



CITY OF EL LAGO
MINUTES OF THE APRIL 5, 2023
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
411 TALLOWOOD DRIVE, EL LAGO, TEXAS 77586

1. **Call to Order** Mayor Findley called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

2. **Invocation and/or Pledge of Allegiance** – Pledges were conducted.

3. **Declaration of a Quorum**

Present: Mayor Shawn Findley
Mayor Pro Tem Ann Vernon
Councilperson Jeff Michalak
Councilperson John Skelton
Absent: Councilperson Darin Clark
Councilperson Charles Parette

4. **Citizen Comments**

Jeff Tave of 302 Pineview Circle inquired about who would be our interim City Secretary until we find a replacement. Mayor Findley informed him that Mayor Pro Tem would be covering in the interim. He also asked that city council consider the dramatic increase of pool chemical costs and wear and tear regarding the swim team's agreement for use of the pool so as not to burden tax payers.

5. **City Official, Board, Commission, Committee, & City Service Report**

5.1. **Report on Seabrook Volunteer Fire Department activity in the City with Call for Service reports for March, 2023. (Andy Gutacker)** Chief Andy Gutacker reported 5 calls from 3/01/23-3/31/2023 (3 Medical, 1 Fire, 1 vehicle fire) with an average response time of 2 minutes 27 seconds.

5.2. **Tiffany Wallace to report on Parks Board Projects and Activities** Tiffany Wallace provided progress reports and updates for all projects including paint work, handicap rail repair, park rules signs, and plans for future updates. The Council asked for the City logo to be placed on the park signs. The Mayor thanked the Parks Board for all their work and announced a ribbon cutting for the new and repaired toys on April 15, 2023 at 12:30pm.

6. **Consent Agenda**

6.1. **Check Detail for checks printed from March 2, 2023 through March 31, 2023.**

6.2. **Minutes from the Council Meeting of March 1, 2023 and March 6, 2023**
Hearing no objections, Mayor Findley declared the consent agenda approved.

7. **Council Reports**

7.1. **Mayor Pro Tem Vernon to report on the proposed Astronaut Memorial in Armstrong Park**
Mayor Pro Tem Vernon discussed the proposed Astronaut Memorial in Armstrong stating the goal is to have the opening/Moon Tree ceremony April 20, 2024. Details of the Memorial include a Ceremony for the Moon Tree planting by Rosemary Roosa. The Moon Tree would be a 3 to 6 foot American Sycamore provided from seeds taken to the moon by then-resident Astronaut Stuart Roosa on the Apollo 14 mission. The memorial elements and ceremony are estimated at a total of \$15,000. Councilman Michalak suggested trying to find "creative" funding sources. Mayor Findley said he supports the idea and that it is important to keep the historical relevance of NASA prominent in our city. The Mayor is meeting with Adrian Garcia soon and will mention the need for funding of the memorial during that meeting since the County is often looking for projects to fund.

8. Old Business

- 8.1. **Consider/ Approve Resolution 2023-03 an amendment to the interlocal agreement with the Lakeview Police Department** Mayor Pro Tem Vernon clarified that the current facilities agreement between the city and Lakeview Police Department requires the implementation of GASB 87 which takes the auditors extra time and effort resulting in extra costs to the city. The changes needed to be exempt from GASB 87 include reducing the agreement term from two years to one, with all parties having the right to terminate the facilities agreement with a 180-day notice. In addition, the amendment now states that all code enforcement services are included in the term “police services” throughout the agreement. Councilperson Skelton moved to approve the resolution, and Councilperson Michalak seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

9. New Business

- 9.1. **Consider/Approve option for required physical barrier fencing at Witty Park** A motion to postpone this item until the documentation was provided was made by Mayor Pro Tem Vernon. Councilperson Michalak seconded and the vote to postpone was unanimous.
- 9.2. **Consider/Approve an agreement and cost estimate with the El Lago Dorados Swim Team for use of the City Pool for the 2023 swim season** There was discussion about updating the El Lago Dorado Swim Team agreement for 2024 as all pool expenses have increased. The current agreement only reflects lifeguard costs and a kitchen usage fee. Due to increased chemical costs and wages, the council discussed future modifications to the existing agreement. Councilperson Skelton motioned to approve the agreement with the addition of requiring the El Lago Dorado Swim Team to approach the city no later than the 1st of March each year (so costs for the year can be adjusted before enrollment costs are determined), and the addition of a flat \$500 fee to cover 2023 chemical costs. Councilperson Michalak provided a second to the motion and it was approved unanimously.
- 9.3. **Consider/Approve event room variance request from the El Lago Dorados Swim Team** Councilperson Skelton discussed the usage of event room by El Dorado and having a schedule of event room dates added to form instead of leaving date usage open on agreement. Set parameters for kitchen. The Council suggested modifying and setting protocols to add to the agreement. Councilperson Michalak moved to approve the variance and Councilperson Skelton seconded the motion. Councilperson Michalak moved to amend his motion by changing the verbiage: after “Use of the Event Room,” add “for the 2023 Swim Season, during swim meets and events and when not in conflict with other paying events,” and striking “continued use of supply closet” on form. Mayor Pro Tem Vernon seconded the amendment and there was no discussion on the amendment. All voted unanimously to approve the amendment to the main motion and then all voted to approve the amended main motion.
- 9.4. **Consider/Approve Ordinance No. 497 establishing a hotel occupancy tax for the City of El Lago. (First Reading)** Mayor Finley said the ordinance was created because of the new development on NASA Pkwy which includes a boutique hotel. However, the hotel tax would also affect rooming houses, etc. Before the second reading, the Mayor said he would ask the City attorney about defining Section 152.001 Texas Tax Code, the necessary city/state reporting and further information about exempt nonprofits. He will also try to better understand how the hotel tax can be utilized by the city.
- 9.5. **Consider/ Approve quotes for repair of the Gazebo located in Armstrong Park utilizing American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.** Mayor Pro Tem Vernon stated that Shirley Brasseaux provided quotes for the repairs. Discussion included the \$2,000 AARP funds budgeted for the gazebo repairs and that not all quotes included wood replacement while one quote from Martek included additional work on light poles and the Raffetto monument. It was noted that

Martek Remodeling would fall within our AARPA budget if the non-gazebo related items were removed for an adjusted cost of \$1,795.00. Mayor Pro Tem Vernon motioned to approve items 1 – 4 on the Martek Remodeling estimate and striking items 5,6, and 7. A second was made by Councilperson Michalak and all voted in favor.

- 9.6. ***Consider/Approve quotes for the replacement of pool furniture for the City Pool utilizing American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds*** Due to there being no documentation, Mayor Pro Tem Vernon moved to postpone and Councilperson Skelton seconded. All were in favor.
- 9.7. ***Consider/Approve Texpool Resolution Amending Authorized Representatives*** Mayor Pro Tem Vernon said she has removed Rachel Lewis as an authorized representative from all the Wells Fargo bank accounts and the TexPool Investment account. Mayor Pro Tem Vernon is now listed as the authorized representative until the City Secretary position is filled. Councilperson Skelton moved to approve the resolution and Councilperson Michalak seconded. There was no discussion and all voted in favor.
- 9.8. ***Consider/Approve Proclamation Expressing gratitude to Sean Giuliani for work done to install the new McNair Park fountain*** The Mayor explained that Sean Giuliani of Wedgeworth Plumbing, a citizen of our city, will be recognized at the City Celebration on April 15, 2023 for his contribution of installing the fountain. Councilperson Skelton moved to approve the proclamation and Councilperson Michalak seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous decision.

10. Future Agenda Item Requests

Scheduled

Pool furniture quotes – April 19, 2023

Hotel Tax Questions – April 19, 2023

Unscheduled


Baseball Field updating

Financial report for first half of the year

Marathon Annual Agreement for review


Fencing at Witty Park – Pending quote information

11. **Adjournment** There being no further business, Mayor Findley adjourned the meeting at 8:34 PM



Shawn Findley
Mayor

ATTEST:



Irene Herrera
Court Administrator