

**STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HARRIS
CITY OF EL LAGO**

**CITY OF EL LAGO
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 15, 2016
7:00 P.M.**

The following minutes are record votes only. Recordings of the minutes can be requested through the City Secretary's office.

8/15/2016 - Minutes

1. COUNCIL MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Pursuant to public notice as required by law, Mayor White called the August 15, 2016 City Council meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

The following city officials were present:

- Mayor Robert White
- Mayor Pro Tem John Skelton
- Councilperson Mark Briggs
- Councilperson Jim Kelly
- Councilperson Robert Kumar-Misir
- Councilperson Jeff Michalak
- City Secretary Ann Vernon
- LPD Chief Tom Savage
- Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator Art Richard

2. PLEDGES

Mayor White led the pledges to the American and Texas flags.

3. CITIZENS COMMENTS

Jeff Tave of 302 Pineview Circle thanked the Council for the Town Hall meeting and the information given regarding the FEMA Floodplain maps. He then encouraged the Council to put together a group discount program so that residents could get elevation surveys at a discounted cost. He then address the agenda item regarding the new audio/visual system being proposed to purchase for the event room. Mr. Tave asked Council to consider whether or not this was the best use of the tax payer's dollars.

Don Schoppe was very angry and asked why the city did not currently have a law suit against Centerpoint for not better maintaining consistent power to certain areas of the city. He stated that the two reasons there were power outages were not clearing the right of ways and inferior equipment. Mr. Schoppe emphasized that he is sick and tired of losing power and that it is the same 56 people who lose power each time. He said that the Mayor and Council do not care because it is not them.

4. MAYOR'S REPORT ON CITY BUSINESS

Mayor White reported on the following items:

- Phil Sandlin is holding his annual Gumbo Gala on September 13th at the Pasadena Convention Center, El Lago residents are invited at no cost.
- Sundeas Funday will be on September 4th, residents are invited to bring a topping, the City will provide ice cream. A Dive In Movie will also be shown.
- The next Council Meeting will be on August 29th instead of September 5th due to the Labor Day Holiday.
- A part time Maintenance Department helper has been hired to assist with mowing, etc. He is a Clear Creek High schooler.

5. CITY OFFICIALS' REPORTS

5.1. LPD Chief Tom Savage To Report On Police Activity In The City

Police Chief Tom Savage reported on the following:

Einer Goerland from TLV has been logging all the power outages and is addressing Centerpoint with those.

Last Thursday's Town Hall meeting was a great event; the move of the dispatch department to Webster was discussed along with a good questions and answer time.

Noted a flashing speed limit sign which worked well to call attention to the speed limit when going into a neighborhood in Seabrook. He has been doing some research on it and has learned that it is a solar powered sign and you can get the complete kit for about \$3,600. Perhaps this would be a good use for the Child Safety Fund.

There still have been no additional burglaries on vehicles. Detective Beaton recovered a hair from one of the burgled vehicles and is having it sent through DNA testing.

The CERT group will be utilized to help in the school zone for the beginning of school.

In response to a question regarding storing boats on residential properties, Chief said he tries to be lenient on boats, especially if it is attached to a vehicle.

5.2. Emergency Management Coordinator Tom Merchant To Report On Emergency Preparedness In The City

Art Richard, Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator and CERT Director said that at the Town Hall meeting the previous Thursday, EMC Tom Merchant showed a map of the evacuation route in the event of a storm. Because evacuations are called by zip codes, it could be a problem because El Lago does not necessarily need to leave and create additional congestion when Seabrook leaves. Mr Richard also reported that there will be a CPR class on August 25th from 6 to 9 p.m. It will be located at the Meyer Road Fire station, will consist of CPR and AED training and will only cost \$5.00. There are already seven El Lago residents signed up, but the class has room for up to 30.

6. WORKSHOP SESSION - THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE FOR DISCUSSION ONLY, THERE WILL BE NO MOTIONS OR APPROVALS MADE.

6.1. Presentation From Cathy Reardon Of Native And Sam Telleen Of Green Mountain Energy On Solar Power Options

Sam Telleen of Green Mountain Energy addressed the Council first and discussed the potential financial contribution from the GME "Solar Spark" program. This program is voluntarily funded by GME customers who are willing to donate to facilitate the spread of solar power as an energy resource. Green Mountain Energy has agreed to donate \$50,000 to help offset the cost if the City of El Lago does decide to install solar panels. Mr. Telleen stated that this is exactly the type of project for which the "Solar Spark" program was developed.

Cathy Reardon of Native introduces herself to the Council and discussed some of the potential options for how solar panels could be installed in various locations throughout the city. She explained how the panels are installed, the warranty and costs for various solar panel projects. (A copy of the proposals by Native are attached to the minutes.)

6.2. Discuss The Proposed FY2017 Budget And The 2016 Tax Rate To Support The Budget

Mayor White asked if there were any proposed changes to the working budget, and there were none discussed.

7. OLD BUSINESS

7.1. Proposed Agreement From Camp Gladiator For Use Of The Pavilion And McNair Park For Adult Boot Camps

Mayor White told Council that Chase Williams of Camp Gladiator had offered the City \$10.00 per fitness class with a planned five classes per week. Councilman Michalak motioned and Mayor Pro Tem Skelton seconded approving Camp Gladiator's use of McNair Park and pavilion at a rate of \$10.00 per class for up to five classes per week. Councilman Briggs motioned to amend the initial motion by requiring a simple agreement from the Attorney which outlines the terms, indemnifies the city and is signed by both parties. Councilman Kelly seconded the motion and it failed with Mayor Pro Tem Skelton and Councilmen Kumar-Misir and Michalak voting opposed. The initial motion was approved by three in favor and with Councilmen Briggs and Kelly voting opposed.

8. NEW BUSINESS TO CONSIDER FOR APPROVAL

8.1. Approval Of Proposal From "Magnolia" For New Audio Visual System For The Event Room For \$11,439.00

Councilman Michalak motioned to approve the purchase of the new audio visual system for the event room from Magnolia for the amount of \$11,439.00. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Skelton and approved unanimously.

8.2. Commissioning A Transportation Study To Develop A Long Term Transportation Plan For The City And To Supply A Corresponding Budget Mechanism

Mayor White stated that he would like to refer this transportation study to the Planning & Zoning Commission and then let them bring back a report and recommendation to the Council.

8.3. Formation Of A Citizen Committee To Study And Make Recommendation To The Council Concerning Bathroom Access In McNair Park

Mayor White said he would like an Ad Hoc Committee formed to consider adding bathrooms to McNair park. Mayor Pro Tem Skelton was named as the Ad Hoc Committee Chair and with Councilman Briggs as a member. Mayor White invited Mayor Pro Tem Skelton to also invite whomever else he would like to serve on the committee.

9. CONSENT AGENDA

9.1. Approval Of The Minutes From The Following Meetings:

Mayor Pro Tem Skelton motioned to approve the minutes and Councilman Michalak seconded it. The motion passed with a vote of four in favor and with councilman Briggs abstaining since he was not present at the meetings.

9.1.1. July 18, 2016 City Council Public Hearing

9.1.2. July 18, 2016 City Council Meeting Minutes

9.1.3. August 1, 2016 City Council Meeting Minutes

10. OTHER ITEMS COUNCIL WOULD LIKE TO SUGGEST FOR CONSIDERATION ON A FUTURE CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tem Skelton said he would like another workshop to discuss the budget and stated that he plans to ask for a decrease in the tax rate.

11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Councilman Kumar-Misir motioned to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Michalak seconded the motion and it was approved by all present. Mayor White adjourned the meeting at 8:32 p.m.

Native Solar Proposal

Robert White, Mayor

ATTEST:

Ann Vernon, City Secretary

