



1111 Bayou
La Marque, Texas 77568
409.938.9202

**City of La Marque
Special Called Meeting Minutes
July 30, 2015**

Minutes of the Workshop of the City Council of the City of La Marque, Texas that was conducted on Thursday, July 30, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at 1109-B Bayou Road for purpose of considering the following agenda:

(1) Mayor Hocking called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

(2) ROLL CALL

Mayor Hocking
Mayor Pro-Tem Bell
Councilmember Lane
Councilmember Brown
Councilmember Michetich
City Attorney Ortego
City Manager Buttler
City Clerk Eldridge

(3) PRESENTATION

- a. Presentation – City Manager to present the Proposed FY 2015-2016 Budget of the City of La Marque

City Manager Carol Buttler began, “We have a couple of unique items this year, in that we do not have our effective tax rate yet, because the County, with all the protests is still calculating. We had each department turn in a budget that they needed, and pulled out everything else that was an excess of the base line. But it is still included for your review. So, next weeks’ discussion is going to be more or less theoretically until we receive the information from the County. Tonight when we talk about the public hearings, we will see if you will want any additional workshops.”

(4) NEW BUSINESS

- a. Discussion/possible action regarding scheduling of public hearings on proposed budget FY 2015-2016.

City Manager stated, “We are required to schedule two public hearings, one for September 2nd and one for September 10th. We can schedule a public hearing for Monday, August 10th, if you wish. August 10th is a Regular meeting night, but since you will be having budget workshops next week, would you like a public hearing with the August 10th meeting, to possibly get their input, then possibly have one or two workshops that, to review based on what you hear from the public, before we actually try to finalize the budget.



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Mayor Hocking made a motion to have a Public Hearing on August 10th, August 17th, September 2nd and September 10th. Councilmember Bell seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- b. Discussion/possible action regarding the Health Benefits Brokers selected by the Employee Benefits Committee and provide direction to City Manager and Staff.

Mayor Hocking asked City Attorney to state which companies were still in the running and the reasoning for that.

City Attorney Ellis Ortego spoke, "Gallagher and IPS are still in the running. They have the proper licensing, that is required by the State Insurance Code. It has been determined that Rust Ewing does not have the Counselors licenses to Counsel the City in the selection of a health plan for our employees."

Mayor Hocking then thanked Mr. Senter for his services, and said he appreciated what he and the company had done for the City.

Councilmember Michetich made a motion to select Gallagher. Councilmember Lane seconded.

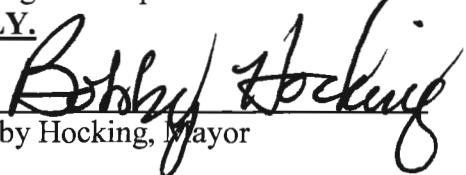
Councilmember Bell asked Mr. Treacy of Gallagher to approach the podium, "Your fee is \$40,000.00, tell us a little about that statute."

Mr. Treacy replied, "The Chapter 222, Tax Trust. Here is what we would do. We would go out for an RFP, or negotiate with Humana, I am still not sure what the preference of your staff would be, and the proposals would all come back with full premium tax. The standing of the carriers are that until the contract is awarded, and it is awarded properly within the Trust resolution, they are not going to net those out. Once a carrier has been selected, we would internalize the rate showing full premium tax and net for your budget. Once the contract is awarded, we will walk you through the process."

He then explained that the savings would be based on the number of employees, and that the city could potentially save \$9,000.00, by saving the 1.7% by using the tax trust in the Insurance Code. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

(5) ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Bell made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:12 p.m. Councilmember Lane seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**


Bobby Hocking, Mayor



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ATTEST:

- Robin Eldridge
- Robin Eldridge, City Clerk