the City forward.

**072-2011****ADJOURNMENT –**

Councilmember Trube made a motion to adjourn the meeting. There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

  
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Keith Bell, Mayor Pro-Tem

ATTEST:

  
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Carolyn E. Anderson, City Clerk