



**CITY OF LA MARQUE
CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MINUTES
of
JUNE 26, 2023**

Minutes of a **Regular Meeting** held in the **Council Chambers** at **1109-B Bayou Road La Marque, Texas** as well as via videoconference hosted through Zoom on **June 26, 2023**, beginning at **6:00 PM** :

6/26/2023 - Minutes

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Bell called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

All members of Council were present with Councilmember Carlson arriving at 6:11 p.m. appearing virtually from 208 Washington St Mosier, Oregon.

3. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Roshard Glover of Neighborhood Missionary Baptist Church gave the invocation and Councilmember Ross led the pledge.

4. PRESENTATIONS

Members of the Parks Board and Public Works Parks Division accepted a proclamation to celebrate Parks Month.

5. CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

- Joseph Lowry (2503 Cedar) spoke, requesting that "Mr. Compian and Mr. Ross" look into what he assumes is fraud regarding Public Information Requests.
- Robert Micetich (24 N Curlew) spoke requesting updated debt information, the social media conduct of Councilmember Carlson, the inaction of the City Council regarding his actions, and a contract regarding financial assistance signed by the Finance Director.
- John Brady (1115 Volney St) spoke regarding the road at Volney. He was told that the road was repaired, and that is not accurate. He also spoke regarding mowing ditches.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

***Mayor Bell recessed the Regular Meeting and entered the Public Hearing at 6:21 p.m.*

6.I. Ordinance No. O-2023-0004

- Robert Michetich (24 N Curlew) spoke regarding five entries of \$100,000, each labeled as

professional services, overall sitting that there is not enough detail in these reports.

7. ORDINANCES

***Mayor Bell closed the Public Hearing and reconvened the Regular Meeting at 6:24 p.m.*

7.I. Ordinance No. O-2023-0004

Councilmember Yancy made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. O-2023-0004. Councilmember Carlson seconded the motion.

Councilmember Carlson spoke to address the concerns raised in the public hearing. He stated that a column in the document explains the reasoning for the transfers.

Mayor Pro Tem Carlson spoke regarding his concerns about where these allocations are coming from as he is unclear as to if this was taken from "reserves." He feels that there is should be a hard stop on when items were able to be associated with each fiscal year. A discussion began regarding grant funding.

Councilmember Yancy stated that the issue the public is having is that the process isn't very clear. She requested clarity in the future so the public could follow along more easily.

In response to the discussion, Mayor Bell asked City Manager, in the absence of Finance Director Kou, to briefly explain some of the differences between nonprofit, for-profit, and governmental finance. City Manager Garcia shared that each system has its own cut-off date. In this scenario, the City has approximately 9 months to close the budget.

Mayor Pro Tem shared that he is uncomfortable and would like to see these events take place sooner in the year.

Councilmember Ross spoke, stating he understands the process from his history in military service, but also agreeing that the shorter time frame and further clarity would be received better.

Mayor Bell questioned the need to act on this item tonight. Accountant Quencelia Goins spoke stating that delaying action could have adverse effects on the financial audit, however she could not verify what if any effects would occur without speaking to the finance director.

MOTION CARRIED 4 AYES AND 1 NAY (COMPIAN).

8. RESOLUTIONS

8.I. Resolution No. R-2023-0041

Director Sailler said that the General Land Office requires that due to the amounts received, the Council reject all bids so that the project can be rebid in the future.

Mayor Pro Tem Compian questioned what happens if the rebid produces higher bids. Director Sailler spoke, acknowledging there is some risk of receiving higher bids; however, the project has been restructured to where that is not likely.

Mayor Pro Tem Compian made a motion to adopt Resolution No. R-2023-0041. Councilmember Ross seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

9. CITY MANAGER REPORT

Stood as submitted.

10. NEW BUSINESS

10.I. Items For The Good Of The Order

Councilmember James Ross thanked the Parks Board for asking him to come out to their Fishing and Kayaking event to cook hotdogs, he also announced that the VFW raised over \$6500 at their event the previous Saturday, thanking a host of partners and community members for their contributions at the event. He also reminded the community of the Life & Liberty Celebration at Highland Bayou Park on July 1.

Councilmember Yancy just asked everyone to look out for each other and take precautions through the heat wave we are experiencing.

Mayor Pro Tem Compian reminded the community to watch out for fireworks and of the fireworks ban in the city. He announced a cooling center at the old Hitchcock High School Auditorium. He once again reaffirmed that he is grateful to live in this community.

Mayor Bell also spoke, encouraging everyone to participate at the Life and Liberty Celebration on Saturday, July 1st. He congratulated City Manager Garcia on graduating from the Certified Public Management program. He also congratulated Councilmember Ross for "hitting the ground running" and the efforts he has made in his district and the community.

City Manager Garcia spoke in conjunction with Public Works Director Sailer regarding previous issues with water pressure, whereas there was not a boil water notice, as that is required once the psi drops to below 25. The pressure overall was between 30 and 35. For comparison, the city's usual psi is 50 to 55. This is in reference to larger infrastructure concerns that are consistently being addressed. he also spoke to the issue at Volney that was mentioned earlier in the meeting and said that discussions are being held to best remedy this situation, but some relief is forthcoming.

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no executive session.

12. ACTIONS TAKEN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

No action was taken.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Yancy made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Ross seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

***Meeting was adjourned at 7:08 p.m.*

Keith Bell

Kierra K. Nance, TRMC

City Clerk

DRAFT