

LA MARQUE CITY COUNCIL
 LA MARQUE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
 1109-B BAYOU ROAD
 LA MARQUE, TEXAS 77568
REGULAR MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING
July 25, 2011
6:00 P.M.

The La Marque City Council met in a duly-called and announced Regular Meeting on July 25, 2011. Mayor Bobby Hocking called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. The invocation was given by Mayor Pro-Tem Keith Bell. Mayor Pro-Tem Bell led the pledge to the U.S. Flag.

094-2011 ROLL CALL –

Present: Mayor Bobby Hocking, Mayor Pro-Tem Keith Bell, Councilmember Connie Trube, Councilmember James Osteen, City Attorney Ellis Ortego, City Manager Eric Gage, Recording Secretary Patty Rees, Interim City Clerk Martha A. Gillett

Department Directors: Public Works-Mike Morgan, Finance Director-Karen Cooper, IT-Kyle Hunter, Fire Chief Larry Damrell, Human Resources-Robert Beagan, Judicial Director Lisa Snider and Interim Police Chief Greg Gilchrist

095-2011 PRESENTATION –

Director of Finance Karen Cooper presented water billing schedule and changes. Karen gave a brief update and informed Council the billing cycles would remain on a two (2) year cycle.

096-2011 APPROVAL OF MINUTES -

Regular Meeting of July 11, 2011

Council Member Trube made a motion to approve the minutes of July 11, 2011. Council Member Osteen seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

097-2011 REPORT FROM CITY MANAGER –

Council Member Osteen made a motion to approve the City Manager's report. Council Member Trube seconded the motion. Questions were raised on the Intermedics billing services and programs in the Fire Marshal's Office. The motion to approve the City Manager's report passed unanimously.

098-2011 CITIZENS' 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.)

Citizens' Request for Hearing:

Jake Feigle: 2712 Houston Drive South: Charter Review Committee – Mr. Feigle made suggestions to the City Council regarding the Charter Review Process. He suggested there be no less than eleven people and would like to see more citizen input. Would like to see the committee dissolved and a new process put in place to allow citizens to apply to serve on the committee.

099-2011 FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES -

Ordinance Number 1052 – An Ordinance of the City of La Marque, Texas. Providing for the Vacating, Abandonment and Closing of a Part of the 20 Foot Waterway Located within the City of La Marque, Texas.

Councilmember Brown made the motion to approve Ordinance #1052
Councilmember Osteen seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

100-2011 SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES – (CONDUCT A PUBLIC HEARING)

Mayor Hocking opened the public hearing and Ms. Rees called the time at 6:17 p.m.

Ordinance #1051 Ms. Rees read the ordinance caption: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 8, ARTICLE I OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF LA MARQUE, TEXAS; BY ADDING A NEW SECTION TO BE KNOWN AS SECTION 8.16 PROHIBITING THE CHAINING OR TETHERING OF DOGS AND MANDATING THAT DOG ENCLOSURES MUST PROVIDE 150 SQUARE FEET OF SPACE. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA MARQUE, TEXAS:

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Geraldine Sam – Ms. Sam noted concerns with the ordinance and suggested Council take a closer look at the ordinance before adoption.

Staff Recommendation – City Manager Eric Gage noted staff recommended Council adopt this ordinance.

Mayor Hocking closed the public hearing and Ms. Rees called the time at 6:22 p.m.

Council Member Trube made a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance Number 1051. The motion was seconded by Council Member Osteen. The motion passed unanimously.

101-2011 NEW BUSINESS - Consider, Discuss and Approve the Resignation of Carolyn E. Anderson as City Clerk

Council Member Osteen made a motion to accept the resignation of Carolyn E. Anderson as City Clerk. Councilmember Trube seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Consider, Discuss and Approve Agreement with Interim-City Clerk Services with Texas First Group Replacement Service, Inc.

Councilmember Trube made a motion to approve the Agreement with Interim-City Clerk Services with Texas First Group Replacement Service, Inc. appointing Martha A. Gillett as Interim City Clerk. Council Member Osteen seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Consider, Discuss and Approve the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2010.

Councilmember Osteen made a motion to approve the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2010. Council Member Trube seconded the motion. Staff addressed questions raised by Council Members regarding the report. Elizabeth Isles of Null-Lairson provided Council with an overview and answered questions. Ms. Isles noted the City received an Unqualified rating which is the highest rating to be obtained. There being no further discussion, Mayor Hocking called for the vote and the motion passed unanimously.

Consider, Discuss and Approve Financial Quarterly Investment Report Ending June 30, 2011.

Finance Director Karen Cooper provided Council with an overview of the quarterly report.

Councilmember Osteen made a motion to approve the Financial Quarterly Investment Report Ending June 30, 2011. Council Member Trube seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Consider, Discuss and Approve the Changer Order #2 to Balance LJA Project 019-085D-4 Cedar Drive Improvements IH-45 to SH3 in the amount of \$51,905.24.

Council Member Brown made a motion to approve the Change Order #2 to Balance LJA Project 019-085D-4 Cedar Drive Improvements IH-45 to SH3 in the amount of \$51,905.24, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Bell. There being no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Consider and Discuss and Approve the Final Payment and Release of Retainage in the Amount of \$190,131.17 to Angel Brothers Enterprises, LTD. to Close out of LJA Project 019-085D-4 Cedar Drive Improvements IH-45 to SH3. This Final Payment Will Close Out the Project as a Total Cost of \$3,494,488.49.

Council Member Osteen made a motion to approve the Final Payment and Release of Retainage in the Amount of \$190,131.17 to Angel Brothers Enterprises, LTD. to Close out of LJA Project 019-085D-4 Cedar Drive Improvements IH-45 to SH3. Mayor Pro Tem Bell seconded the motion.

There were some questions raised by Council Members during the discussion.

Council Member Osteen withdrew his motion to approve the Final Payment and Release of Retainage in the Amount of \$190,131.17 to Angel Brothers Enterprises, LTD. to Close out of LJA Project 019-085D-4 Cedar Drive Improvements IH-45 to SH3 due to needing clarification on the amount do. Mayor Pro-Tem Bell withdrew his second.

Council Member Osteen made a motion to table this item to a future meeting. Mayor Pro-Tem Bell seconded the motion to table. There being no further discussion, the motion to table this item passed unanimously.

Consider, Discuss and Approve Resolution Number 1164 – Amending Resolution 1113 – A Joint Resolution Between the City of La Marque and the County of Galveston Office of Emergency Management to Re-Establish An Integrated Emergency Management Program.

Councilmember Osteen made a motion to approve Resolution Number 1164 – Amending Resolution 1113 – A Joint Resolution between the City of La Marque and the County of Galveston Office Of Emergency Management to Re-establish and integrated Emergency Management Program. Council Member Trube seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Consider Discuss and Approve Employee Handbook Policy.

Council Member Osteen made a motion to table this item of approving the Employee Handbook Policy until a future meeting, seconded by Council Member Trube. There being no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Consider, Discuss and Approve a Representative to the H-GAC's 2011 General Assembly to Replace Former Mayor Geraldine Sam.

Mayor Hocking asked for nominations by Council Members for the replacement representative. Mayor Pro-Tem Member Bell made a motion to appoint Mayor Hocking as the representative to the HGAC's 2011 General Assembly replacing former Mayor Geraldine Sam, seconded by Council Member Trube. There being no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Consider, Discuss and Approve the Appointment of an Economic Development Board Member to Replace Ted Mora –District A to Appoint.

Mayor Hocking asked District A Council Member/Mayor Pro Tem Bell to appoint a member to replace Ted Mora on the Economic Development Board. Mayor Pro Tem Keith Bell/District A made a motion to appoint Deanie Barrett on the Economic Development Board. Council Member Trube seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Consider, Discuss and Approve Appointing an Additional Councilmember to the Police Collective Bargaining Committee.

Mayor Hocking asked for nominations by Council Members. Council Member Brown made a motion to appoint James Osteen to the Police Collective Bargaining Committee. Council Member Trube seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Consider, Discuss and Approve Appointment of a Building and Standard Committee Member – District D to Appoint.

Mayor Hocking asked District D Councilmember Brown to appoint a member to the Building and Standard Committee. Council Member Brown made a motion to appoint Bart Jennings to the Building and Standard Committee. Mayor Pro-Tem Bell seconded the motion. There being no further business, the motion passed unanimously.

Consider, Discuss and Approve Appointment of a Charter Review Committee – District D to Appoint.

Mayor Hocking asked District D Councilmember Brown to appoint a member to the Charter Review Committee. Council Member Brown made a motion to table the item until a future meeting. He wanted time to review these names. Council Member Osteen seconded the motion. There being no further business, the motion passed unanimously.

102-2011 ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM COUNCIL –

Council Members Trube, Osteen, Mayor Hocking and Mayor Pro-Tem Bell brought items to the table.

103-2011 ADJOURNMENT –

Council Member Brown made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Trube seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Bobby Hocking, Mayor

ATTEST:

Interim City Clerk Martha A. Gillett