



1111 Bayou
La Marque, Texas 77568
409.938.9202

**CITY OF LA MARQUE
CITY COUNCIL
BUDGET WORKSHOP MINUTES
OF
July 26, 2018**

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of La Marque, Texas will conduct Budget Workshops beginning at 10:30 a. m. on Monday, July 23, 2018, until adjourned, and resuming on Tuesday, July 24, 2018, beginning at 10:30 a.m. until adjourned, and resuming on Thursday, July 26, 2018 beginning at 10:30 a.m. until adjourned, and will continue on Friday, July 27, 2018 beginning at 10:30 a.m., if necessary, until adjourned, at 1109-B Bayou Road for the purpose of considering the following agenda:

(1) CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hocking called the Budget Workshop to order at 10:39 a.m. (Thursday)

(2) ROLL CALL

Bobby Hocking

Keith Bell

Chris Lane

Robert Michetich

Casey Mc Auliffe

Mayor

Mayor Pro-Tem, Councilmember District A

Councilmember, District B- Absent-Excused

Councilmember, District C

Councilwoman, District D

OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Carol Buttler

Robin Eldridge

City Manager

City Clerk

(3) Review and Discuss Proposed Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Departmental Budgets and all Funds

A break was called so that an informal caucus was called for the City Manager, Fire Chief and Mayor Pro-Tem Bell at 10:40 a.m.

Mayor Hocking reconvened the Budget Workshop at 12:36 p.m. and then called for a lunch break at the same time.

Mayor Hocking reconvened the Budget Workshop at 1:46 p.m.

Discussion began with Chief Grimm and the needs of the new Fire Station. The four things that were agreed on earlier in the informal caucus and that are being brought before Council at this time were: Nine (9) full-time Fire Department personnel were already in the current budget and that seven have already been hired and the other two of those persons are in the process, by using monies unencumbered in the game room fund. A small portion of those salaries of the nine new personnel will be supplemented from property and sales taxes. Chief Grimm has agreed that the Fire Reserve Fund (donations through the County and other entities) will be used for the uniforms, bunker gear and training for those nine new personnel (\$137,000.00); the fire truck that the City is in need of could



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cost in the area of \$500,000.00 to \$600,000.00 will be purchased out of the Equipment Replacement Fund through a lease-purchase; in order for the City to have the new fire truck operating out of the new Fire Station, a person should be assigned every day to drive that fire truck on a continual basis. We will not use a full-time fire-fighter, but a combination of nine part-time fire fighters through scheduling be assigned to this truck and the new fire station to man twenty-four hours a day. So, nine persons will make one position on a part-time basis. It was said that monies could be found in the current budget.

Chief Grimm clarified that the funds in the Fire Reserve Fund are derived from the mutual aid services that are provided by the city. An annual allocation of \$22,000.00 will come in at the end of this budget year to be put back into that fund, that will be depleted for the earlier spoken positions. It takes three persons limited to 1000 hours and phase in over a period of three years. The total of eighteen new persons to be phased in as full time to mirror the old fire stations' number of personnel. For insurance purposes we have satisfied one of the legs, as building a new fire station; the second leg would be the addition of another fire apparatus; and number three is the satisfaction by providing the additional personnel at the new station. The fourth being the satisfying of the Texas Fire Commission by all three other parts. No increase is needed for the new station and or the new personnel to house the station at this time.

Further discussion provided administration fees of \$11,000.00 in arrears and \$11,000.00 going forward for Administration.

There are one hundred days of emergency surplus at this time.

HOT and PEG FUNDS

HOT-FUND

\$40,000- Magical Winter Lights Event brought in around \$45,000.00 in sales tax last year.
\$65,000 into Bayou Fest- in a separate Bayou Fest Fund

PEG-FUND

In need of an electronic marquee out west- \$75,000.00- Capital Purchase there could be \$100,000.00 at the end of this year to cover this amount

IT is in the process of purchasing software for the Council and Community Rooms to stream the Council meetings and upgrade to UTUBE streaming

It was asked about electronic voting by City Council (not a PEG item); voice vote was recommended to continue, since other could be confusing.

Revisited Revitalization- they further discussed leaving monies available for another Code Officer (either in overtime or part-time)-time frame (April or May 2019). Further discussion came to the consensus of Council to fund the second person and a vehicle for this person. Giving Code the two persons asked for initially.

Mayor Hocking called for a break at 2:28 p.m.

Mayor reconvened the Budget Workshop at 3:06 p.m.



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IT to purchase four chromes \$4,000.00 for Council's I-PAD. The Budget Workshop ended with the consensus of Council to ratify the 2018-2019 Budget.

(4) ADJOURNMENT

****** Councilmember Lane made a motion to adjourn the Budget workshop 3:08 p.m. Mayor Pro-Tem Bell seconded. The Budget Workshop **ADJOURNED.**

This unofficial copy of the minutes from the above meeting are posted for convenience only. Executed or certified copies of the minutes can be requested by contacting the City Clerk.