



City of League City, TX

300 West Walker
League City TX 77573

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, October 12, 2021

5:00 PM

Council Chambers
200 West Walker Street

Council Work Session

The City Council of the City of League City, Texas, met in a work session in Council Chambers at 200 West Walker Street on the above date at 5:00 p.m.

Mayor:

Pat Hallisey

City Council Members:

**Andy Mann
Hank Dugie
Larry Millican
John Bowen
Justin Hicks
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

Executive Director of Finance/Project Management

Angie Steelman

Director of Engineering:

Christopher Sims

Interim Director of Finance:

Deborah Jordan

Director of Human Resources/Civil Service:

James Brumm

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 5:00 p.m. and called the roll. All members of Council were present Mr. Mann arrived at 5:11. Mr. Long arrived at 5:04.

Present 8 - Mayor Pat Hallisey, Mr. Andy Mann, Mr. Hank Dugie, Mr. Larry Millican, Mr. John Bowen, Mr. Justin Hicks, Mr. Chad Tressler and Mr. Nick Long

2. REVIEW OF KEY INTERLOCAL AGREEMENTS - 1

Michael Kramm, Assistant City Manager introduced Dr. Carlene Neeley who gave the presentation.

City Manager Goal

Financial Sustainability – Host a series of work sessions identifying costs and benefits of at least ten individual interlocal agreements and consortiums, specifically including public safety by February 1, 2022. Presented to Council at two Work Sessions – October 12, 2021 and November 9, 2021

Key Interlocal Agreements – 1

- **Gulf Coast Regional Information and Dispatch (GRID) consortium**
- **Fire/EMS Mutual Aid**
- **Harris County Public Safety Radio System**
- **Galveston County Tax Office**
- **Election Services (Galveston County and Harris County)**
- **Bay Area Houston Convention and Visitors Bureau (BAHCVB)**

Gulf Coast Regional Information and Dispatch (GRID) consortium

Most complex set of League City interlocal agreements

System includes Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) and Records Management System (RMS)

Primary League City Stakeholders (Police, Fire, EMS)

Addressed in depth in previous Work Sessions – February 23, 2021 and April 13, 2021

Grid Benefits

Economy in scale for hardware and software purchases

Enhances law enforcement capabilities that result from the regional cooperation and interoperability - cost sharing, seamless data sharing and integration, crime analytics, redundant communication center protocols, automatic mutual aid capabilities

GRID Consortium Members and Geographic Coverage Area (slide)

GRID Interlocal Flow Diagram (slide)

GRID Management

Managed by a Governing Board of member Police Chiefs, all of whom are voting members.

First and foremost a criminal justice software solution.

FBI requires that the system be managed and supervised by law enforcement heads.

It is only through a management control agreement that a Chief of Police grants anyone else access outside of law enforcement.

Each agency provides Fire and EMS access to the system under strict guidelines that are audited by the State CJIS office and FBI. The police department is responsible for meeting the demands of the CJIS regulations.

The operational cost is billed annually and split among participating agencies based on system usage. The consortium funds two full-time technicians who work under the League City Police Department's GRID Services Unit. One is funded at \$85,000/year with the cost split based on system usage. One is funded at \$85,000/year with the cost split evenly among member agencies.

GRID Considerations Moving Forward

Internal Considerations

Budgeting details? Are new agreements required? How will the new cost sharing be set up? Coverage for extra indirect and overhead costs?

External Considerations (GRID Chiefs)

What additional agencies have expressed an interest in joining after the new software is implemented? Pearland, Manvel, Brazoria County Sheriff.

Are all the members fully committed to staying involved?

Fire/EMS Mutual Aid

State Statutes

The State of Texas has a statute that enables mutual aid as an umbrella agreement for all Texas fire departments. It allows agencies to supply resources upon request for emergency response to another jurisdiction if the resources are available. As part of this agreement, the responding agency will charge for the use of those resources starting after the first 12 hours of engagement.

County Mutual Aid Agreements:

League City currently has county mutual aid agreements with Galveston County Fire Fighters Association and Harris County. Mutual aid agreements and assistance agreements are agreements between agencies, organizations, and jurisdictions that provide a mechanism to quickly obtain emergency assistance in the form of personnel, equipment, materials, and other associated services. The primary objective is to facilitate rapid, short-term deployment of emergency support prior to, during, and after an incident.

Current Automatic Aid Agreements:

Webster, Dickinson, Kemah and Bacliff fire departments. Allows automatic dispatch to structure fires without any of the participants having to make a formal request for resources. Allows for a quicker response of automatic aid agencies during a structure fire. Automatic Aid Agreements permit the automatic dispatch and response of requested resources without incident-specific approvals. These agreements are usually basic

contracts; some may be informal accords.

Additional Automatic Aid Agreements:

We need to work with additional surrounding agencies to ensure effective response force standards are met as well as response times to our outlying areas. Contracts are needed from Santa Fe, Forest Bend, Alvin and Friendswood fire departments

Fire aid Agreements Flow Diagram (slide)

League City Fire Mutual Aid/Automatic Aid Counts (slide)

Other Agreements

Texas Forest Service – awarded a wildland fire brush truck kept at Station 1 and 2-1/2 ton high water vehicle kept at Station 4 through grant process (available for emergencies anywhere in the state). Part of the Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid System (TIFMAS)

FEMA – Department of Homeland Security. Awarded funding for an all-hazards fireboat through the Port Security grant program. Expected to respond to emergencies in the Galveston Bay area if called upon.

College of the Mainland – to use the League City fire drill field when needed for their firefighter certification classes in return for payment of \$3,000 per year. Need to investigate a more equitable exchange.

EMS Mutual Aid Agreements

Have mutual Aid Agreements with Friendswood VFD EMS; Galveston EMS (GAAA) and City of Dickinson. Some of these are up to date and some are more than 20 years old. All agreements need to be evaluated (similar to that with Dickinson). Entail providing ambulances and personnel at the requests of the entity in need. Using Friendswood EMS and Nassau Bay occasionally and they are calling us occasionally. It is rare that we call or are called by Galveston Area Ambulance Authority (Galveston EMS).

The Legal Department is currently evaluating the mutual aid agreement requests from Galveston Area Ambulance Authority and Windsor EMS.

EMS Memorandums of Understanding

San Jacinto Junior College, College of the Mainland, Houston Community College, and Galveston College for their students to attend clinical internships with League City EMS. Provide station and ambulance space for a third person clinical on an ambulance to meet their State and National Registry Clinical requirements to sit for the National Registry exams and obtain State certifications and licenses.

Provide demonstration, instruction, and supervision on emergency responses of a variety of pre-hospital care. Benefits our service/the City to provide a clinical site for our employees that are advancing their certifications/licenses. Showcase our service to

potential employees. Students provide no cost manpower to provide pre-hospital care.

Texas Emergency Medical Task Force 6

EMS is seeking a Memorandum of Understanding with EMTF6 with Southeast Texas Regional Area Council (SETRAC). TX EMTF = series of components that are capable of activating resources on a state mission that provides a custom, scalable approach to medical disaster response. City could provide 1 ambulance and crew for State missions – reimbursed by the State. Could provide to League City: Ambulance Strike Teams, AMBUS, Mobile Medical Unit.

League City EMS Mutual Aid Counts (slide)

Fire/EMS Next Steps

Fire – pursue contracts with Santa Fe, Forest Bend, Alvin and Friendswood. Investigate a more equitable exchange with College of the Mainland.

EMS – pursue contracts (similar to that with Dickinson) with agencies where mutual aid is out of balance such as Kemah and Friendswood. Continue to pursue MOU with SETRAC for EMTF6.

Harris County Public Safety Radio System

Mission Critical Regional Radio System. “No single entity can address a major catastrophe by itself. We all have to rely on each other for resources and expertise. The key ingredient in that reliance is the ability to communicate with each other.” Steven Jennings, Chief Information Officer of Harris County and Executive Director of the Information Technology Center (2008)

Radio Services – System Partners (slide)

Texas Wide Area Radio Network – 1107 user groups, 7 groups are from League City.

Resolution 2017-140 adopted September 12, 2017 authorized an interlocal agreement with Harris County regarding the shared use in the Public Safety Radio System “to effectuate the usage of the system for law enforcement and emergency purposes of both Harris County and City”.

Mutual Benefits (agreement Section IV) “it is expressly understood and agreed that in consideration of the mutual benefits derived from this agreement by Harris County and City, neither party shall charge the other party any fee for access to its radio system nor for programming radios for use on the other party’s radio system”.

The Harris County Commissioners Court authorized execution of the agreement on October 10, 2017.

Term of the agreement – one year agreement. Automatically renews for successive

one-year terms unless it is terminated by either party. Should either party fail to perform as provided under the terms of the agreement, the other party's sole remedy shall be to terminate this agreement.

Key Agreements:

Harris County – allow city to access the radio system...as a Primary Dispatch System.

Provide City with a Systems Code Identification Number to access the radio system.

League City – allow the radio system users to access City's radio system sites. Allow Harris County to manage City's radio system infrastructure as a part of the radio system – including software maintenance, pre-tested software subscription agreement, technical support, and infrastructure repair. Harris County shall have no responsibility for providing to City's users their radio units.

Radio System Flow Diagram (slide)

Cost-Benefit:

Costs of Agreement – charged to IT, annual maintenance FY2021 \$36,879.02, Radio Service Fees FY2021 \$123.46, 7 user departments (no charge for radio use, charges for service of radios as needed, WAVE app for user with SmartPhones).

Benefits of Agreement – Access to regional public safety radio network. Not required to pay monthly air-time charges per radio. Not required to pay programming fee per radio.

Galveston County Tax Office (GCTO)

Past interlocal agreements with Galveston County Tax Office for collection of taxes superseded. Per Texas Tax Code, Chapter 6.22(b) “the assessor and collector for a home-rule city are determined by the city's charter and ordinances”. Per the City of League City Charter, Article VIII, Section 2 “the City hereby requires the county tax assessor and collector...to assess and collect the taxes on property within such corporate limits within that county...”. Per Resolution 2015-30 “the City Council of the City of League City, Texas hereby requires that the Galveston County Assessor and Collector of Taxes to perform assessment and collection duties as permitted by the Texas Property Tax Code 6.22(c) and 6.23(a)(3)”.

GCTO Government Tax Collection Partners

All cities except Clear Lake Shores. 22 other entities. Consolidated tax assessment and collection services saves property owners and governments money. GCTO charges \$0.21 per parcel to assess and collect taxes for Galveston County governments and \$0.97 per parcel for partners with parcels in Harris County such as the cities of Friendswood and League City. Services are less than the cost to mail a bill.

Tax Assessor Flow Diagram (slide)

Election Services (Galveston County and Harris County)

Resolution 2012-04 changed General Elections from the May to the November Texas Uniform Election date. Ordinance 2012-14 called a Special Election to change the Charter, change to 4-year terms and phase in the necessary changes. Special Elections can be held on either Texas Uniform Election Date (May or November) unless otherwise covered in Election Code Section 41.001. Cost for City to provide its own elections services on May 8, 2010 was \$24,466, with 46,965 registered voters. There were 72,617 registered voters at the 2020 election.

Election Services since 2011 May Election

Galveston County – interlocal agreement for each election, agreement provided by Galveston County Election Services comes before Council in July or August for November election. Runoff elections are provided by Galveston County only (League City voters from Harris County vote in Galveston County). Price determined by actual services used (fee schedule is part of interlocal agreement).

Harris County – interlocal agreement for each election. Agreement provided by Harris County Election Services comes before Council in July or August for November election. Price determined as a percentage allocation of total County costs (estimate provided as part of interlocal agreement)

Election Services Flow Diagram (slide)**Election Services Costs (slide)****Bay Area Houston Convention and Visitors Bureau (BAHCVB)**

League City, Nassau Bay, Seabrook, and Kemah are the cities that jointly form the BAHCVB. Current agreement period October 1, 2019-September 23, 2022. City pays BAHCVB for services based on 15% of the total yearly HOT tax revenues collected by the City. The new structure (addendum accepted on September 28, 2021) has a flat fee buy-in for \$45,000/year plus advertising program support for specific campaigns.

2020/2021 Board of Directors (slide)**BAHCVB Interlocal Flow Diagram (slide)****Spending History (slide)**

Variability in invoice amounts is due to multiple factors – HOT Tax revenue reporting schedules, State reporting schedules, BAHCVB invoicing schedules.

COVID-19 impacts on member cities’ – HOT tax revenues, BAHCVB only required 2 quarterly payments in 2020 instead of the contracted 4 payments. Invoices in 2021 only cover 3 quarters so far.

BAHCVB Benefits

The Bay Area Houston CVB maintains a travel website, social media presence, and other multimedia tools and advertising programs to market the entire Bay region to visitors, including League City. League City reaches a more expansive and diverse audience base to promote City events, activities, restaurants and retailers, museums and other tourism locations using the assets and resources of the Bay Area Houston CVB

Summary

GRID – move forward with system upgrade while addressing internal and external considerations

FIRE/EMS Mutual Aid – develop additional interlocal agreements particularly with agencies where aid is out of balance.

Harris County Public Safety Radio System

Galveston County Tax Office

Election Services (Galveston County and Harris County)

Bay Area Houston Convention and Visitors Bureau (BAHCVB) – move forward with the newly approved agreement.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

4. **ADJOURNMENT**

At 5:59 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: October 26, 2021