



City of League City, TX

300 West Walker
League City TX 77573

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, September 1, 2020

6:00 PM

Council Chambers
200 West Walker Street

Regular Meeting

The City Council of the City of League City, Texas, met in a regular meeting in the Council Chambers at 200 West Walker Street on the above date at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor:

Pat Hallisey

City Council Members:

**Andy Mann
Hank Dugie
Larry Millican
Todd Kinsey
Greg Gripon
Chad Tressler
Nick Long**

City Manager:

John Baumgartner

Assistant City Manager

Bo Bass

Assistant City Manager

Michael Kramm

City Attorney:

Nghiem Doan

City Secretary:

Diana M. Stapp

Chief of Police:

Gary Ratliff

Executive Director of Development Services

David Hoover

Director of Budget/Project Management

Angie Steelman

Director of Engineering:

Christopher Sims

Director of Finance:

Kristine Polian

Director of Human Resources/Civil Service:

Janet Shirley

Director of Parks & Cultural Services:

Chien Wei

Director of Public Works:

Jody Hooks

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Mayor Hallisey called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and called the roll. All members of Council were present.

Present 8 - Mayor Pat Hallisey, Mr. Andy Mann, Mr. Hank Dugie, Mr. Larry Millican, Mr. Todd Kinsey, Mr. Greg Gripon, Mr. Chad Tressler and Mr. Nick Long

2. **INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE U.S. FLAG AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE TEXAS FLAG**

Invocation given by Rev. Joel McMahon of League City United Methodist Church. Mayor Hallisey led the pledges of allegiance to the flags.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- 3A. 20-0336 July 14, 2020 Council Work Session
- 3B. 20-0353 July 21, 2020 Special Council Meeting
- 3C. 20-0351 August 4, 2020 Budget Workshop

Mayor Hallisey asked if there were any corrections to the minutes. He said, hearing none, these minutes are approved.

4. **PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, AWARDS, AND COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT**

- 4A. 20-0349 Presentation of the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award that has been awarded to the City of League City by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020 (Director of Budget & Project Management)
- 4B. 20-0338 Report from Emergency Turnaround Task Force (Mayor Hallisey)

The report was presented by Dave Johnson.
- 4C. 20-0346 Presentation by Chairman of the Finance Committee (Director of Finance)

The presentation was given by Kristine Polian.
- 4D. 20-0352 Report from Dickinson Bayou Watershed Steering Committee (Mayor Hallisey)

No report.

5. **CITIZENS REQUEST FOR HEARING BEFORE CITY COUNCIL**

The privilege of speaking at this time is limited to the following persons: residents, persons having an ownership interest in property or a business located within the City, or their attorneys.

A statement of no more than 3 minutes may be made. There will be no yielding of time to another person. State law prohibits the Mayor and members of the City Council from commenting on any statement or engaging in dialogue without an appropriate agenda item being posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act. Comments should be directed to the entire Council, not individual members of Council or staff. If addressing a specific agenda item, speakers must keep their remarks specific to the item being considered by the City Council. Any speaker making personal attacks or using vulgar or profane language shall forfeit his/her remaining time and shall be seated.

NAME SUBJECT

Sarah Greer Osborne, Director of Communications, read comments that were submitted online.

Peggy Zahler	Miscellaneous Comments
Martin Moses	Texas Gourmet Market
Kimberly Joyner	Parking Lot Lights at Ralph Parr Elementary
Danielle Hoffman	Lack of Warning for Closing off Amado Ln.

Citizens appearing in person:

Chuck DiFalco	Budget
Dewan Clayborn	LC Regional Chamber of Commerce
Justin West	Hurricane Laura Recovery
C. Lynn Davis	Basketball Court-League Park

6. PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION ITEMS FROM PUBLIC HEARING

7. COMMENTS/REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Announcements concerning items of community interest. No action will be taken or discussed.

Mayor Pro Tem Todd Kinsey – Thank you, sir. Regarding the CIP budget, I would say that in the last eight years the CIP budget has grown by, I think it's five times. John, correct me if I'm wrong, it's grown from about \$20 million eight years ago to about \$100 million today. So, pretty amazing what it's done in a short time.

You can put as many projects as you want totaling as many dollars as you want, but if the projects aren't getting complete, which is the way it used to be done, nothing was getting done, then what does it matter that the projects are on the list. So, this council has made a big focus on getting projects done and getting them done in a timely manner. I think we've done that. We can always do better and do more, but you know it also takes staff to get these projects done, too. So, I think we've done an outstanding job to grow that much in that short of a time. Moving on, quickly, at the library, for kids 8-11 years old the Tween Writers Club will be meeting virtually on Thursday, August 27. Gaming Teens meet on Monday, August 31. This has all past. So, with that I will yield my time.

Hank Dugie – Thank you, Mr. Mayor. I would like to, I guess, double down, on what Constable-Elect West brought before us tonight. It could have just as easily came our direction instead of heading east. Whenever Harvey the Gulf Coast people rallied around us and supported us in so many different ways. So, I just want to encourage everyone on the dais, everyone watching at home and in the audience tonight to pitch in how you can. The Lions Club is a great conduit for positive change and helping their neighbor, but there are a lot of citizen groups, churches, that are out there that are putting effort forth. So, no matter which group you associate with and give to and whatnot, it's a noble cause, and we need to be there for our neighbors in the east. Kind of to Mr. Kinsey's point, this year we have a lot of design and engineering work included in the CIP. I'd imagine next year and the year following are probably going to be record-breaking years in the terms of CIP expenditures. So, from any given year, from one to the next, you know, you might see a dip or an increase, but I think we're trending in the right direction. We've tasked Mr. Baumgartner and his team with identifying projects that can be expedited. So, we're going to continue to apply the pressure, but we also realize that we have to get the engineering done before we can put the concrete and whatnot in the ground. So, we're headed in the right direction. Lastly, as Mr. Johnson stated earlier, we are kind of experiencing the COVID fatigue. Numbers are heading in the right direction with school opening. We have got to stay vigilant, make sure that we are making wise choices for ourselves and our families. I would encourage this body and staff to find ways that we can reasonably allow for the farmers' markets and events and parks to begin to be opened back up to their full capacity. We've found that wearing masks can have a big help. It can really reduce the spread. So, we know more than we did a few months ago, and I think it's definitely time that we start re-evaluating and figuring out ways we can get those activities back to normal. That's it for me, thank you.

Larry Millican – Thank you, mayor. I'd like to thank everybody for coming out tonight and tuning into Channel 16 and online. I had the opportunity to attend a webinar put on by TxDOT a couple of weeks back, and the title of the webinar was Connect Smart. This was developed to give insights to the type of transportation and the connecting ability of that transportation of the future. One of the takeaways that I took away, that I think that would be interesting for everybody in League City, is the fact that TxDOT is using the overall principle that currently we have about 1,100 residents adding, each and every day, to the state of Texas. 1,100. Just soak that in. 1,100 residents each and every day in the state of Texas.

In our region, that H-GAC commands, that eight county region, there's 200 residents a day, moving to the state of Texas, so that our population is expanding. So, League City, the growth that we're experiencing, it's not going to slow down. It's here, the entire state is feeling it. The region is feeling it, and I thought that those were some impressive numbers to bring back to make sure that everyone understands that the need for that future in the planning and the development of those projects to where we can handle all of the residents that are going to be coming to town, or in our region for that matter. You know when we look at the construction and the backlog and the necessity of 45, and to think how many people are going to be travelling on Interstate 45 in any one given weekend in the future. Not only just today, but in the future. At any rate, I thought that those are some interesting numbers along with all of the other things that we've talked about as far as cars communicating with cars and trucks communicating with trucks and getting into long lines and applying brakes. It's really kind of amazing when you really sit down and think about it. But, at any rate, those were some numbers I took away that I wanted to share with everybody. Thank you, mayor.

Greg Gripon – Thank you, Mayor. Good evening. First, I want to thank John Baumgartner for contacting me Monday and allowing the League City Lions Club and the City of League City to partner in this great endeavor. Back when Harvey came through and we opened the center there, I was receiving phone calls from all over the United States of we have semis coming to League City full of supplies. And, this is one way we can pay back, and I really appreciate that, thank you.

Chad Tressler – I just wanted to point out one thing that kind of taps into the whole why is the CIP funding decreased this year, and just remind the citizens that not only have we asked our City Manager to look at ways he can expedite the projects that were approved as part of the bond, but we've also asked him to let us know what the roadblocks are. You know, sometimes it's a scheduling thing, that projects have to go out for review from federal agencies, and we can't throw money at that to speed that up. And we've told him if it's an issue of staffing, if it's an issue of outside additional project managers, to get with us and the money will be there. So, it's not for lack of interest in speeding up those projects or getting them done that the CIP funding is lower this year than last. I think a big part of it is just projects have certain phases that take a certain amount of time and some cost more or less, some cost more and they're done in a matter of days. Some have a low cost but you sit for three months. It's just a function of the timing of when the budget year syncs up. So, it's nothing to do with a decreased emphasis on drainage and traffic by anyone on this dais or anyone in the top levels of our city staff. So, please don't take that message away. The message is, we're on it. We're looking at ways to accelerate it, and if it is going to cost money, we're looking to do that. It's just some parts of it can't be sped up. And that's all I had, thank you, mayor.

Nick Long – Thank you, mayor. Well I'm going to just jump on and beat the same topic to death. I can totally see why nobody would want to sit through 12 hours of those meetings online. However, I will say Angie and her team did a great job in making the presentation materials. And really, if you just grab the highlighted version, the PowerPoint version of it, go through and see the changes to the different departments, I think that gives you a really good feel of what the budget looks like and how we got to that budget without having to dive through the giant book. And a couple of highlights from that budget that I thought were really important is, first and foremost, we kept the effective rate. We hit the effective rate, and we brought it in there slightly underneath the effective rate, at the same time, continuing all those big CIP projects, hiring more project managers, investing in the tools that John said his team needed to make those projects go faster. And at the same time, going to the Police Department, increasing the training, increasing the number of officers that they can hire, and going back in and backfilling on the kind of long-awaited body cameras. And those are all significant and expensive projects. And those, you kind of go down the line and you see that we've made investments in the Fire Department and all these other areas, and then keeping the eye on the ball the whole time of getting to that kind of all-important effective rate. So, I thought the process, as my sixth budget, by far the easiest one. It was an easy budget to vote for. It was an easy budget to understand. It was very clearly laid out. So, I like everything they kind of went through that, and I do emphasize that we didn't take our eye off the ball when it came to the CIP, it just happens to be the ebbs and the flows of the way it happened to work out. And I think everybody up here kind of uniformly is completely behind those projects, and if you go to hour five through seven you see us beating on the table about getting the projects done faster. And I think everybody took their time to make sure that that was crystal clear throughout that entire video. I think it was a great process, look forward to delivering more of those projects and continuing to kind of move the city forward on that. The last thing I want to say is compliments to CCISD. This has been a crazy start to the year. I mean, just when, you're already starting on a video side, plus a world-wide Zoom outage on the second day, then a hurricane. I mean, I don't know if you could draw it up much more difficult, but they've done a great job so far. I mean, just monitoring my two kids and seeing that they're actually learning something. They seem to be engaged, and that's what I was kind of worried, is this just kind of like digital babysitting? But no, they actually seem to be learning things and not running into my office every 10 minutes to have me do something. So, that's all worked out great. And, Dr. Davis, I think you did do about every person I knows teeth that I grew up with here in League City, I think including my wife. So, thank you, her smile looks fantastic.

Andy Mann – I just have one quick comment. I want to thank John Baumgartner. Last week, I had two constituent requests that he took care of incredibly quickly, and just thanks, man, I appreciate it.

Mayor Hallisey – I got a couple of things. First of all, happy 93rd birthday to Angelo Arolfo, which was yesterday. Sarah tried really hard to get that up on our marquee, so when he came to get out the paper at 5:00 in the morning, he would know we were thinking about him. I guess we're still having trouble with the marquee board. So, it's still not there, so I called him yesterday and called his daughters and explained what had happened, but in particular to wish him a happy birthday. He's the patriarch of that Arolfo clan. His mother was a Daro, they all came from northern Italy and settled here in the 1880s, and the family just survives and goes on. So, happy birthday, Angelo. We're proud of you. Where did Ryan Edghill go? Ryan is our Emergency Management Coordinator. He's the guy that makes the decisions when a hurricane comes. He was the one telling everybody to get prepared for the storm. He and John. I've got to include John so you can get a raise, right? Right. Anyway, to get the city ready, I know several days out they were preparing for the storm because we didn't know where it was going to go, and that's okay. Better safe than sorry. But Ryan does a good job. He was our leader during Hurricane Harvey, and just did a great job. So, Ryan, thank you for that. Keep up the good work, okay? He's also got a little baby at home that he would just rather be there than just sitting here. I want to echo a little bit. You know the Lions Club has been around League City for 60-some-odd years now, and they have been a great civic citizen. They have given to every worthy cause. Greg and his family and other Lions Club members manned Hometown Heroes during Hurricane Harvey to make sure people were welcome and they were fed and well taken care of. And now we see guys like Justin West coming along, who I saw a video today of him loading trailers. Looked like back-breaking work, something I probably could have done at your age Justin, but I'm glad you were doing it this time. People were so kind to us during Harvey. People crossed this country to bring us food, to bring us water, to bring us clothes from the strangest places where we didn't know a soul. And I always said when we got to the point of being able to repay the debt, and paying it forward, I would sure be happy if we could do that. The Lions Club was well on its way, I was proud of John for partnering up with them, because that's exactly the things ought to work. People working together make things happen, and they will have water, they will have food, and I guess you're going to Beaumont and Port Arthur and those areas first, and then into Louisiana? I don't know what your schedule is, but thanks for doing what you're doing, and thanks, John, for getting our efforts coordinated with theirs. The Constable said this earlier, but I just want to remind you of it. Kids are back in school, slow down. Most families have been locked into their houses for the last four or five months. And when you let kids out after they've been locked down for four or five months first thing they want to do is run. And all of you that are parents know clearly that the second that you take your eyes off your children the worst possible circumstance can happen. So, keep your eyes on them. If they break their teeth on the sidewalk send them to Dr. Davis. He's retired but he's got somebody in his office that can help them get the braces on but watch out for those schoolkids. They're our future and we want to make sure they can make it as long as they possibly can. That's it for now.

8. REPORTS FROM STAFF MEMBERS

Announcements concerning items of community interest. No action will be taken or discussed.

John Baumgartner – I will be brief, but last week we did have an opportunity to test our hurricane preparedness as a city. I'm very proud of our staff and their ability to respond to the storm even though it didn't come. It was certainly a good trial run. I would like to remind all the residents that we're about halfway through the hurricane season. We still have things forming in the Atlantic and things moving into the Caribbean or the Gulf and just to be forever vigilant through December and get your hurricane preparedness kit ready. If it wasn't ready before it should be now. We do appreciate the Lions Club and the partnership with them related to the donations and hopefully that will be a successful endeavor. I think as Council Member Dugie said, there are lots of places to give throughout the community, many of the churches and other civic organizations are also gathering donations and what have you, so we're not the only place out there but we're just one element. The Hometown Heroes is where we are collecting donations. It's opened extended hours so that gives people an opportunity to donate most all day long. Beginning next Tuesday, September 8, Helen Hall Library will resume some of its in-person programming, including Storytime, with appropriate social distancing and masking, etc. Registration is required. Space is limited. For more information go to leaguecity.com/library. The library also has expanded its hours. It is open until 9 p.m. on Mondays and Tuesdays now, and is open on Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m. And then nominations for awards are now being accepted for the City's annual volunteer awards. Typically, we do that in the summer. We've been a little bit behind just because of COVID and the response there, but the awards are given to those who volunteer their time at city facilities or with a city program. Each year the City recognizes two of these individuals with special awards named after two legacy volunteers, Art Hewitt and Steve Jones. The nominees do not have to be a resident or work in League City. For information and to submit a nomination visit the City's website. Then lastly, all the talk about the hurricane and the devastation, I want to end my comments with a positive story about our community banding together to save the life of Duke the dog. Last month, Duke jumped off the Highway 96 overpass at Dickinson Avenue. He's alive today and awaiting a forever home, but only because of our Police Department, volunteers in the animal shelter, and donations from our residents. We have a short video that tells his story. (Video Plays)

9. CONSENT AGENDA**Approval of the Consent Agenda**

Item 9D was pulled by Mayor Hallisey. Items 9E, 9F and 9G were pulled by Mr. Long.

A motion was made by Mr. Tressler, seconded by Mr. Millican, to approve the remaining Consent Agenda Items. The motion passed by the following vote:

For: 8 - Mayor Hallisey, Mr. Mann, Mr. Dugie, Mr. Millican, Mr. Kinsey, Mr. Gripon, Mr. Tressler and Mr. Long

- 9A. 20-0337 Consider and take action on a resolution authorizing an interlocal agreement between the City of League City and the Harris-Galveston Subsidence District (HGSD) for participation in the "Learning to be Water Wise" Program for an amount not to exceed \$12,031.80 (Director of Public works)

Approved on the Consent Agenda - Resolution No. 2020-105.

- 9B. 20-0347 Consider and take action on a resolution authorizing a roofing construction contract (RFP #20-FAC-005) to Liqui-Pro Industries, Inc. in the base bid amount of \$268,000.00 for the roof replacements at five (5) City facilities (Director of Facilities & Information Technology)

Approved on the Consent Agenda - Resolution No. 2020-106.

- 9C. 20-0348 Consider and take action on a resolution authorizing an amendment to the professional services agreement with PGAL, Inc. for the Council Chambers Remodel Project (FM2002) to perform additional engineering design services, in an amount of \$13,300 (Director of Budget & Project Management)

Approved on the Consent Agenda - Resolution No. 2020-107.

- 9D. 20-0342 Consider and take action on a resolution designating the official name of the League Park Basketball Courts, located at 200 N. Park Avenue, as the "Lenox Family Court" (Director of Parks and Cultural Services)

A motion was made by Mr. Millican, seconded by Mr. Tressler, to approve Resolution No. 2020-108 designating the official name of the League Park Basketball Courts, located at 200 N. Park Avenue, as the "Lenox Family Court".

For: 8 - Mayor Hallisey, Mr. Mann, Mr. Dugie, Mr. Millican, Mr. Kinsey, Mr. Gripon, Mr. Tressler and Mr. Long

- 9E. 20-0343 Consider and take action on a resolution approving an interlocal grant agreement with Harris County for Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) Small Cities Assistance Program (SCAP) (Emergency Management Coordinator)

A motion was made by Mr. Millican, seconded by Mr. Long, to approve Resolution 2020-109, an interlocal grant agreement with Harris County for Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) Small Cities Assistance Program (SCAP).

For: 8 - Mayor Hallisey, Mr. Mann, Mr. Dugie, Mr. Millican, Mr. Kinsey, Mr. Gripon, Mr. Tressler and Mr. Long

- 9F. 20-0354 Consider and take action on a resolution designating the League City Regional Chamber of Commerce as a subrecipient of the City's portion of the Harris County Small Cities Assistance Program to reimburse eligible programs that directly relieve the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic (Council Member Dugie and Council Member Mann)

A motion was made by Mr. Long, seconded by Mr. Dugie, to approve Items 9F and 9G together.

Resolution No. 2020-110 designating League City Regional Chamber of Commerce as a subrecipient of the City's portion of Harris County Small City Assistance Program (and)

Resolution No. 2020-111 authorizing an interlocal agreement with UTMB to provide COVID 19 testing to be paid with CARES Coronavirus Relief Funds.

For: 8 - Mayor Hallisey, Mr. Mann, Mr. Dugie, Mr. Millican, Mr. Kinsey, Mr. Gripon, Mr. Tressler and Mr. Long

- 9G. 20-0341 Consider and take action on a resolution authorizing an interlocal agreement with UTMB to provide COVID19 testing for League City service and hospitality business employees to be paid with CARES Coronavirus Relief Funds. (Emergency Management Coordinator)

Resolution No. 2020-111 (included in motion and vote on Item 9F)

- 9H. 20-0344 Consider and take action on a resolution authorizing a one-year agreement with the State of Texas for participation in the Texas Law Enforcement Support Office (LESO) Program for use of surplus equipment from the federal government and authorizing the City Manager to execute future renewal agreements for this program (Chief of Police)

Approved on the Consent Agenda - Resolution No. 2020-112.

- 9I. 20-0340 Consider and take action on Ordinance No. 2020-20, an ordinance amending Chapter 125, entitled "Zoning" to revise and consolidate all Historic District design guidelines - Second Reading (Executive Director of Development Services)

Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval, 7-0-0 with one absent, on July 20, 2020.

Council approved first reading, 8-0-0, on August 11, 2020.

Approved on the Consent Agenda - Ordinance No. 2020-20.

- 9J. 20-0339 Consider and take action on Ordinance No. 2020-23 amending Chapter 114 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of League City, Texas entitled "Utilities" by adjusting water meter and related fees based on wholesale prices - Second Reading (Director of Finance)

Council approved first reading 8-0-0 on August 11, 2020.

Approved on the Consent Agenda - Ordinance No. 2020-23.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

10. OLD BUSINESS

11. NEW BUSINESS

- 11A. 20-0345 Consider and take action on a resolution updating and adopting a schedule of fees pertaining to water and wastewater rates for Chapter 114 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of League City, Texas entitled "Schedule of fees, charges and deposits" (Director of Finance)

A motion was made by Mr. Millican, seconded by Mr. Tressler, to approve Resolution No. 2020-113 updating and adopting a schedule of fees pertaining to water and wastewater rates for Chapter 114 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of League City, Texas entitled "Schedule of fees, charges and deposits". The motion passed by the following vote:

For: 8 - Mayor Hallisey, Mr. Mann, Mr. Dugie, Mr. Millican, Mr. Kinsey, Mr. Gripon, Mr. Tressler and Mr. Long

12. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES

- 12A. 20-0355 Consider and take action on an ordinance adopting the Annual Budget for Governmental and Proprietary Funds for Fiscal Year 2021 (Director of Budget & Project Management)

A motion was made by Mr. Dugie, seconded by Mr. Kinsey, to approve Ordinance No. 2020-24 adopting the Annual Budget for Governmental and Proprietary Funds for Fiscal Year 2021. The motion passed by the following vote:

For: 8 - Mayor Hallisey, Mr. Mann, Mr. Dugie, Mr. Millican, Mr. Kinsey, Mr. Gripon, Mr. Tressler and Mr. Long

13. ITEMS ADDED AFTER ELECTRONIC AGENDA COMPLETED**14. EXECUTIVE(CLOSED) SESSION(S)****15. ACTION ITEM(S) FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION(S)****16. ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:23 p.m. Mayor Hallisey said there being no further business, this meeting is adjourned.

PAT HALLISEY
MAYOR

DIANA M. STAPP
CITY SECRETARY

(SEAL)

MINUTES APPROVED: