



City of League City, TX

300 West Walker
League City TX 77573

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, July 28, 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 except Mr. Long. Mr. Kinsey and Mr. Gripon attended remotely.

Absent 1 - Mr. Nick Long

Present 7 - Mayor Pat Hallisey, Mr. Andy Mann, Mr. Hank Dugie, Mr. Larry Millican, Mr. Todd Kinsey, Mr. Greg Gripon and Mr. Chad Tressler

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

The invocation was given by Dr. Billy Watson of The Watershed Church. Mayor Hallisey led in the pledges of allegiance to the flags

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3A. 20-0288 June 9, 2020 Council Work Session

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

4. PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, AWARDS, AND COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

4A. 20-0301 Presentation of a proclamation in recognition of Mary Proudly (Mayor Hallisey)

4B. 20-0276 Administer Oath of Office to new League City Volunteer Firefighter Academy graduates (Mayor Hallisey)

Mayor Hallisey administered the oath of office.

4C. 20-0287 Presentation of “Life Saving Award” plaque to Justin Thomas (Chief of Police)

Gary Ratliff, Chief of Police, presented the award.

4D. 20-0296 Report from the Parks Board (Mayor Hallisey)

The report was given by Garet Nenninger.

4E. 20-0297 Report from Emergency Turnaround Task Force (Mayor Hallisey)

The report was given by David Johnson.

4F. 20-0302 Report from Dickinson Bayou Watershed Steering Committee (Mayor Hallisey)

Council Member Hank Dugie gave the 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.

Sarah Greer Osborne, Director of Communications, read public comments from online submittals:

NAME	SUBJECT
Michelle Renee	We need to do better
Glen Erickson	Construction on Butler Turner Project
Rose Emerson	Street leveling in Dove Meadows
Kristina Longoria	Calder Road
Raymond Bartels	Ghirardi House Status
Charles Franks	Hobbs Road Traffic-Speeding & Noise

Citizens Appearing before Council:

Annette Conwell	Butler Longhorn Museum/Ghirardi House
Monica Hughes	Museum
John Bowen	Candidacy
Kay Bramlett	Kansas St. culverts
Tiffanie Harris	New Construction/flood concerns

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 – no comments

Andy Mann – no comments

Hank Dugie – no comments

Larry Millican – no comments

Greg Gripon – no comments

Chad Tressler – no comments

Mayor Hallisey – A couple of things. I've been talking to Mr. Baumgartner for a while about this agreement, as it relates to the Ghirardi House. I think we're in agreement we need to move. We need to do something or get out of the business. There's a lot of chirping about whether we should or should not be in the museum business. I happen to be one that thinks the history, all great cities preserve a piece of their history, so those that come here know what the city has gone through to make it. We let a lot of that go. The Historical Commission does a little bit, but really the biggest part of our history is locked into Walter Hall's old house, which is the Butler Longhorn Museum today. Probably safe to say, John's comment to me today was well we haven't got it on a council agenda. I said no, we haven't. And I think he intends to get this on, am I correct in saying that? You are intending to get this on a council agenda? Sometime, maybe two weeks at the earliest. The Ghirardi House has been, for this city, I would agree it's an embarrassment. Twenty years of sitting out there watching it deteriorate. Nothing happening, all the great plans just never got going for whatever the reasons were, but Kevin Holland and his partner stepped up to finish the work. The work has been done. Certainly, came in at a lot less money than the half-million dollars, the first estimate that was done on it, which, we're still not sure where that came from, but they did it, nonetheless. My guess is that probably it still needs to be painted and we need to make some decisions. We set aside some money for that to happen, and I don't want to make excuses, but whether it's COVID-19 or whatever the last emergency was, we get a little bit sidelined with things that are a little higher priority. But we understand the frustration of those that are on the board. John's committed, I would say, probably in the next couple of weeks there will be some discussion, and hopefully it will be on the agenda. If the council decides not to do it, which I've always said would be a bit of a shame because this city has spent an enormous amount of money out there to preserve that house. Mrs. Ghirardi paid \$20,000 to have it moved to the site. The city didn't pay a nickel. It's motel-hotel tax money that has restored it, at least the parts that are there. I don't know we ever thought past the fact that the Butler Longhorn Museum would take that over for us, and I think there was a lot of discussion about that, but there may be some differences of opinion. Hang in there with us while we iron those out, and we will try to get you an answer in the next couple of weeks, because I share your frustration.

I would say that I talk about a lot of this stuff on Mondays with the Mayor, if you watch your Internet at all, but sometimes equally as important, and may be even more important, is Sarah Greer Osborne's show on Wednesday, which is Lunch and Learn. You can ask questions about what's going on at the city. You can call in with your questions and they'll read them online and try to get you answers right on the spot. I do want to congratulate Sarah. She has done a really good job of getting our public presentation out there. You know, we've got all kinds of informational things that happen, the Lunch and Learn, Mondays with the Mayor, and we also have an enormous amount of public hearings on every issue from A to Z. And most of them of recent time have been updates on where we are on the bond funds, the \$72 million for drainage in this town and the \$73 million for roads in this town. And so, for people who want to keep up with that, there are weekly shows that talk about that, that are interactive, that can get your questions. I don't remember in all my years here, that I have ever seen a public body do more to promote what it's doing in public and doing it in a lot of different forms. We don't move as fast as anybody would like us to move, but government inherently is a slow-moving process no matter what level you're at. But we share your frustration. There are a lot of us up here who think decisions should have been made on the Ghirardi House, on the ditches that are going to be done first, and the roads that are going to be built first, and let's get down the road. Because as we learned the other night in the budget meeting, when we finish the roads and drainage, and the Ghirardi House, and the other small projects that we have, we have a library standing in line that wants to expand. We have a Parks Department that wants to expand to the west side. We have a Police Department that wants to expand, and we have a Fire Department that wants to move Fire Station 1 into the complex. That's about \$75 to \$80 million worth of public projects. We have not made decisions yet about whether those will be bond issues where you'll have a chance to vote or whether we'll do them with certificates of obligation. But pressure is mounting. Everybody wants their stuff done and they want it done pretty quick. And so, I think what that does for us is that forces us to create a priority list. And we're going to have to knuckle down and we're going to have to make decisions on how things are going. And all this is happening while we're trying to recover from this pandemic. We have businesses that are hurting. We're still growing, and sales taxes, basically, are up. They're not up where we anticipated, but they're up. And I don't suspect that taxes will go down. They're not going to go up, that's for sure. It's a pretty conservative group up here that feels that way. Just know that we're bombarded with a lot of projects. We are as interested in getting done, each and everyone one of them, as probably anybody who comes to talk to us. I know I talked to Monica about this maybe a month or two ago. So, I know it's not a new question, but it does deserve an answer. So, we're going to do what we can to get that answer to you. And we are aware, they left, the people from Loch Lomond. We're aware what goes on there, as well. The only other thing I would say is I want to call attention to the fact that Congressman John Lewis passed away. It may not be important to everybody in the world, but to those who fight and have fought for years for injustices in this country, he was certainly a champion of that. And it seems, best I can tell, to be well-respected on both

sides of the fence. It didn't matter whether you were a Democrat or a Republican, he was one of those people that put service above his personal party politics. He's the kind of guy we need more of, and I'm sure we will get more as time goes on.

8. REPORTS FROM STAFF MEMBERS

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

John Baumgartner – I have a couple of brief announcements before we have a couple of formal presentations. I would like to thank the public for their comments. We've got some work to do. I think the plus is we're out there doing stuff. The negative is that we have impacted some of the residents, so we'll take a look at that, Kansas Street, Calder, Hobbs Road, etc. We'll get Christopher Sims and a staff member in contact with the folks that there's some questions about that. And then the other thing, just want to make a quick announcement, we're in the midst of our budget process. August 11th is a public hearing, as is August 25th and that's when we start making decisions on tax rate and final up the budget, so certainly the public is invited to those public hearings. We've got a couple of workshops on August 4th, 10th and 17th, and so again we invite the public to come out to that.

- 8A. [20-0295](#)** Investment Advisor introduction and presentation on general strategy (Director of Finance)
- Kristine Polian** introduced **Scott Gruber** from **Meeder Public Funds** who gave the presentation.
- 8B. [20-0290](#)** Presentation of the Investment Report of the City of League City for the quarter ended March 31, 2020 (Director of Finance)
- The report was given by **Kristine Polian, Director of Finance**.
- 8C. [20-0300](#)** Update on Coronavirus Relief Fund Expenditures (Emergency Management Coordinator)
- The report was given by **Ryan Edghill, Emergency Management Coordinator**.

9. CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the Consent Agenda

Item 9D was pulled by Mr. Mann.

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

For: 7 - Mayor Hallisey, Mr. Mann, Mr. Dugie, Mr. Millican, Mr. Kinsey, Mr. Gripon and Mr. Tressler

Absent: 1 - Mr. Long

- 9A. [20-0282](#) Consider and take action on a resolution to ratify the submission of application to the Texas Fire Service Fire Department Assistance grant for the reimbursement of premiums paid for volunteer firefighter death and dismemberment insurance (Fire Chief)

Approved on the Consent Agenda - Resolution No. 2020-91

- 9B. [20-0298](#) Consider and take action on a resolution authorizing a professional services agreement with Freese and Nichols, Inc. (FNI) for design work related to The Meadows Subdivision Drainage Improvements Project, Phase 1 and Phase 2 (DR1905) in an amount not to exceed \$330,000 (Director of Engineering)

Approved on the Consent Agenda - Resolution No. 2020-92

- 9C. [20-0289](#) Consider and take action on a resolution declaring thirty-nine (39) vehicles including three (3) fire apparatus; two (2) trailers; one (1) zero-turn mower; and ten (10) heavy equipment units as surplus property and authorizing City Staff to dispose of the surplus property in accordance with City policy (Director of Public Works)

Approved on the Consent Agenda - Resolution No. 2020-93

- 9D. [20-0291](#) Consider and take action on a resolution approving the Investment Policy, Investment Strategies, List of Authorized Broker/Dealers and Safekeeping/Custodial Agents for the City of League City (Director of Finance)

**A motion was made by Mr. Mann, seconded by Mr. Dugie, that this Agenda Item be Postponed.
The motion passed by the following vote:**

For: 7 - Mayor Hallisey, Mr. Mann, Mr. Dugie, Mr. Millican, Mr. Kinsey, Mr. Gripon and Mr. Tressler

Absent: 1 - Mr. Long

- 9E. [20-0292](#) Consider and take action on a resolution authorizing the submission of a grant application to the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts to receive a share of the annual allocation from the Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education Program (LEOSE) and authorizing the Chief of Police to apply for this funding on an annual basis (Chief of Police)

Approved on the Consent Agenda - Resolution No. 2020-94

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

10. OLD BUSINESS

11. NEW BUSINESS

12. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES

- 12A. [20-0283](#) Consider and take action on an ordinance ordering a General Election for the City of League City, Texas on Tuesday, November 3, 2020 to elect Council Members to Positions 3, 4 and 5; ordering a Runoff Election on Tuesday, December 15, 2020, if necessary (City Secretary)

A motion was made by Mr. Millican, seconded by Mr. Tressler, to approve Ordinance No. 2020-19 ordering a General Election for the City of League City, Texas on Tuesday, November 3, 2020 to elect Council Members to Positions 3, 4 and 5; ordering a Runoff Election on Tuesday, December 15, 2020, if necessary. The motion passed by the following vote:

For: 7 - Mayor Hallisey, Mr. Mann, Mr. Dugie, Mr. Millican, Mr. Kinsey, Mr. Gripon and Mr. Tressler

Absent: 1 - 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 7:59 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: September 29, 2020