



1111 Bayou
La Marque, Texas 77568
409.938.9202

**City of La Marque
City Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
August 8, 2016**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of La Marque held on Monday, August 8, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. at 1109-B Bayou Road for the purpose of considering the following agenda:

(1) CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Hocking called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

(2) ROLL CALL

Mayor Bobby Hocking
Mayor Pro-Tem Keith Bell
Councilmember Chris Lane
Councilmember Robert Michetich
Councilmember Clent Brown
City Manager Carol Buttler
City Attorney Ellis Ortego
City Clerk Robin Eldridge

(3) INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pro-Tem Bell provided the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance

(4) CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

1. Dale Templet, said that Charlene had been out taking pictures of his backyard, and told him that the big oak tree in his backyard could be the reason water gets into his house. "She didn't say anything about the flower beds being illegal on the side of my house." Les has seen them and Clent has seen them. Then said that a City worker drove by his house and he asked him if he knew about the five women at City hall who had just been given raises, which the worker said he had not been given a raise. "I put a call into Channel 2, and she told me I needed to get a hobby. I thought the City Council was supposed to be working for the people. Every time I talk to somebody here, it is definitely against me."

(5) CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes of Regular City Council Meeting of July 11, 2016
- b. Discussion/possible action ratifying the City Manager's execution of an annual contract with the County of Galveston Commissioners' Court for the provision of fire protection services to unincorporated areas of Galveston County commencing October 1, 2016, and expiring September 30, 2017, in return for payment in the amount of twenty two thousand



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five hundred dollars and no cents (\$22,500.00).

- c. Discussion/possible action ratifying the City Manager's execution of a contract with Specialized Billing & Collection Systems of Texas for the collection of applicable fees for Fire department related services with the exception of emergency medical services for a period of three (3) years from the effective date of August 1, 2016, with two automatic one (1) year renewal periods unless sooner terminated by either party.
- d. Discussion/possible action regarding authorizing the Mayor to execute an Interlocal Agreement (ILA) between the City of La Marque and the County of Galveston for the City's continued participation in the Galveston County Auto Crimes Task Force.
- e. Discussion/possible action regarding authorizing the Police Department to submit an infusion of new, upgraded, body worn cameras.
- f. Discussion/possible action regarding cancelling the Regular scheduled City Council meeting for Monday, September 12, 2016 and holding a Special Meeting on Monday, September 19, 2016, due to adoption of the Budget and Tax Rate timeline restrictions.
- g. Discussion/possible action calling the First Public Hearing for the 2016-2017 Tax Rate to be held on Tuesday, August 16, 2016 and the Second Public Hearing for the 2016-2017 Tax Rate to be held on Tuesday, August 30, 2016.
- h. Discussion/possible action accepting the Quarterly Investment Report for Second Quarter 2016 – Finance Director S. Kou
- i. Discussion/possible action regarding the request from the Economic Development Corporation beginning the condemnation of land needed for a road as outlined in the letter from the Economics Development Corporation.
- j. Discussion/ possible action regarding Resolution No **R-2016-0012**, supporting an application for funding through the Texas Department of Agriculture Texas Capital Fund.

Councilmember Michetich made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Councilmember Lane made a second. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

(6) NEW BUSINESS

- a. Discussion/possible action regarding awarding the new voice recording system to Commercial Electronics through H-GAC in the amount of \$29,463.26 charged to the \$50,000.00 reserved for a new phone system and equipment.



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Councilmember Lane made a motion to award the new voice recording system to Commercial Electronics through H-GAC in the amount of \$29,463.26 charged to the \$50,000.00 reserved for a new phone system and equipment.

Councilmember Michetich seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- b. Discussion/possible action regarding setting the proposed tax rate SAME AS current tax year (2015) at .490764 per \$100 of assessed value.

Mayor Pro-Tem Bell made the motion, that the proposed property tax rate be increased by the adoption of the tax rate of 0.490964, which is effectively a 3.8 percent increase in the tax rate."

Councilmember Brown seconded.

Mayor Pro-Tem Bell added, "Very quickly, the tax rate is remaining the same. The valuation has increased, therefore, the tax revenue has increased. The values of the properties in La Marque have increased, therefore the revenue that we generate has increased. Technically, that is a tax revenue increase, but that is not an increase in the tax rate from last year."

AYES: Brown, Michetich, Lane, Bell and Mayor Hocking

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- c. Discussion/possible action regarding changing the annual Christmas Parade Route.

It has come to the attention of myself and others that the route going down Laurel to the Queen of Peace is virtually abandoned on the night of the parade, that given coupled with the fact that some of the marchers nearly passed out from going that route. A couple of options have been presented by the Parade Committee that take a left on Bayou and go down to the old downtown, make a right at the Police Station and circle around old downtown La Marque then cut back down Bayou to the park.

Motion was made to approve route 2B (in the backup which hang a left on Bayou, go down by the Police Station hang a right on 1st, take a left on Laurel go down through old downtown, head back to Bayou, come back to the park with the floats parking at the Police Station.

Councilmember Lane made a motion to approve route 2B. Councilmember Brown seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**



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- d. Discussion/possible action regarding Ordinance No. **O-2016-0011**, approving a rezoning classification from R-1 residential to C-1 General Commercial, as forwarded with a recommendation for favorable approval from the Planning and Zoning Commission for a 23.056 acre tract described as part of lots 7, 8, and 9 in Division "T", in the Cook and Stewart Subdivision of the John D. Moore League in Galveston County, Texas, according to the map of plat recorded in Volume 81, Page 526, in the office of the County Clerk of Galveston County Texas, contingent upon described property initiating stated use of development of a Recreational Vehicle Park within twelve months of approval. **THIS IS THE FIRST READING**

Councilmember Michetich made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. **O-2016-0011**.
Councilmember Lane seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- e. Discussion/possible action regarding Re-Plat of 10.3342 acres out of the W.K. Wilson League, Abstract NO. 208, Galveston County, Texas, and being a portion of a called 45.585 acre tract of land described in the Deed Records of Galveston County, Texas, under Volume 3179, Page 852, said 10.3334 acre tract being further described as 5009 FM 1764, La Marque Texas, and requesting variance to the setback distance required in the City Thoroughfare Overlay District, as forwarded with a recommendation for favorable approval from the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Councilmember Lane made a motion to approve a re-plat of 10.3342 acres out of the W.K. Wilson League, Abstract NO. 208, Galveston County, Texas, and being a portion of a called 45.585 acre tract of land described in the Deed Records of Galveston County, Texas, under Volume 3179, Page 852, said 10.3334 acre tract being further described as 5009 FM 1764, La Marque Texas, and requesting variance to the setback distance required in the City Thoroughfare Overlay District, as forwarded with a recommendation for favorable approval from the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Councilmember Michetich seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- f. Discussion/possible action regarding Ordinance No. **O-2016-0012**, regarding the permitting and processing of "Fill Dirt" restrictions as forwarded with a recommendation for favorable approval from the Planning and Zoning Commission. **THIS IS THE FIRST READING**

Councilmember Michetich made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. O-2016-0012.
Councilmember Lane seconded the motion.

Councilmember Michetich added, "This was to answer and issue that we have had here in La Marque that we have had come up that affects our drainage. We had an incident where a certain piece of property was raised m but not sloped such to drain adequately *either into*



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the street or to a side drainages, and ended up affecting about four homes. With this ordinance, a homeowner will have to provide a drawing showing how the waters will drain from his property so that it doesn't flood out his neighbors."

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- g. Discussion/possible action regarding Ordinance No. **O-2016-0013**, amending Chapter 14, Buildings and Building Regulations, by repealing Article XI, Signs and Billboards, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of La Marque, Texas, and amending Chapter 71, Zoning, by adding a new section 71-27, entitled Outdoor Advertising Sign Regulations, to provide outdoor advertising sign regulations, as forwarded with a recommendation for favorable approval from the Planning and Zoning Commission. **THIS IS THE FIRST READING**

Councilmember Michetich made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. O-2016-0013.
Councilmember Bell seconded the motion.

Councilmember Michetich asked if there was a minimum distance defined in State or other laws between these types of signs, due to the competitive nature of the placement of these signs. The signage along I-45 is enforced by TxDOT. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- h. Receive report from staff on status of Republic Services.
Mayor Hocking referred to a thirty-day cure clause that was previously called on Republic Services for their solid waste pickup services, which is soon to be coming to the end of the thirty days. At the end of the cure clause, City Council will decide on extending that cure clause or to proceed with the formal bidding process of securing another company.

City Manager explained the report that was provided by Ms. Girndt of Utility Billing, which shows some improvement in their services provided. Some issues have been resolved and some still remain.

(7) CITY MANAGER REPORT

- **Judicial**
- **Police**
- **Fire**
- **Library**
- **Public Services**
- **Financials**

(8) EXECUTIVE SESSION - There was no Executive Session



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(9) REQUEST AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember Lane thanked all for attending.

Councilmember Bell wished all to have a Happy Labor Day. Thanked Me. Templet for his involvement in his civic responsibilities and coming before Council to voice his concerns. "You are vital to the success of the City of La Marque, and please continue to come have share your dialogue. I appreciate your comments."

Mayor Hocking concurred with Mayor Pro-Tem Bell and added that on Tuesday the 16th of August and again on the 30th of August, there will be public hearings on the proposed tax rate, which is the same as last year.

(10) ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Michetich made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:21 p.m.

Councilmember Bell seconded the motion. The Regular Meeting Adjourned. -


Bobby Hocking, Mayor

ATTEST:


Robin Eldridge, TRMC
City Clerk

CITIZENS REQUEST TO SPEAK

In order to be heard, this form must be filled out and returned to the City Clerk five (5) minutes prior to the start of the meeting.

DATE OF MEETING: 8-8-16

Citizens who wish to address the City Council about items on the agenda, which are scheduled for Council action, will be given three (3) minutes to do so. Please indicate below the agenda item (s) number on which you wish to speak:

WATER

Citizens wishing to address the City Council about a topic **NOT** on the agenda, will be given the same amount of time during the **"CITIZENS PARTICIPATION"** section. Please indicate below the subject matter:

Please step to the podium as soon as you are recognized by the Mayor, do not try to speak from your seat. State your name and address before the beginning of your presentation. If you have written materials, please furnish an extra copy for the official files. If you have any questions concerning the request to speak form, please direct them to the City Clerk.

Name DALE TEMPLET

Address 922 MAPLE AVE

Telephone number 409 935 5983

IF SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF AN ORGANIZATION:

Name of Organization: _____

Speaker's Official Capacity _____