



City of League City, TX

300 West Walker
League City TX 77573

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

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:

**Dan Becker
Hank Dugie
Larry Millican
Todd Kinsey
Greg Gripon
Keith Gross
Nick Long**

City Manager:

John Baumgartner

Assistant City Manager/Director of Finance:

Rebecca Underhill

Assistant City Manager:

Bo Bass

City Attorney:

Nghiem Doan

City Secretary:

Diana M. Stapp

Chief of Police:

Michael Kramm

Director of Human Resources/Civil Service:

Janet Shirley

Director of Parks & Cultural Services:

Chien Wei

Director of Planning/Development:

Paul Menzies

Interim Director of Public Works:

Jody Hooks

Interim City Engineer:

Christopher Sims

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. Dan Becker, Mr. Hank Dugie, Mr. Larry Millican, Mr. Todd Kinsey, Mr. Greg Gripon, Mr. Keith Gross and Mr. Nick Long

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

The invocation was given by Pastor Aaron Lutz of Clear Creek Community Church. Mayor Hallisey led in the pledges of allegiance to the flags.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

3A. [17-0536](#) August 1, 2017 Council Budget Workshop

3B. [17-0537](#) August 7, 2017 Council Work Session

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

4. **APPOINTMENTS, PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, AWARDS**

4A. [17-0554](#) Presentation of a proclamation declaring September as "Childhood Cancer Awareness Month" (Mayor Hallisey)

The proclamation was accepted by Sam Abdelmessih, son Gavin, and family on behalf of Gavin's Galaxy.

4B. [17-0555](#) Presentation by the Parks Board Chairman (Mayor Hallisey)

The presentation was given by Vaness Hamilton.

4C. [17-0533](#) Consider and take action on a resolution approving the appointment of various board members to the Galveston County United Board of Health with terms of office to expire April 30, 2019 (Mayor Hallisey)

A motion was made by Mr. Millican, seconded by Mr. Dugie, to approve resolution No. 2017-136 approving the appointment of various board members to the Galveston County United Board of Health with terms to expire April 30, 2019. The motion passed by the following vote:

For: 8 - Mayor Hallisey, Mr. Becker, Mr. Dugie, Mr. Millican, Mr. Kinsey, Mr. Gripon, Mr. Gross and Mr. Long

5. **COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT**

6. **PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION ITEMS FROM PUBLIC HEARING**

7. 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	ADDRESS	SUBJECT
Justin Gripon	2060 Pecan Orchard Rd.	Thank you
Danny Hillger	Bayridge	Flood Remediation
Lora Lechago	2914 Marlin Ct., Bayridge	Thanks to volunteers/helpers
Monica Millican	934 Plantation	Accolades
Anita Bizzell	Bayridge Subdivision	Flood Losses

8. COMMENTS/REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

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

Mayor Pro Tem Todd Kinsey said I would urge people, if they have it, to get on Nextdoor and Facebook. I've been amazed at the outpouring of support that the community has been providing members of League City with on those two apps. I've seen countless items of furniture and clothing that families are donating to other people. Just post your needs and people are coming to the rescue. It's what makes the city so great. I've downloaded the FEMA app just to see what that was like. It's quite simple and just from other people in the community that I've talked to, they're already starting to get checks and whatnot through FEMA. Don't be afraid. The program on the smartphone is quite simple, you just fill in some basic information...yes, no, yes, no. After you get your basic stuff in and you're done. It's really that simple. Take five minutes out and do it if you need the help.

Then after that, my wife will be embarrassed because I said this and so will my son and his wife, but they've awed me with what they've done in the community. My son and his wife I think have helped eight different families rip out drywall and things and my wife has done the same. It just amazes me what they've accomplished. Finally, going on over at the library, the "Science for Little Explorers" program is on September 13, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in the Theater. Children will experiment and learn about what makes objects float or sink. This event is most appropriate for preschoolers. The Power User computer class will take place on Thursday, September 14 in the lab. This class teaches patrons how to access their online account with Helen Hall Library and enables them to perform a variety of tasks using the databases and digital resources that the Library makes available. On September 20, as part of our "Western Wednesday" movie series, the library will be showing the epic Clint Eastwood favorite, *The Good, the Bad and the Ugly* at noon in the Theater. This movie is rated R and for adults only. Have a blessed week.

Keith Gross said my heart goes out to everybody that was injured or suffered damages with Hurricane Harvey and also those people in Florida who suffered pain and suffering with Hurricane Irma. We've all said it before, we've witnessed more people come together here in League City during this disaster that the impact of that was stronger than the hurricane itself. There are some people, like the lady that was up here that had just moved to League City recently, so she probably doesn't know a whole lot of people, so I would like to encourage you to get to know your neighbors, see what you can do to help. If it's not money, maybe you have clothes or furniture or things like that, that you may want but somebody may need and be generous and donate and look to see that you can find a way to help those people that need help here in League City. Let's make League City proud.

Nick Long said I would like to address what Mr. Hillger talked about earlier and it goes along with what my comments are going to be tonight. Texas law allows public entities to petition the Central Appraisal District to reduce the taxable value by declaring a disaster exemption. So if we as a group petition the CAD they will take that under consideration and put a one-time exemption in place to reduce the taxes for those people affected. This exemption is not only fair, it is clear that if a house is severely damaged and unlivable, it simply is not worth as much as it was when it was appraised in January. Take the example of a rent house. If you can't have renters in there and you have to fix it, your house clearly isn't worth as much as it was before. Or if your own house, if you have to go and you can't live there, the house has been damaged, it's no longer worth that amount. This exemption is not only fair, but it is valuable and it is needed to help people who are impacted from the storm. It'll do the exact things that Mr. Hillger talked about. It will allow people to use some of that tax break to improve those houses to keep them from falling into disrepair. Those houses will then get repaired. They will be livable again and then in the future League City itself will benefit from that by good solid families moving back into this neighborhood, keeping it a vibrant neighborhood, allowing it to increase further into the future, generate taxes, repay the investment that's made inside that community. So, in two

weeks, that'll be on the agenda. I plan on sponsoring that petition to the CAD. I believe there are other public entities that are going to make the same, other taxing entities, that are going to make that same plea and I strongly hope that the other council members will join me in that, but a big key part of that exemption is we have to be careful what we're spending now. The budget we have in front of us is \$10.2 million in new spending. It is new debt. It is new debt of over \$3 million. It is draining the reserve of \$3.7 million and a tax hike of \$2.5 million on top of the citizens of League City. We simply can't afford, right now, to check off the box on the nice-to-have. We must prioritize and just use the must-haves. We must reallocate portions of the CIP for drainage, not simply what we had before building nice-to-have structures throughout the city, so I think we need to slow down on the approval of this budget, we need to reprioritize what has happened, we need to keep the reserve money strong and build for the future and reinvest back into the community in a smart and affordable way so we can continue the growth of League City and we can continue without draining our needed reserve fund because God forbid we sit here next year with another storm on the horizon and we won't have that \$3 million to spend out of that reserve again.

Dan Becker said I was next after Mr. Long and essentially my comments are going to reiterate everything he said. State law, when there's been a declared emergency, allows taxing entities to petition the appraisal district to make an adjustment as appropriate. Clearly, if folks had to sell some of these properties as is, they'd sell for a fraction of what they're worth after they're repaired. It's only fair and equitable that the owners of these properties get a break on their taxes because, for the most part, for three to four perhaps as much as six months these homes won't be really livable, certainly not at a 100 percent. I understand that the City of Galveston is already moving in this direction. I'll be co-sponsoring this agenda item with Mr. Long. I would like for, in this agenda item as part of the resolution, I think we need to encourage the school districts in Galveston County to follow suit in doing so. About 50 percent of your property taxes typically goes to the school boards. I'd also like for the county to do likewise. It should be all the taxing entities in the county should step up to the plate and say we recognize that your property needs to be reduced as far as its appraised value for this timeframe. Give folks a break on what it cost them in taxes at the end of the year and do something that's only fair and equitable. As Mr. Long said, this disaster incident, being Harvey, highlights why the City needs strong reserves. Right now, staff is estimating that the cost in picking up all the debris in League City is going to run about \$7 million. Hopefully we'll get reimbursed at 90 percent. That means the tax payers are going to pick up \$700,000. That's not currently in the budget. We need to keep adequate reserves for a number of reasons, one of which is we've had a good reserve level until now, it's helped our bond rating, that's saves the tax payers money, and we need to have reserves for things that nobody anticipated was going to happen. Nobody could predict that we're going to have a storm like this that probably equals or exceeds a 500-year storm event. That's what reserves are for and we need to be judicious about the way we deal with the budget along with everything that Mr. Long had to

say a moment ago.

Hank Dugie said I don't think it's needed to repeat what Mr. Becker or Mr. Long said but the gist of it is that there are a lot of moving pieces in the recovery as you can see. The City is going to continue to do what it can to help people to provide relief and get residents of League City connected to the entities that they need to be connected with. A lot of these things are slow moving, a lot slower than any of us wish they would be. So in the meantime, really we're going to be relying on the good nature of the people of League City and of Texas to continue helping their neighbors. There are still several groups, several churches, other organizations, that are going out into the neighborhoods and mucking out homes and a lot of them are even starting to repair and put drywall back up. Don't be afraid to ask for help. We're going to try to get you connected to the people you need to be connected with, but we have to know who you are, where you are, and what your needs are so it's going to be a continuing process so work with us, bear with us. Bay Harbor United Methodist, the church that Mr. Long and I attend, every Saturday until the end of the year is going to be sending out as many work teams as possible into Bayridge, Clear Creek Village, the neighborhoods that need the help and we're going to be doing anything we can to get people back to normal. Through the end of year, that's a couple of months. I wish I could sit up here and tell you that we can go in there and get it done tomorrow and have you back to normal next week but I'm sure you know that's not feasible. So, continue to work with us. Ask for help. Reach out to the City, city staff, council members, and we'll try our best to get you connected with people who can come in and provide you with immediate relief. While that's going on, we'll continue to follow up on those other avenues that will give you some relief in the future. So, we're with you. I've said it every meeting since the storm. This isn't over until everyone's back to normal. We're not going to leave anybody behind. The reason we chose to live in League City and continue to live in League City is because of the people. We're nothing without the people in League City so thank you for being here voicing your concerns and just please continue to come, show up and let us know how we can help. All that being said, there are a couple of announcements that I think are important and that you might like to hear. The first one, I would like to have a show and tell at the beginning of each meeting. Monica had a good idea of bringing the cat today, the kitten, so if anybody wants to bring a show and tell before meetings I'm happy to hear about them. Also, something even more near and dear to me, a lot of you that know the family, my mom and my two baby brothers have been living in Ohio for the last couple of years. I was able to get a house for them and bring them back down right before the storm hit. Welcome home, mom. I couldn't be prouder of her and my baby brother because all week they were working at the distribution center and doing anything that they can to help people around them. I'm glad to have my mom home and I'm proud of her for all the work that she's been putting into it. A suggestion I have for staff and I'm sure that it's already on their minds, as many travelling info-sessions as we can do to the affected neighborhoods, the better. If we can go into the communities and really just get them connected because we are going to have to have solid communication back and forth to

make this as smooth a process as possible. I don't expect something daily and I don't expect the same staff person to do it the same time but if we can set up something every week or every other week just so people can come out and hear what new avenues there are for them to get relief I think that will be helpful. Thank you for letting me speak, Mr. Mayor and thank you everyone for being here.

Larry Millican said welcome everybody. Thank you for coming and thank you for tuning in on Channel 16. The last council meeting I acknowledged the outstanding work the city staff did during the event and the plans that were developed and implemented directly after the storm. We've all been through a historic, catastrophic event. One that I don't believe any resident of League City will ever forget. It's kind of like, in my opinion what just yesterday brought reminisce of what happened on 9/11. I remember where I was when I saw the plane hit the building. I also remember where I was when JFK was shot and it's one of those things that I know I'm going to be living in League City and understand when Hurricane Harvey hit. Having said that, those actions that I talked about the last time can only be topped, in my opinion, by the contribution of the staff efforts and the action of the involvement of all the volunteers of the citizens that rose to the top and made League City shine. We were beaten down by a storm and the rain but the citizens prevailed. Neighbors helping neighbors. Those not affected by the event rolling up their sleeves, helping others muck out their way out and put people on the path to recovery. Driving around this city I've noticed how quickly people are cleaning their debris, the damaged personal items, and the damaged construction materials out of their houses far sooner than other cities and areas around. Citizens and staff working to put relief centers together that turned into the relief center for the whole county because of the organization, the efforts of the citizens were so great, it was head and shoulders above anything else happening in our area. The organizations around the city and in the city coordinated with organizations across the state and across the nation to bring in much needed supplies. It was second to none. The local businesses supplying food for all the volunteers mucking out the houses on a consistent basis for weeks was just outstanding. You look around and it's just overwhelming. The actions of all the citizen volunteers are second to none. The actions is what makes League City stand high and above the average city and what makes League City a strong community. The strong sense of community is one of the three elements that I believe makes people want to call League City home. This strong community is what makes me very proud to have my home in League City and for that I'd like to give an ovation to all the citizens of League City. On another note, just to answer to the folks of Bayridge that spoke this evening, I think that city staff, John Baumgartner, our City Manager is well versed in handling the challenges that he has. If everybody recalls what happened during Ike and there was a subdivision in this community called Shellside that was affected adversely, similar to what Bayridge was, the Park at Clear Creek, we've got several neighborhoods that the majority of the homes, Dove Meadows, all the homes suffered, all of them, just like Bayridge. But city staff working through governmental operations put in a tremendous amount of money and got Shellside to the point where it drains. It now is an

effective community. In fact, I think if I'm not mistaken it's off of the list now of areas of lower value or however they determine those areas so that, I think that ahead of us for Bayridge and the opportunities that it's going to afford. I think that you'll see a lot of changes and a lot of great things happen, so don't second guess this staff or this city as far as what actions are going to be taken in the future. Again, to repeat what was said earlier, it's not going to happen overnight but I believe in my heart that it is going to happen. Mayor, that's all I have and I thank you again for the opportunity to speak.

Greg Gripon said good evening. In the last two weeks since Harvey we have so many people labeled heroes. I call them serving hearts. They're our first responders. They're the ones that got their boat and went out and saved lives. They're the ones that worked at the shelter. They're the ones that gave of their time for their fellow man. They're the ones that nurture and build. They're the ones that understand and have a forgiving heart. They're the ones that look for the best in people. They're the ones that stand up and serve their fellow man. They're the ones that risk their lives to help others. They're the ones who leave people better than they found them. We are so blessed with so many serving hearts in League City and our nation. It's just been unbelievable to me these last two weeks, just watching this community give so much. We are League City proud. We are League City strong. Thank you to everyone that has served.

Mayor Pat Hallisey said I'm sure I'm going to stumble over some of the things they said but let me start with two things that somebody mentioned earlier. Earlier in the week was 9/11. I hope everybody takes a moment, if you haven't already, to say a prayer for 9/11 which was a catastrophic day in the history of this country. So many lives lost. Absolute meanness of humanity sometimes comes out and bites us in the head. As Toby Keith said, we put a boot in their backside and sent them back home. We lost in the midst of this storm a very good friend to League City, Frank Accomando. Those of you who have been here a few years know the City Pharmacy, or as Mr. Smith would know is now called Chuck's on Main Street, Frank was the pharmacist there. He was the pharmacist in this town for probably close to 50 years. I often said during his lifetime, he was a unique individual. In a town that, for differing reasons at different times, finds fault with everybody. Nobody ever found fault with Frank. He was the sweetest human being I think I have ever met. He had a smile on his face. He was happy. He always had a joke. He was always happy to see you when you came into his establishment and he was happy to see you anywhere around town. It was a big loss. His wife, Roslyn, was a former city council woman here. She served at a time when I thought that this town was under assault and you know, Roslyn, anybody that knows her, she's kind of a no-nonsense girl, she'll kind of tell you how things ar. But I'll tell you what, Frank supported her in every single thing and propped her up no matter what the cause was here in town. We're going to miss Frank. We know that he's in a better place and he's living in God's grace and we want Roslyn to know that we're all thinking of her and Frank may be gone but he's certainly not forgotten. He's that special a person. My message to everybody has been over the last couple of weeks to hang in there. We

got dealt a rough hand. We really did. It's the worst I've ever seen in my years here, but I've got to tell you something and it's been said here tonight, but when I went out and spoke to people in the shelters that weren't sure where their next meal was coming from, didn't know where they were going to be spending the night from one night to the next. I saw an enormous amount of compassion coming out of this community for people that were not doing as well as they did. Food getting dropped off. The distribution center, it was a God thing, it just happened. People started bringing food down there so we could feed those less fortunate in our community. They started bringing clothes so that we could clothe people in our community. They started taking care of their neighbors. As I drive through the neighborhoods, I see neighbors pitching in at everybody's front yard. I can't help but believe that as bad of an event as it has been, there is a silver lining and the silver lining is the absolute generosity of mankind in this community standing up for their neighbors. The generosity of people around Texas sending supplies down here. The generosity of people in this country. I mean, we probably had 20 tractor trailers from all over the United States coming and they're still coming, even to the point that we're not sure what we're going to do with everything. But we held each other up and people come to me and they say how are you doing? Are you okay? Do you have the energy? And my answer is standard, how could you not be raised up by the people in this community and the actions that they've taken. I say this all the time, the measure of a community is what you do during your darkest hours and this community rose to that occasion. They helped one another. They continue to help one another. We're going to get through this. We're going to have a better time. There are a lot of people out of their homes. I mentioned earlier that they county is working with us to try to get a program where we can get the governor and FEMA all on the same page, that we can get money to get people back in their homes who are out. Work projects. We hope by the end of the week we have an answer about that. We've had all the big shots in and out of this area down here to take a look, to see the devastation that took place. But the thing they saw the most, and Larry's right, is the people who live here that are taking care. I had some fun experiences over the weekend that I want to share with you. I did go to Bayridge. There was a girl I went to high school with who called me up to tell me how bad it was and I said I want to come and she said I don't know, it might not be safe for you out here and I said no, I want to come. I want to be there. People are hurting, I get that. I know what that means. So when I got out to Bayridge Park, everybody was standing around and I said can all of you sit under that shade tree over there and just relax and I'll stand over here on the other side of the curb and the way I see it, it gives me a four leap advantage to get to my truck if you come to shoot me. They didn't do that. We knew, John, Greg Gripon and I were there together, and we knew that people were hurting. We knew that there was fear in their eyes, they didn't know where their next meal was coming to in a lot of cases. We knew that they didn't know where they were going to be spending the night. We felt the pain. We made some commitments to do some things out there, just like we're going to make in Dove Meadows, and just like we're going to make in the Park on Clear Creek and back in the back of Clear Creek Village, and Bay Colony, which was hit terrifically hard. That's what we do on

the backside of this. Young Ryan Edgehill, sitting back there, who is our Emergency Management Coordinator, led it all. Stand up, Ryan, let everybody see you. We're proud of you. You did a great job. And the Fire Department that's back there, the Fire Chief and Fire Marshal, stand up and let everybody see who you are and first responders. Jody Hooks sent out dump trucks to rescue people in my neighborhood and while I was flooded in I saw all these elderly ladies down the street from me standing in the back of a dump truck getting out of that neighborhood and thank God that Jody was there. We are always proud of our Police Department. They and the Fire Department and the EMS and Public Works are the first responders in this community. They were out. Everybody was out on water rescues. That first night was unbelievable what they were doing. You couldn't help but be proud of every single one of them. They put their own lives in harm's way to save people in this community and that says a lot right there. They weren't sit around and do-nothing people, they were hard-working people. So, first responders, we're always proud of you. We give you a big applause for the good job that you did. The staff at City Hall was up here working. Our Human Resources Director was out in the middle of the storm. Where is Ms. Shirley at, is she here tonight? She's only about 4'11" so somebody was always close to her so she didn't get caught up in the whirlwind but she was out there. Our Finance Director, Rebecca Underhill, was out there all night and we're proud of her as well. Paul Menzies, our Planning Director, was part of the strike force that was meeting at the EOC. I always say of Ryan Edgehill back there, how could you stand in a room with that many A type personalities who are take charge and still get through it and make something happen. This community was safe so we're proud of all of them. The distribution center is closing down this week. It's store front will be closing down, I think, by the end of the week. It's time for the social service agencies throughout the county maybe to pick up the slack. We have a lot of product there. I want to encourage anybody within League City that still needs water, baby foods, baby diapers and that sort of thing, or around the county, please, Saturday we will be open all day. We're open from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. the rest of the week. It's there for you. I'm not sure if I said that at Bayridge the other day but I hope you'll take that back to them because Councilman Gripon and I and Daniel Henn and Mrs. Gripon travelled every street at Bayridge handing out water and supplies to people that were in need of it Sunday. I figured if they let me get out there without beating me down too bad that I'd come back and they were very gracious when we got back, I'm joking. We also got behind City Hall here, Greg reminded me that was a neighborhood that was built for teachers back in the 1940's and 1950's. A lot of destruction there. We made it through the Oaks of Clear Creek and I'm hoping that we will continue to make these neighborhood runs because that's really where people need the help. I have to tell you that I couldn't be prouder of our faith community. Every church, every minister, I've seen through this ordeal had people out mucking houses, tearing out houses. We have a faith community group that meets on a regular basis in this town and our first meeting they said to me, we just want you to know we'll be there if anything happens to this community and I really didn't get the gist of that at the time, but I sure get it now. At times like this, no matter who you pray to, a lot of us pray to God and our churches take

people and they live a Christ-like attitude and it doesn't matter what religion you come from, there is somebody in that religion that exemplifies that, that you take care of your neighbors, you take care of your brothers is the battle cry. You take care of you neighbors because it's the League City way. Take care of your neighbors because that's the Galveston County way. Take care of your neighbors because that's the Texas way. And if you look at history, you take care of your neighbors because that is the American way and even more important to that, it's God's way. It's important that we show the world that we are a beacon of light in the midst of the destruction we've been through. I tell everybody, tell a story. We all know a funny story about the storm. We've been through the bad part, we don't have to remember it but we can remember the humorous times. And take care of one another. I couldn't be prouder of this community. I've been bragging about it for the last two weeks. It just comes out of me now, I don't even have to think about it. My hat's off to everybody in this community. Good job. Better days are ahead of us. Let's get to them, the future is in front of us and we're not going to slow down. One thing about the reserves, we did spend down a lot of reserves, no doubt about that. We hope we're going to get about 75 to 90 percent of that back from the federal government. Ms. Underhill and her little band of number crunchers over there keep tabs of everything, so hopefully those reserves will start to get rebuilt up. We're going to talk about tax rates tonight.

Everybody that was up here mentioning about the appraised values. We had a meeting today about that and got a better understanding of it. We had a meeting with Judge Henry and the Lt. Governor last Wednesday on the subject of how that works, so I think we're going to do everything we can, everybody can make their own comments, everything we can to help you through this the best way we possibly can. One thing you're not going to get is tagged with tax increases and all that. It's just not going to happen. We feel the pain of the community. Some of us up here got water in our houses too so we are like many of you and we're going to get through it. Just hold your head up high. You live in proud community, a generous community, a God-fearing community and hallelujah to everybody. We're all League City proud. We're all League City strong. Trash trucks are in the neighborhoods. Be patient. They are going to get to you. We're not going anywhere else. They've done a good job in the neighborhoods that they're in. It's a slow process but they will get to you. With that said, John, there's nothing else for you to say. I've got to tell you a cute story. I got a call this morning from a friend of mine in town. He was telling me his story about the storm. He said he went by the distribution center and he said I saw somebody in a dumpster over there digging down in the dumpster and I thought well maybe they are in there trying to see if there was any food or anything else. He said I got over there and this face and shiny head popped up out from all the trash in the dumpster and it was John Baumgartner. John's not only been a great leader for us, and he has, and he's inspired his troops to greatness, but he is a workaholic. He just can't sit still. He's breaking down boxes. He's working getting people clothes over at the shelter. I don't know when he sleeps. He's an energizer bunny. He's an inspiration to all that come around him and I'm proud of John. I think he did a great job in this storm. He led us through with a steady hand. I might have been just a little bit emotional a time or two but John is always straight and narrow. John, you did a great job and we're proud of you and we're proud to have you here.

9. REPORTS FROM STAFF MEMBERS

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

John Baumgartner, City Manager, said thank you, Mr. Mayor, for the kind words. I wasn't looking for food. I was trying to maximize the amount of garbage we can get in the dumpster. As many of us know, Republic has had their hands full and getting a dumpster changed out has been a little bit difficult and the donation center was being filled with waste material and so I was just trying to squeeze a little more in there is all I was doing. Moving forward, the City Manager is only as good as the people that work for him. I've got a great team of people that work for me. None of this we do by ourselves. I want to say thank you to all the directors and all the employees for the City of League City and as we move forward I would like to announce a couple of new hands that are joining us or that joined us last week. The first one is Kylie Wilson. She's our new Assistant to the City Manager. She has over 20 years of local government experience. She's worked for the City of Missouri City, the City of Georgetown, as well as the City of Baytown, where she retired from in 2015 as an Assistant Director. Most recently she served as a collaboration manager for Strategic Government Resources. She received her MBA along with a graduate certificate in executive coaching from Bellevue University and her Bachelor of Science from Texas A&M University. She has vast experience in government relations, strategic and event planning, community and employee engagement and customer service excellence. She loves RV camping with her husband and son, deer hunting, fishing in Alaska and college football. Let's welcome Kylie to the League City team. The second new position is our new Director of Communications, Jennifer Banks. Jennifer comes to the City of League City with over 14 years of experience in communications. Most recently she worked for the City of Pasadena for more than 10 years during which time she won 20 international awards for excellence in communication. Jennifer has a double major at Stephen F. Austin University and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in both journalism and psychology. She has a passion for public service, a vision for the department and a hands-on, can-do enthusiasm for the job. She also has a passion for traveling as well as a borderline obsession with cheering on the Houston Astros. Please help me welcome Jennifer to the League City team, also. I'll try to go pretty quick over a few things, some of which have been said. The donation center that the Mayor talked about has been a tremendous success. Last week we had 200 to 300 volunteers everyday working in the donation center. We served 1,000 families a day for eight days. As the Mayor said, the last date it is scheduled to be open is Saturday. It'll be open from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. We're getting deliveries every day. I think we have a delivery from Mississippi due in on Friday and so we'll need the volunteers that can come and help us get that product out on the shelf so our last day we can get it distributed where it needs to go back into the community.

And again, the volunteers have been doing tremendous job keeping that center going with tremendous passion. Some of the folks have been out there every day that it's been open. They were out there on Sunday when it was closed. They were out there on Monday when it was closed and again today 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. the rest of the week. It's a tremendous outreach at the community. Those who need anything please make the stop by. Again, it's open from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. today through Friday and then 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Saturday. The Bayridge neighborhood, Bay Colony, Dove Meadow, Park at Clear Creek, Clear Creek Village and a number of the other community neighborhoods throughout the community, tragic devastation. We, staff are committed to trying to look particularly at the Bayridge neighborhood for specific improvement. The neighborhood's built with a berm or dike around it, maybe to protect is from storm surge, holds in the water during the high level rain events. We're committed to working with the engineering community and bringing forward a proposal to look at that and see if there is a solution whether that's pumping, overflow weirs, or something like that. Next week, the Dickinson Bayou Watershed Steering Committee meets. One of the topics on their agenda is the Hurricane Harvey flooding. All of that transcends into all these neighborhoods, particularly Bayridge, Bay Colony, Dove Meadows. Those drainage systems are influenced no matter what goes on in Dickinson Bayou. That's probably a longer range effort to determine what we can do to help address the volume of water and the height of the flooding that occurs in Dickinson Bayou and then gets transcended up and down the water shed and the different bayous that tie into that. The Park at Clear Creek and Clear Creek Village are a little bit harder. I think if we look at the flood, the numbers I saw, is the flooding on Clear Creek well exceeded the 500-year event. It exceeded every event since the 1970's except for Claudette. It was within half a foot of what Claudette's elevation was but it was 16 1/2 feet at I45 and it exceeded every other rain event, Ike, Alicia, and all those events and so it's a challenge to make much of a difference in that water shed but we're committed to certainly looking at that and continuing to move forward with that. Solid waste, I know many of the citizens are frustrated with the Republic Service. Republic is hit hard by the storm event also. They had employees that are impacted. They have equipment that was impacted. They've rolled in equipment and drivers from other states. They don't know the route as well. I ask the community to continue to be patient. If you haven't had trash pickup for three weeks, I certainly understand the frustration as it gets worse and worse. We will try to work through each one of those on an individual basis to make sure that there's some trash pickup. I think Republic is in my estimate running about 80 percent of what they should be and neighborhoods get missed, they get picked up the next day and then there's a few neighborhoods that they can't get in to, or frankly, drivers didn't know they were there. If we don't know that it didn't get picked up, it's difficult for us to address so please be patient. Call me or call Donna Ofsanko. She'll continue to work through that. Bo Bass, he's in the middle of the trash stuff. Lastly, I'd like to bring Bo up here to talk about the debris removal process, where we stand today, where we are going forward with that and just spend a few minutes on that. Thank you, Bo.

Bo Bass, Assistant City Manager, said thank you, John. Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem, Madam Secretary, members of the Council, good evening. As John stated, he covered a couple of the stats I wanted to cover but I want to tell everybody about the magnitude of the events when you put it in perspective. No excuses, just facts. Every major water course in this region, and League City is not an exception, have flood gauge stations that judge and measure on a regular basis the surface water elevation, how high the water is. At the one that John mentioned, Clear Creek and IH45, the engineers also calculate what the 100-year event is and what the 500-year event is and those are expressions of probability but not expressions of frequency or periodicity, so how probable an event is that will create a water surface elevation increase of X or Y. At this gauge on Clear Creek and IH45, the 100-year storm event is calculated to be 12.4 feet of water. The 500 event is supposed to be 15.2 feet of water. On Tuesday, the 29th at 11:00 o'clock in the morning, that gauge was reading 16.51 feet of water, so clearly we had in excess of a 500-year event. I don't think there's any question about that and I've heard numbers that far exceed that banded around. So, Dickinson Bayou experienced historic levels of increase as well as Clear Creek did. A combination of a bit of surge, not major surge, but certainly surge had an impact, and then 49 to 52 inches of rain. It is what it is. Independent of that, I also want to tell you about the impact on homes. Director Menzies and his team, shortly after the event calmed down, went out and put eyes on every major subdivision and every minor subdivision in the city to determine what level of damage was out there. They've calculated, plus or minus a few, 7,700 homes have some measure of impact from the storm event. Of that, 1,450 are major impact. That's a house that they deem to have at least 18 inches of water in it. So think about it, we have a little over 33,000 homes in the City of League City. About 23 percent of those, almost 25 percent have been affected by this storm in terms of surge and rainfall. Of that 25 percent, 19 percent are major homes and you know where all their belongings are right now, they're in their front yards and it looks bad and it tugs on your heart but I can guarantee you that the City of League City was prescient in the fact that they went ahead and bid last year on contracts for debris removal and bid contracts for monitoring because it's a two-part process. You've got to have somebody that will get out there with the proper equipment, pick all that construction debris off, take it to an authorized regulated landfill, but important to getting FEMA reimbursement or positioning ourselves for that, either the 90 percent or the 75 or whatever it may be, FEMA requires by policy that all these loads be monitored. Not only how much of a load but what material is in the load. So when you have heard the City time and time again through various media outlets saying hey, please do your best to separate construction storm debris from household garbage and white goods such as appliances and otherwise, we've done that because FEMA has very specific guidelines on what these debris haulers can haul. So what you see is you're seeing trucks going through the neighborhoods, and we've triaged the neighborhoods. John's mentioned and I'm going to mention them again, we made the decision that based on Director Menzies's team's effort, to prioritize Bayridge, Bay Colony, Dove Meadow, Clear Creek Village and the Park at

Clear Creek. That's where all the trucks have been since the start and that's where they will be until those neighborhoods are knocked out. After that point, we will pick some logical method by which we will progress through the city and get it done. Also, just order of magnitude, 7,700 homes, right now they're averaging about 38 to 40 cubic yards per home. If you just did the extreme math on it, the upper and worse-case scenario, we're talking over 150 million pounds of debris, over 308,000 cubic yards of debris. Divide that into 30 or 40 cubic yard roll offs, the big blue boxes you see hauled all over the place right now, and it's thousands and thousands of those roll offs so again, no excuses, just facts. It's a big thing and everybody's on it. In terms of the contracts, the monitoring process, the City of League City was again in front of everything, of which all the cities in the region weren't, and they have contracted in advance with Crowder Gulf. That's the company that's out there pulling the trucks around and grappling all the material up and putting it in the bins, and also Tetra Tech. Tetra Tech is the company that's going to make it good between us, Crowder Gulf, and FEMA, as far as payment and repayment go. So we're talking again, Councilman Dugie mentioned estimates as high as 7 million, hopefully it'll be less than that but it's going to be millions of dollars because it's not only the cost to pick the debris up but it's also the cost to tip it or dump it at the landfill plus you've got to pay for Tetra Tech. So when you get down to it, there's a bunch of components that make it for a very big bill. Current activity, Crowder Gulf as of today as ten trucks. That's six trucks that have those double boxes on them that are going through the five subdivisions. There are two trucks that are hauling nothing but what they call "white goods". "White goods" are appliances such as refrigerators and microwaves and those kinds of things because again, those things have to be specifically accounted for and monitored for FEMA purposes. And they have two trucks doing household hazardous waste. Now that is, by FEMA standards, that's paint, that's pesticides, that's bleach, that's anything that you probably put in your garage that got wet that has some type of lethal aspect to it or at least a dangerous aspect to it. Tomorrow they are going to have eleven trucks. They're going to have seven that are going to be construction debris. You know, the basic bits and pieces of your home, the sheetrock, the carpet, etc. Next week, 14 trucks. It doesn't sound like a lot but again, no excuse, fact. Right now, please understand that the entire region is competing for a finite supply of these drivers and these trucks and guess where a lot of them went a couple of days ago? They went to the east coast to see what was going to happen in Florida. That event, knock on wood, it looks bad and it's terrible and I'm glad I'm not there, but a lot of those drivers have turned back to return to this area so we're going to see over time an increased number of trucks in League City because League City is big customer and again, we pre-negotiated those contracts in advance. City forces, Jody Hooks has his team, a couple of dump trucks as well as rubber wheel loaders with grapples on the front, going out initially to all of our bar ditches because we've got storm debris in the ditches, along with people with all the good intent in the world, putting construction debris, some of that has slipped into the bar ditches so we have crews out working that as well as working our public sites such as our parks and other facilities. Forecast, it's hard to say. Immediately after the event we had a briefing with our contractors and they said

that classically the first pass, the first all total coverage of the city can easily last two and a half to four weeks. It's probably going to last a little more because the damage in these five subdivisions is horrific and in terms of the total of quantities because instead of it being 20 to 30 cubic yards on average that we see in these events, we're looking at again 40 to 50, so it's going to take probably upwards of five maybe a little more weeks to get the first pass done. Once that's done, they will go through and do a second pass and if necessary they will do a third pass. So ultimately all that material will be out of our lawns, out of our front yards and in the landfills in appropriate locations. So that's where we are. You can contact me directly if you have any questions about timing of debris or actions of a driver or any of those kinds of things. I guarantee you that the City Council has directed the City Manager has directed the city staff to get this done as quick as we can, so I thank you. As far as recycle, we could have continued the recycling process but quite frankly, Republic Services because of issues with labor and issues with equipment, we made the command decision to postpone recycle. Recycling will postponed or discontinued until we can get ahead of this thing and once we can we'll be back on cycle.

- 9A. [17-0529](#) Presentation of the Investment Report of the City of League City for the quarter ended June 30, 2017 (Assistant City Manager)
- The report was presented by Rebecca Underhill.
- 9B. [17-0535](#) Presentation of the Financial Report for Quarter Ended June 30, 2017 (Assistant City Manager)
- The report was presented by Rebecca Underhill.
- 9C. [17-0519](#) Report on certified tax roll, certified estimate of collection rate, certified excess debt collections, and effective tax rate and rollback rate calculations (Assistant City Manager)
- The report was presented by Rebecca Underhill.

10. **CONSENT AGENDA**

Approval of the Consent Agenda

Agenda Item 10G was pulled by Mr. Becker.

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

For: 8 - Mayor Hallisey, Mr. Becker, Mr. Dugie, Mr. Millican, Mr. Kinsey, Mr. Gripon, Mr. Gross and Mr. Long

- 10A. [17-0540](#) Consider and take action on a resolution authorizing a one-year agreement with DBS Texas-Houston for recreation program shirts and uniforms in the amount not to exceed \$86,672 (Director of Parks & Cultural Services)
- Approved on the Consent Agenda - Resolution No. 2017-137

- 10B. [17-0541](#) Consider and take action on a resolution authorizing a one-year agreement with American Janitorial Services, Ltd for city-wide janitorial services in the amount not to exceed \$253,752 (Director of Parks and Cultural Services)
- Approved on the Consent Agenda - Resolution No. 2017-138**
- 10C. [17-0539](#) Consider and take action on a resolution authorizing a two-year service agreement with Sirsi Corporation, doing business as SirsiDynix, to migrate and host the operating system server of the Helen Hall Library's integrated library system (ILS) through October 31, 2019, in an amount not to exceed \$128,400 (Director of Parks & Cultural Services and Director of Information Technology)
- Approved on the Consent Agenda - Resolution No. 2017-139**
- 10D. [17-0552](#) Consider and take action on a resolution authorizing an Interlocal Agreement with Harris County regarding the shared use of the Public Safety Radio System for League City and Harris County (Director of Information Technology)
- Approved on the Consent Agenda - Resolution No. 2017-140**
- 10E. [17-0490](#) Consider and take action on a resolution authorizing a five-year agreement with Aqua-Metric Sales Company for software services and equipment maintenance in an amount not to exceed \$395,000 (Assistant City Manager)
- Approved on the Consent Agenda - Resolution No. 2017-141**
- 10F. [17-0550](#) Consider and take action on a resolution authorizing a contract renewal with Acescapes for Manicured Mowing Services from October 1, 2017 to September 30, 2018 in an amount not to exceed \$257,556 (Interim Director of Public Works)
- Approved on the Consent Agenda - Resolution No. 2017-142**
- 10H. [17-0548](#) Consider and take action on a resolution accepting a Water Line Easement conveyance from A-S 126 SH 96 - Hobbs Road, L. P. associated with the proposed Marketplace at 96 South commercial development (Interim City Engineer)
- Approved on the Consent Agenda - Resolution No. 2017-144**
- 10I. [17-0558](#) Consider and take action on a resolution ratifying an agreement with Tetra Tech, Inc. for debris monitoring and financial recovery services (Fire Chief)
- Approved on the Consent Agenda - Resolution No. 2017-145**
- 10J. [17-0549](#) Consider and take action on Ordinance No. 2017-22 amending the Future Land Use Plan component of the City of League City's Comprehensive Plan - Second Reading (Director of Planning and Development)
- Council approved first reading 7-0-0 with one absent on August 22, 2017.
- Approved on the Consent Agenda - Ordinance No. 2017-22 Second Reading**

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

11. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA**10G. 17-0543**

Consider and take action on a resolution authorizing sanitary sewer line extension agreements with four property owners to serve residential properties located on or adjacent to the 2500 Block of Leisure Lane (Interim City Engineer)

A motion was made by Mr. Becker, seconded by Mr. Long to approve Resolution No. 2017-143 authorizing sanitary sewer line extension agreements with four property owners to serve residential properties located on or adjacent to the 2500 Block of Leisure Lane, with the revision that the property owners pay 100% of the cost of this improvement to their properties versus the 90% called out in the agenda item. The motion passed by the following vote:

For: 6 - Mayor Hallisey, Mr. Becker, Mr. Dugie, Mr. Gripon, Mr. Gross and Mr. Long

Opposed: 2 - Mr. Millican and Mr. Kinsey

12. OLD BUSINESS**12A. 17-0556**

Consider and take action on Ordinance 2017-21 adopting the Annual Budget for Governmental and Proprietary Funds for Fiscal Year 2018 - Second Reading (Assistant City Manager)

Council approved 5-2-0 with 1 absent on August 22, 2017.

A motion was made by Mr. Millican, seconded by Mr. Kinsey, to approve Ordinance No. 2017-21 adopting the Annual Budget for Governmental and Proprietary Funds for Fiscal Year 2018, Second Reading.

A motion to amend was made by Mr. Dugie, seconded by Mr. Long, to approve a budget incorporating a tax rate of \$0.565, using no reserves and tasking staff to address the CIP reduction to make that happen. The motion to amend passed by the following vote:

For: 5 - Mayor Hallisey, Mr. Becker, Mr. Dugie, Mr. Gross and Mr. Long

Opposed: 3 - Mr. Millican, Mr. Kinsey and Mr. Gripon

The amended motion to approve the ordinance adopting the budget passed by the following vote:

For: 6 - Mayor Hallisey, Mr. Becker, Mr. Dugie, Mr. Kinsey, Mr. Gross and Mr. Long

Opposed: 2 - Mr. Millican and Mr. Gripon

13. NEW BUSINESS**13A. 17-0557**

Consider and take action on a resolution ratifying the property tax increase in the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Operating Budget (Assistant City Manager)

Ms. Underhill said we are making an adjustment to the number that is in the data sheet. That number will reduce to \$3.45 million from \$3.8 million which is in your data sheet.

A motion was made by Mr. Long, seconded by Mr. Dugie, to approve Resolution No. 2017-146 ratifying the property tax increase in the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Operating Budget. The motion passed by the following vote:

For: 7 - Mayor Hallisey, Mr. Becker, Mr. Dugie, Mr. Kinsey, Mr. Gripon, Mr. Gross and Mr. Long

Opposed: 1 - Mr. Millican

13B. [17-0518](#)

Consider and take action on the 2017 proposed ad valorem tax rate (fiscal year October 1, 2017 to September 30, 2018) of \$0.57. The tax rate will be adopted as an action item at a future meeting. (Assistant City Manager)

A motion was made by Mr. Dugie, seconded by Mr. Long, to approve a proposed ad valorem tax rate of \$0.565 to be adopted as an action item at a future meeting.

Ms. Underhill reminded the Council that that rate will require two public hearings. The public hearings will be held on September 21, and on September 26. The vote will be held on October 3.

The motion passed by the following vote:

For: 6 - Mayor Hallisey, Mr. Becker, Mr. Dugie, Mr. Kinsey, Mr. Gross and Mr. Long

Opposed: 2 - Mr. Millican and Mr. Gripon

13C. [17-0551](#)

Consider and take action on a resolution for a construction contract with SER Construction Partners, LLC for the Dallas Salmon WWTP Effluent Discharge Improvements (WW1601) and the North Kansas Avenue Street Reconstruction (RE1702A) Project, in the amount of \$6,994,382.50, authorization of a Work Change Directive budget in the amount of \$699,440, and authorization of a Construction Material Testing Services budget in the amount of \$209,830 for a total of \$7,903,653.50
(Interim Director of Public Works)

A motion was made by Mr. Becker, seconded by Mr. Kinsey, to approve Resolution No. 2017-147 for a construction contract with SER Construction Partners, LLC for the Dallas Salmon WWTP Effluent Discharge Improvements and the North Kansas Avenue Street Reconstruction Project in the amount of \$6,994,382.50, authorization of a Work Change Directive budget in the amount of \$699,440, and authorization of a Construction Material Testing Services budget in the amount of \$209,830 for a total of \$7,903,653.50. The motion passed by the following vote:

For: 8 - Mayor Hallisey, Mr. Becker, Mr. Dugie, Mr. Millican, Mr. Kinsey, Mr. Gripon, Mr. Gross and Mr. Long

14. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES

14A. [17-0526](#)

Consider and take action on an ordinance amending Article 1, of Chapter 106 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of League City, entitled "Taxation", by adding a new section 106-5 relating to an ad valorem tax freeze for residential homestead property owners who are disabled or 65 years or older (Council Member Long and Council Member Becker)

A motion was made by Mr. Long, seconded by Mr. Becker, to approve Ordinance No. 2017-23 amending Article 1 of Chapter 106 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of League City, entitled "Taxation", by adding a new section 106-5 relating to an ad valorem tax freeze for residential homestead property owners who are disabled or 65 years or older. The motion passed by the following vote:

For: 8 - Mayor Hallisey, Mr. Becker, Mr. Dugie, Mr. Millican, Mr. Kinsey, Mr. Gripon, Mr. Gross and Mr. Long

- 14B. [17-0534](#) Consider and take action on an ordinance amending the City of League City, Texas, Governmental, Proprietary, and Capital Funds Budget for Fiscal Year 2017 by amending Ordinance No. 2016-30, Ordinance No. 2017-02, Ordinance No. 2017-09, and Ordinance No. 2017-17 to adjust the operating and capital budget for actual and projected expenditures (Assistant City Manager)

Staff requests first and final reading.

A motion was made by Mr. Long, seconded by Mr. Becker, that this ordinance be approved on first and final reading . The motion passed by the following vote:

For: 8 - Mayor Hallisey, Mr. Becker, Mr. Dugie, Mr. Millican, Mr. Kinsey, Mr. Gripon, Mr. Gross and Mr. Long

At 9:21 p.m. Mayor Hallisey adjourned the meeting and immediately reconvened for the vote on approval of this item.

A motion was made by Mr. Long, seconded by Mr. Becker, to approve Ordinance No. 2017-24 amending the City of League City, Texas, Governmental, Proprietary, and Capital Funds Budget for Fiscal Year 2017 by amending Ordinance No. 2016 30, Ordinance No. 2017 02, Ordinance No. 2017 09, and Ordinance No. 2017 17 to adjust the operating and capital budget for actual and projected expenditures. The motion passed by the following vote:

For: 7 - Mayor Hallisey, Mr. Becker, Mr. Dugie, Mr. Kinsey, Mr. Gripon, Mr. Gross and Mr. Long

Absent: 1 - Mr. Millican

15. **TABLED ITEMS SUBJECT TO RECALL**
16. **ITEMS ADDED AFTER ELECTRONIC AGENDA COMPLETED**
17. **EXECUTIVE(CLOSED) SESSION(S)**
18. **ACTION ITEM(S) FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION(S)**
19. **ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:24 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: November 14, 2017