

Minutes of a <u>Workshop Meeting</u> held in the <u>Council Chambers</u> at <u>1109-B Bayou Road La Marque</u>, <u>Texas as well as via videoconference hosted through Zoom</u> on November 14, 2022, beginning at 4:00 PM:

11/14/2022 - Minutes

## 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Bell called the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

All members of Council were present with the exception of Councilmember Casey McAuliffe.

- 3. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 4. CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

There was no citizen participation.

- 5. NEW BUSINESS
  - 5.I. Utility Rates

JP Joly, Waterworth gave a presentation in conjunction with City Manager Cesar Garcia. The presentation explained current utility expenses, breakeven costs, proposed utility rates, affordability, potential rate plans, proposed fees; such as utility/capital improvements, a citizen's portal, and stormwater.

\*\*Mayor Pro Tem Compian exited the room at 4:35 p.m. and returned at 4:45 p.m.

\*\*Councilmember Yancy exited the room at 4:46 p.m. and returned at 5:12 p.m.

Council asked questions regarding the impacts of rate increases on citizens with fixed incomes, and questions relating to utility funds.

The Council accepted questions from the public:

Cassandra Lafferty (1302 Ross St), and asked what amount of water purchased is water loss vs water usage. Can the City not increase rates and just fix the leaks instead? She shared her concerns regarding the rate of increase and requested that a lower percentage be considered.

James Osteen (2012 Jeridonna), questioned if the amount given for the 10-year plan included all water zones or just the zone that the citizens requested be addressed first. It was clarified that this amount was to address all zones.

Mayor Pro Tem gave a brief synopsis of what led to the proposal being presented today and shared his gratitude towards the work that has gone into this proposal, as did Councilmembers Carlson and Yancy.

\*\*Mayor Bell exited the meeting at 5:46 p.m. and returned at 5:49 p.m.

## 6. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no executive session.

## 7. ACTIONS TAKEN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

No action was taken.

## 8. ADJOURNMENT

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

\*\*Meeting was adjourned at 5:51 p.m.

Keith Bell

Mayor

Kierra K. Nance, TRMC

City Clerk