



**CITY OF LA MARQUE
CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MINUTES
of
May 8, 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 May 8, 2023, beginning at 6:00 PM :

5/8/2023 - Minutes

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Bell called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

All members were present with Councilmember Carlson appearing via zoom from 208 Washington St Mosier, Or.

3. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pro Tem Compian gave the invocation and Councilmember McAuliffe led the pledge.

4. CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

- Garri Tigranyan (821 Laurel) spoke to see if there is any interest from the City in his property.
- Joseph Lowry (2503 Cedar Dr) spoke regarding the employment of the Police Chief. He also spoke regarding a text message that was read at the previous council meeting as well as complaints he made and the lack of action against those members.
- Ginger Mannett (809 Grassy Knoll) spoke, questioning how the rezoning item was on the agenda so quickly after the last meeting when nothing had been decided.
- Jose Ramon Diaz (2512 Stonewall) spoke regarding standing water, mosquitos, and frogs in the ditch next to his home. He also spoke regarding a broken street light near his home.
- Robert Michetich (24 N Curlew) spoke regarding a recall petition against a councilmember and gave the city manager documents regarding the reason the recall petition persists.
- Keith Henry (Family Service Center for Mental Health and Wellbeing) spoke to say thank you to Councilwoman Yancy for her Stop the Violence initiative and the organization is looking forward to a potential future partnership.

5. ORDINANCES

5.1. Ordinance No. O-2023-0003

After discussion with the attorney, it was decided to allow the applicant, Michael Haapanemi of Piney Point Development, and the Salt Grass Crossing Home Owner's Association President Ginger Mannett to participate in the discussion.

Councilmember Yancy questioned the timeline of how to move forward with this item. City Attorney Knebel advised proceeding with taking action on this item, whatever the council decides, as there is no authority to regulate what item goes into the property outside of ensuring that the development adheres to the zoning requirement.

Much discussion between the developer and the council ensued, with Ms. Mannett sharing her opposition to the process, as she states that there are over 800 homes in one community and 422 in another, and the developer has not spoken with all of the residents.

Council shared their concerns regarding the implications of this rezone.

Councilmember Yancy made a motion to deny Ordinance No. O-2023-0003. Councilmember Carlson seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

5.II. Ordinance No. O-2023-0004

Finance Director stated that this is a standard procedure at year-end during the audit process. This is just reconciling any changes to the budget made by the council throughout the year.

Councilmember McAuliffe shared that it would be really helpful in the future if a brief summary of what changes were made.

Mayor Pro Tem Compian clarified some questions regarding expenditures on the summary.

Mayor Pro Tem Compian made a motion to approve Ordinance No. O-2023-0004. Councilmember Carlson seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

6. RESOLUTIONS

6.I. Resolution No. R-2023-0026

City Attorney Knebel gave a brief overview of this item.

Mayor Pro Tem Compian made a motion to adopt Resolution No. R-2023-0026. Councilmember McAuliffe seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

6.II. Resolution No. R-2023-0027

Councilmember McAuliffe made a motion to adopt Resolution No. R-2023-0027. Councilmember Yancy seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

6.III. Resolution No. R-2023-0028

City Manager Garcia gave a brief overview of this item.

Mayor Pro Tem Compian questioned the ask amount regarding the Delany Road application, Public Works Director Rick Sailer spoke stating that this application focused on "curb and gutter" streets, anything else would be considered a major road rehabilitation.

Councilmembers Yancy and Carlson asked questions regarding Lake Road and were assured that this street is included in the Capital Improvements Plan.

Councilmember Carlson made a motion to adopt Resolution No. R-2023-0028. Mayor Pro Tem Compian seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

6.IV. Resolution No. R-2023-0029

City Attorney Knebel explained the restrictive covenant that is being requested to be removed and the reason for the removal.

Mayor Bell abstained from the vote due to a conflict of interest.

Councilmember McAuliffe made a motion to adopt Resolution No. R-2023-0029. Councilmember Yancy seconded. **MOTION PASSED with 4 AYES and 1 ABSTENSION.**

6.V. Resolution No. R-2023-0030

Mayor Bell abstained from this vote due to a conflict of interest.

Mayor Pro Tem Compian made a motion to adopt Resolution No. R-2023-0030. Councilmember Yancy seconded. **MOTION PASSED with 4 AYES and 1 ABSTENSION.**

6.VI. Resolution No. R-2023-0031

A brief discussion regarding the use of Naloxone ensued.

Councilmember McAuliffe made a motion to adopt Resolution No. R-2023-0031. Councilmember Carlson seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

6.VII. Resolution No. R-2023-0032

Public Works Director Sailler briefly overviewed the event that caused this request. Mayor Bell requested further information regarding if this item would be covered by insurance.

Councilmember McAuliffe made a motion to adopt Resolution No. R-2023-0032. Councilmember Carlson seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

6.VIII. Resolution No. R-2023-0033

City Manager Garcia gave a brief overview of this project and the financial challenges that inflation and supply chain issues have caused in moving the project forward.

Mayor Pro Tem Compian questioned the delays in this project and requested an update at a future meeting on the 2020 Certificate of Obligations. Mayor Bell also questioned the delays and requested further information from the City Attorney.

City Engineer Dinh Ho updated the Council on the processes of the General Land Office. Grantworks Representative Anthony Gonzales also spoke regarding this item.

Councilmember McAuliffe questioned the timeline of the project. It was explained that although this was originally a 2 year project an extension has been filed and there is now a completion date of December 2024.

Councilmember McAuliffe made a motion to adopt Resolution No. R-2023-0033. Councilmember Carlson seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

7. CITY MANAGER REPORT

Mayor Pro Tem highlighted the Leading the Way in Advancing Government Telecommunications Award.

Councilmember McAuliffe shared her opinion that the La Marque 2050 program be outsourced.

Report stood as submitted.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.I. Regular Meeting May 22, 2023

***Councilmember Carlson exited the meeting at 7: 39 p.m.*

Councilmember Yancy made a motion to approve canceling the Regular City Council meeting of May 22, 2023. Mayor Pro Tem Compian seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

8.II. Request For New Programs And Events

***Councilmember Carlson returned at 7:42 p.m.*

Councilmember McAuliffe spoke regarding the need for a spectrum regarding the requirements in the proposal request aligned with the requested use and the section regarding background checks.

***Councilmember Carlson exited the room at 7:56 p.m.*

After much discussion regarding narrowing the scope of this proposal, no action was taken on this item.

8.III. Procurement Card

Mayor Pro Tem Compian made a motion to approve participation in the Tarrant County contract with JP Morgan Chase bank for City's procurement card program. Councilmember McAuliffe seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

8.IV. FY 2023 Rural And Small Department Violent Crime Reduction Program

***Councilmember Carlson returned at 8:00 p.m.*

Councilmember McAuliffe questioned the rationale behind expediting the process of bringing on a crime analyst full-time and not utilizing some of the funding for the community mental health position that the council has spoke about at length.

Police Chief Aragon spoke regarding the timeline of the submission deadline.

Councilmember Yancy made a motion to approve submitting an application for the FY 2023 Rural and Small Department Violent Crime Reduction Program. Councilmember McAuliffe seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

8.V. Upcoming Events

Stood as submitted.

8.VI. Items For The Good Of The Order

Councilmember Carlson thanked everyone who put on the Hurricane Huddle. It looks like everyone had a great time.

Councilmember Yancy thanked everyone for an amazing Stop The Violence Week and gave a shoutout to everyone who participated. "When you ask a person who put the gun down, you have to put something else in their hands." The City's violent crime is down 35%, and there was a great synergy. She also announced Mother's Day is the following Sunday and encouraged all to reflect on the mothers in their life.

Councilmember McAuliffe stated that it had been a pleasure and privilege, as always. She is incredibly grateful for this experience. Thank you to the staff, the Council, and everyone who did the invisible work to get everyone here.

Mayor Pro Tem Compian spoke about the camaraderie that was experienced on election day with all of the candidates, former council members, and citizens all sitting together, conversing and communicating. He thanked all the residents of District B who came out to vote. He shared his hope that "we do better" in regard to voting, not to allow democracy to be in the hands of "the chosen few." He complimented Centerpoint Energy for the correction of their new towers and the work they are doing to help beautify the community.

Mayor Bell announced that the City of La Marque would be hosting the Galveston County Mayor and Council's Association Dinner for the first time in 3 years. He also made a request for the total amount of funding that should have been allocated to the Omega Bay TIRZ. He shared that several Charter Amendments were passed during this election season, some were denied, and we accept both verdicts. He congratulated both Mayor Pro Tem Compian on his re-election and new Councilmember James Ross, while also acknowledging that this election means the end of Councilmember Casey McAuliffe's service on this Council. He requested a proclamation acknowledging Stop the Violence Week and that the City begin to highlight the City's summer internship program and the expansion through our community partners.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no executive session.

10. ACTIONS TAKEN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

No action was taken.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember McAuliffe made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Yancy seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

***Meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m.*

Keith Bell
Mayor

Kierra K. Nance, TRMC
City Clerk