



1111 Bayou
La Marque, Texas 77568
409.938.9202

**City of La Marque
Public Hearing and Special Meeting Minutes
September 1, 2015**

Minutes of the Public Hearing and Special Meeting of the City Council of the City of La Marque, Texas that was conducted on Tuesday, September 1, 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 Manager Buttler
City Clerk Eldridge

(3) INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

(4) CITIZEN'S PARTICIPATION

1. Jake Fiegle, began, "I am here about the trash pickup. I am aware that there has been a problem with the trash service. I am also aware of the excuses given by Republic." He stated that he had read in the newspaper that the EDC had been approved for \$20,000.00 to aid in the trash pickup in District "A". Further stated that City Council approved up to \$90,000.00, for the purchase of a truck to be used for trash pickup. "As a retired business man, when I had a contract with someone, and they failed to comply, I did not pay extra to get the results I expected from them. If they failed to fulfill the contract, I fired them. The \$20,000.00 should be charged to Republic, and if they refuse to pay, they should be terminated. This should have been done by the City Manager. The City Manager should save money for the City, not to bail out Republic. City Councils' job is to make sure the City Manager does her job. If they fail to comply then they could be subject to recall. I want to leave you with a question. Is there going to be another \$20,000.00 for each of the other three Districts?"

Mayor Hocking responded with facts: "The fact is that the EDC is paying \$20,000.00 for special pickup in all four Districts, as they did a few years ago. This is not for regular trash pickup, Mr. Fiegle. This is for items that aren't normally picked up by any trash company, such as refrigerators, tires, couches and anything but hazardous wastes and paint. So, this is a special deal that EDC, it is for all four Districts and three pickups in each District. EDC has done this before and it was well-received then, and I believe it will be well received now. Secondly, the \$90,000.00 was for a brush truck, with a grappling hook, that has been put on hold, to see if Republic can get the brush picked up,



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however, if they do not succeed, La Marque will buy its own grappling truck, and hire someone to drive it, to make sure the City remains clean and rid of brush which is a fire hazard. But your jab at the City Council and the City Manager, is totally off base, it is inappropriate and if you want to recall me, Sir, start the petition. Do you understand me?"

To which Mr. Feigle replied, "I understand you, very clear. If I want to do it, I will do it on my own, I don't need your permission."

Mayor Hocking thanked him for his time, and said he appreciated him very much.

(5) PUBLIC HEARING

- a. Conduct Second Public Hearing on the City of La Marque Tax Year 2015 Tax Rate.

Mayor Hocking closed the regular meeting and opened the Public Hearing at 6:04 p.m.

No one spoke.

Mayor Hocking closed the Public Hearing and reconvened the Regular meeting.

(6) PRESENTATION - Burke Sunday (Gallagher) - Employee Medical Benefits

Mr. Burke Sunday presented a PowerPoint presentation (attached) to City Council, outlining the responses from the RFP's that were received on the Medical/ Pharmacy Plan, Vision, Dental, Basic Life and AD&D and Voluntary AD&D and provided Council which provided their recommendations as well.

Medical /Rx Plans - it was recommended to go with United Health Care

Dental Plan - MetLife

Vision Plan - MetLife

Base Life/AD&D and Voluntary AD&D Plan - MetLife

Further discussion included the dental plan recommended having possibly lower premiums, to be paid by employees, depending on which plan the employee choses to be paid by employees with better benefits and also a savings for the employer. Vision rates also will be lower with better benefits. The recommended plan for Basic Life is a savings to the City of around \$150.00 per month. The other slides indicated they are not being paid any compensation. Other explanations included the supplemental compensation, which are not eligible to be accepted.

Councilmember Brown asked that the employees fill out a survey at the end of the year to see how the new providers are measuring up to the employees expectations.

(7) NEW BUSINESS

- a. Discussion/possible action to approve Resolution No. **R-2015-0029**, authorizing the creation of an Employee Benefits Trust, designating members of the City of La Marque's



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City Council to be Trustees, and authorizing the Trust to purchase various forms of insurance for the benefits of city officers, employees, qualified retirees, and their dependents and approve the Declaration of Trust.

- ** Councilmember Bell made a motion to adopt Resolution No. R.2015-0029.
- ** Councilmember Michetich seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mayor Hocking closed the Special meeting and opened the City of La Marque Employee Benefits Trust Meeting at 6:28 p.m.

Mayor Hocking closed the City of La Marque Employees Benefits Trust meeting and reconvened to the Special City Council meeting at 6:31 p.m.

- (8) Discussion/possible action regarding Resolution No. **R-2015-0030,** authorizing the funding of monthly benefits contract as approved in the Employees Benefits Trust meeting.

- ** Councilmember Bell made a motion to adopt Resolution No. R-2015-0030.
- ** Councilmember Lane seconded.

(9) **ADJOURNMENT**

Councilmember Bell made a motion to adjourn the Special City Council Meeting at 6:32 p.m. Councilmember Lane seconded. The meeting adjourned.

Bobby Hocking, Mayor

ATTEST:

Robin Eldridge, TRMC
City Clerk