



**CITY OF EL LAGO**  
MINUTES OF THE APRIL 19, 2023  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
411 TALLOWOOD DRIVE, EL LAGO, TEXAS 77586

1. **Call to Order** Mayor Findley called the meeting to order at 7:01 P.M.

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

3. **Declaration of a Quorum**

*3.1 Announce Absent Members of Council*

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

Absent: Councilperson John Skelton

4. **Citizen Comments**

**Joan Schneck of 522 Seaway Dr.** stated that the exercise instructor on Monday and Wednesday mornings is excellent. Joan thanked everyone for the city celebration event, delicious food, and fun entertainment. In addition, she inquired to see if the City of El Lago is working on the submerged boat in the lake. Joan asked if the City of El Lago receives assistance and help from the Lake Marina or a service for the boat sitting out there, and wanted clarification on who is responsible for clearing the channel from Taylor Lake Village to City of El Lago as it seems to be a water safety issue and is concerned.

**Jeff Tave of 302 Pineview Circle** noticed the first parking lot next to the handicap zone at McNair Park is split and there is an eight-inch piece of rebar sticking out creating a safety hazard. He also inquired about fire hydrants since the City provides fire services via the Seabrook Fire Volunteer Department. Apparently at the recent fire in Taylorcrest there was a potential issue with a fire hydrant not working. He noted the WCID 50 superintendent stated that all fire hydrants had been inspected. Mr. Tave asked the City to provide verification of what is true or untrue in regards to all fire hydrants working. Mayor Findley stated he was on scene at that fire and has spoken with Fire Chief Gutaker and Mario, President of WCID 50. The Mayor indicated that there was an issue getting water from a particular fire hydrant, but is unclear from either side as to what the problem was. The mayor could confirm there are two fire hydrant checks per year to verify hydrants are working, with the next check coming up in May. The fire hydrant with the issue was checked and the "problem" could not be repeated, but has since been rebuilt as a precautionary measure.

**Ken Paschall of 534 White Cap Dr.** asked on behalf of his wife about the schedule for replacing the air conditioning system in the Fitness Room. The Mayor stated that the vendor has received the units from the manufacturer for the fitness side of the community center, and requested the AC company immediately start replacing the units. He added there is a scheduling issue for the crane necessary to lift the units to the roof. Mayor Findley committed that by the end of May, the process of replacing the air condition system should be completed.

**Tiffany Wallace of 711 Crestwood Dr.** said a year ago she took the position of Parks Board President. She thanked the Mayor for his nice words at the playground ribbon cutting prior to the City Celebration. Tiffany thanked several people, residents, and organizations who have taken part in assisting with Parks Board projects. Due to personal reasons, Tiffany stated she is resigning as the Chair of the Parks Board. Mayor Findley thanked Tiffany for her service and gave his sincere appreciation for her dedication and hard work. Councilperson Clark also thanked Tiffany

for all she has contributed to the City's Parks Board and expressed his gratitude for all she has accomplished, reassuring her the work has been well noticed.

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

5.1. *Lakeview Police Department Police Activity Report for February and March (Chief Nunn)* Chief Nunn stated that for the month of February 2023 family violence increased and that they had a couple of burglaries. There were over 406 total calls for services for February. Chief Nunn included that Traffic Enforcement in February and March was busy, and the Hot Spots report reflected those busy locations. In addition, Chief Nunn commended Officer Martin, saying he was doing a phenomenal job at taking over the City's code enforcement. Mayor Findley expressed his appreciation for the interest Officer Martin has in pursuing code enforcement for the City. Chief kindly thanked the city for the great City Celebration event.

## **6. Councilmembers' Reports**

6.1. *Report on status of Pool and Spray Ground and Pool Activities (Vernon)* Mayor Pro Tem Vernon stated that we have a new UV Controller, UV Lights on order, and a new on/off switch, thus the spray ground is in good operating condition for the coming season. She then reported that the pool had a leak in the bulkhead going to sand filter number two which has been repaired, as well as an air pressure valve on sand filter number one. The pool is ready to be utilized for the swim season, however, Mayor Pro Tem Vernon stated there is currently a slow leak in the main part of the bulkhead. The leak is being nursed and will hopefully remain small enough not to need to be repaired until the fall using next year's budget. She then reported that for the new season, there are seven returning lifeguards and 8 new lifeguards, and that starting in May, we will have water aerobics each Monday at 8:30 a.m. Nicole Raymer will lead the water aerobics, and also lead lifeguard in-service's, which will be held on Monday mornings at 9:30am after the water aerobics class. Mayor Pro Tem Vernon said that Ed White will host their annual Fifth grade swim part on the afternoon of May 25<sup>th</sup>, and that the pool will open Memorial weekend May 26 – May 29<sup>th</sup>. For Memorial Day, the plan will be for the pool to open to all residents on Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup>, after water aerobics and lifeguard in-service. Mayor Pro Tem Vernon also suggested a possible dive in movie for Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup>.

## **7. Consent Agenda**

7.1. *Check Detail from April 1 through April 19, 2023*

7.2. *Minutes from the City Council Meeting of April 5, 2023*

Mayor Findley asked if there was anyone who wanted to pull an item from the Consent Agenda. There being no requests, Mayor Findley declared the Consent Agenda approved.

## **8. Old Business**

8.1. *Consider/Approve Ordinance No. 497 establishing a hotel occupancy tax for the City of El Lago. (Second Reading)* Per the Mayor, there were no changes nor amendments to Ordinance No. 497, and he is still waiting to hear back from the attorney on the Council's previous questions. Mayor indicated this does not impede us from approving ordinance. Mayor Pro Tem Vernon moved that Ordinance 497 be approved as presented and a second was made by Councilperson Clark. During discussion, Councilperson Michalak asked if a penalty should be included if the hotel tax is not paid. Mayor Findley said he would need to confer with the city attorney. Councilperson Parette asked for clarification on who needs to register and the punishment for those not registered, and if it affects Psalm 23. Councilperson Parette wanted to make sure we weren't negatively impacting a place like Psalm 23. Councilperson Michalak added that page four, sect. 16-65 references a fine but does not list or define the fine and wonders if the information is missing from the agreement. Councilperson Parette motioned that we postpone until the May 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting to get clarification and bring back answers to the questions at hand. Mayor Pro Tem Vernon seconded the motion. Mayor asked if all council was in favor. The vote was unanimous.

8.2. *Consider/Approve quotes for the replacement of pool furniture for the City Pool utilizing American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.* The Council discussed all chair and lounge options

available to purchase within budget. After discussion, Mayor Pro Tem motioned to approve a sixteen pack of Chair C for a cost of \$737.00 and a six pack of loungers at a cost of \$984.00 for a total of \$1721.00 from the Recreation Supply Company, with the condition of the offer of free shipping was honored by Recreation Supply. Councilperson Parette seconded the motion, and it was passed by a unanimous decision.

## 9. New Business

- 9.1. *Consider/Approve agreement for XLR8 Summer Camp to operate using tennis courts, event room and pool* Elizabeth Payton with South Houston Tennis was present at the Council Meeting and informed the Council that Ben Michalak would be the Head XLR8 Coach and also that the Coach who teaches Tennis Camp was very fluent with Pickleball. Mayor Pro Tem Vernon discussed the usage of the kitchen and asked that items be confined to defined storage space. Mayor Pro Tem stressed protecting the newly painted walls in the event room and the representative agreed saying they only come in now to rest, not to play. Councilperson Michalak moved to approve the XLR8 Summer Camp agreement and Councilperson Parette seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion.
- 9.2. *Consider/Approve renewing Marathon Fitness contract to perform quarterly inspections and maintenance on city gym equipment* Per Mayor Pro Tem Vernon there is no change to the price of the maintenance agreement, but reminded Council it does not include labor or parts for repairs. Councilperson Parette motioned to approve the agreement with Marathon Fitness, and Councilperson Michalak provided the second. There was no further discussion, and all voted in favor.
- 9.3. *Consider/Approve 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Investment Report* Mayor Findley thanked Councilperson Michalak for his idea to invest the ARPA funds. Councilperson Michalak stated the total year to date interest earned is \$14,493.67. Mayor Pro Tem included that the city is no longer paying for the operating account as it is now earning interest. Councilperson Parette motioned to approve the City of El Lago 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Investment Report. Mayor Pro Tem Vernon seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

## 10. Future Agenda Item Requests

### May 3

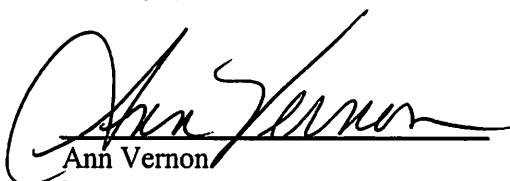
2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr Budget vs Actual Report  
Opioid Resolution  
Hotel Tax Ordinance


### Unscheduled

- Required physical barrier fencing for Witty Park
- Ballfield upgrade (Skelton)

11. **Adjournment** There being no further business, Mayor Findley adjourned the meeting at 7:58 P.M.

ATTEST:

  
Ann Vernon  
Mayor Pro Tem

  
Shawn Findley  
Mayor