



1111 Bayou  
La Marque, Texas 77568  
409.938.9202

**CITY OF LA MARQUE  
CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
OF  
March 11, 2019**

Regular City Council Meeting Minutes of the City of La Marque City Council held on Monday, March 11, 2019, beginning at 6:00 p.m. at 1109-B Bayou Road with the following members present:

**(1) CALL TO ORDER**

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

**(2) ROLL CALL**

|                  |                                         |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Bobby Hocking    | Mayor                                   |
| Keith Bell       | Mayor Pro-Tem, Councilmember District A |
| Chris Lane       | Councilmember, District B - Absent      |
| Robert Michetich | Councilmember, District C               |
| Casey Mc Auliffe | Councilwoman, District D                |

**OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT:**

|                 |                      |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| Charlene Warren | Interim City Manager |
| Robin Eldridge  | City Clerk           |
| Ellis Ortego    | City Attorney        |

**(3) INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-** Mayor Hocking administered the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance

**(4) PRESENTATIONS/ PROCLAMATIONS**

**a. Proclamation- Telecommunicator Week**

Mayor Hocking presented a proclamation to Tina Crawford-Smith, Dispatcher and Assistant to the Police Chief and Jared Lockett, Telecommunicator for the Police Department

**b. Presentation- Traffic Stop Video**

Police Chief Jackson presented a traffic stop video showing what to expect and what's is going on in a traffic stop. "What we decided to do was to have a video that made an initial introduction to traffic stop safety. We are going to have subsequent videos that are going to address more in-depth specifics about traffic stops and dispel some of the misconceptions that some of the public has on what happens during traffic stops." They partnered up with the La Marque High School Performance Group and came up with a script and a family from La Marque and other familiar faces are included in the video. The video will be published on the city of La Marque Website and eventually in the social media avenues.



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**(5) CITIZENS PARTICIPATION**

1. Clarence Caldwell shared his concerns on the following: Garbage bins placed left in the streets for the solid waste contractor to empty them. He also asked whether the City had an ordinance against race cars. City Manager will investigate the garbage bins issue and Police Chief will check into the issue of race cars in the city limits.

**(6) CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. City Council Meeting Minutes of February 11, 2019.
- b. Special City Council Minutes of February 15, 2019.
- c. Special City Council Minutes of February 21, 2019.
- d. Discussion/possible action regarding authorizing the Police Department to proceed with disposition of surplus property by online public auction.

\*\* Councilwoman Mc Auliffe made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

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

**(7) PUBLIC HEARING**

- a. Conduct Public Hearing to hear public input regarding adopting Resolution No. **R-2019-003**, authorizing and creating Trails at Woodhaven Lakes Public Improvement District No. 4 within the corporate limits of the City of La Marque. **(PUBLIC HEARING HAS REMAINED OPENED SINCE JANUARY 14, 2019 COUNCIL MEETING)**

\*\* Mayor Hocking closed the regular meeting at 6:20 p.m. and opened the Public Hearing.

No one spoke.

**(8) OLD BUSINESS**

- a. Discussion/possible action regarding a proposed Development Agreement between the City of La Marque, Texas and Woodhaven Lakes, Ltd. for Trails at Woodhaven Lakes Subdivision, and provide direction to City Manager.

\*\* Councilmember Michetich made a motion to continue to leave this item open and a workshop will be scheduled before the next Council meeting in April to discuss this item.

\*\* Councilwoman Mc Auliffe seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- b. Discussion/possible action regarding adopting Resolution No. **R-2019-003**, authorizing and creating the Trails at Woodhaven Lakes Public Improvement District No. 4 within the corporate limits of the City of La Marque.



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- \*\* Councilmember Michetich made a motion to continue to leave this item open and a workshop will be scheduled before the next Council meeting in April to discuss this item.
- \*\* Councilwoman Mc Auliffe seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

## **(9) NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Discussion/possible action regarding adopting Ordinance No. **O-2019-005**, repealing Sec. 44-2; Curfew for Minors, Chapter 44, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of La Marque, Texas; and in its place adopting a new Sec. 44-2; establishing a curfew for any person under the age of seventeen years during certain hours. **THIS IS THE FIRST READING**
- \*\* Councilwoman Mc Auliffe made a motion to approve Ordinance No. O-2019-005.
- \*\* Councilmember Michetich seconded.

Mayor Pro-Tem Bell addressed an issue that he had with the ordinance. The issue was within the preamble, said that it creates the perception that there has been an increase in juvenile related crimes, and this being the reason for the ordinance. "I was wondering if this portion could be re-written and cleaned up to be more in line with us keeping juveniles safe more than about the criminology of the juveniles?" He then drew attention to a portion of the proposed ordinance that allows a juvenile to be taken before the judge without first notifying the parents of that juvenile, which was clarified by Chief Jackson. The question of who exactly is responsible for the payment of the fine for a curfew violation was asked, in which our Municipal Court Judge Steven Baker said that a fine could be assessed for the juvenile to pay, within limits in the amount based on the offense and added that there are other options that many judges use. Mayor Pro-Tem said that he was not in favor of a juvenile being introduced into the justice system and was told that their juvenile records do not exist as far as they are concerned.

Councilwoman Mc Auliffe said that in her research, there was controversy over how effective the ordinance is in other communities. "Do we have any statistics since the ordinance lapsed in 2017 that would show the need for this ordinance?" Said that it could also have the capacity to turn the feelings of trust within the community. She said she would like to see some data showing the difference from when there was not a curfew ordinance and when there was a curfew ordinance in effect to see if the ordinance has helped.

Both motions were withdrawn. Mayor Pro-Tem Bell made a motion to table this item. Councilwoman Mc Auliffe seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**



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- b. Discussion/possible action regarding relocation of Municipal Court Department to 1109-B Bayou Road, La Marque, Texas

\*\* Councilwoman Mc Auliffe made a motion to approve the relocation of Municipal Court Department to 1109-B Bayou Road, La Marque, Texas.

\*\* Councilmember Michetich seconded.

Mayor Pro-Tem Bell led the discussion of why the Municipal Court was moved to the Police Department from City Hall in the first place, and if there were any expenditures involved in the move, and the advantage of the move.

Municipal Court Judge explained the hesitance of some individuals that currently must come to the Police Department to pay for tickets and warrants. The move would expedite the process from court, in setting up payments and other court functions. Further discussion involved renovations needed for that room to house the Municipal Court and City Marshall offices. Alternative locations for elections, library functions and other events that currently are held in the Community Room were discussed and determined that the Council Chambers could be used for those. Ample parking spaces and restrooms were discussed briefly. City Marshall explained his need for the move and that it would benefit his office as well. Stability in the placement of city facilities was also discussed and agreed upon. Any other city facilities that could be utilized for accompanying those other meetings and events was discussed, and it was determined that a local event facility was in this strip center for renting if need be. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- c. Discussion/possible action regarding approval of a change order for the Siemens AML meter project contract in the amount of \$144,920.

\*\* Councilmember Michetich made a motion to approve the change order for the Siemens AML meter project contract in the amount of \$144,920.

\*\* Councilwoman Mc Auliffe seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

#### **(10) AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS**

- a. Discussion/possible action regarding authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with TxDOT to design the relocation of City of La Marque water / sewer utilities that conflict with the IH-45 widening project from South of FM 1764 to North of FM 519

\*\* Councilmember Michetich made a motion to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement with TxDOT to design the relocation of City of La Marque water /



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sewer utilities that conflict with the IH-45 widening project from South of FM 1764 to North of FM 519

\*\* Councilwoman Mc Auliffe seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**(11) EXECUTIVE SESSION**

1. Section 551.074 (Personnel Matters) - Discussion of the City Manager contract

Mayor closed the Regular meeting and convened into Executive Session at 7:01 p.m.

Mayor Hocking reconvened the Regular meeting at 7:45 p.m.

**(12) ACTION TAKEN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

1. Discussion/possible action regarding authorizing the Mayor to execute a contract for the City Manager of the City of La Marque

\*\* Councilwoman Mc Auliffe made a motion that the Mayor of the City of La Marque authorize a contract with Mr. Charles “Tink” Jackson and establish a starting date of May 6, 2019.

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

**(13) REQUEST AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - there were none**

**(14) ADJOURNMENT**

\*\* Councilwoman Mc Auliffe made a motion to adjourn the Regular meeting at 7:46 p.m.

\*\* Mayor Pro-Tem Bell seconded the motion. **MEETING 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.