

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LEAGUE CITY, TEXAS, CENSURING COUNCILMEMBER JUSTIN HICKS FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE CITY OF LEAGUE CITY'S RULES OF PROCEDURE AND FOR CONDUCT UNBECOMING A CITY COUNCILMEMBER

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of League City, Texas, is committed to upholding the highest standards of ethical conduct and integrity in municipal governance; and

WHEREAS, the City of League City has adopted Rules of Procedure that set forth the expected standards of conduct for all City Councilmembers; and

WHEREAS, Councilmember Justin Hicks has engaged in actions that violated said Rules of Procedure and demonstrated conduct unbecoming of a City Councilmember; and

WHEREAS, on or about February 22, 2025, Councilmember Justin Hicks requested that the Chief of Police of League City not investigate a criminal matter involving a reported domestic disturbance at Councilmember Hicks' residence, in direct contravention of Article 3, Section 5 and 6 of the City of League City's Rules of Procedure, which prohibits elected officials from interfering with the work of city staff, including law enforcement investigations; and

WHEREAS, on or about February 24, 2025, Councilmember Justin Hicks requested that law enforcement staff violate the established Public Information Request Procedure and used his position as a Councilmember to request preferential treatment for his personal benefit; and

WHEREAS, Councilmember Justin Hicks has engaged in conduct unbecoming a City Councilmember which includes but is not limited to actions that undermine public trust, abuse of office, or failure to maintain the decorum expected of an elected official and attempting to circumvent established city procedures for personal gain; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has the authority and obligation to censure its members for violations of the City's Rules of Procedure and conduct detrimental to the integrity of the City Council and the interests of the citizens of League City, pursuant to Section 51.001 of the Texas Local Government Code; and

WHEREAS, Councilmember Justin Hicks was provided with written notice of these allegations on February 27, 2025, and was given an opportunity to respond in writing, in accordance with principles of due process and fairness.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LEAGUE CITY, TEXAS, as follows:

Section 1. The foregoing recitals are hereby found to be true and correct and are incorporated herein as findings of fact.

Section 2. The City Council hereby formally censures Councilmember Justin Hicks for his

violations of the City of League City's Rules of Procedure and for conduct unbecoming a City Councilmember.

Section 3. The City Council condemns Councilmember Hicks' actions in attempting to interfere with a police investigation, requesting violation of Public Information Request Procedures, and engaging in conduct unbecoming a City Councilmember, as these actions undermine public trust and the integrity of the City Council.

Section 4. This censure shall be recorded in the official minutes of the City Council and shall be considered a formal expression of the Council's disapproval of Councilmember Hicks' actions.

Section 5. The City Council hereby directs Councilmember Hicks to:

- a) Immediately cease all conduct in violation of the City's Rules of Procedure;
- b) Issue a public apology to the citizens of League City, Chief of Police and law enforcement staff;
- c) Recuse himself from any matters related to the aforementioned criminal investigations and public information requests related to him personally; and
- d) Resign from his position as a Councilmember immediately upon the adoption of this resolution.

Section 6. It is hereby found and determined that the meeting at which this resolution was passed was open to the public and that advance public notice of the time, place and purpose of said meeting was given as required by law.

PASSED AND APPROVED the ____ day of _____, 2025.

NICK LONG
Mayor

ATTEST:

DIANA STAPP
City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

MICHELLE L. VILLARREAL
City Attorney