

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF SOUR LAKE**

A Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Sour Lake, Hardin County, Texas, noticed for August 15, 2023, at 6:00 o'clock P.M. at Sour Lake City Hall Annex 615 Hwy 105 W., Sour Lake, Hardin County, Texas was called to order at 6:00 o'clock P.M. by Mayor Bruce Robinson pursuant to notice duly posted according to law with the following members present or absent as so indicated:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>PRESENT</u> <u>ABSENT</u>
BRUCE ROBINSON	- MAYOR	X
G. SHANNON MCDONALD	- ALDERMAN	X
CONNIE MURPHY	- MAYOR PRO-TEM	X
REBECCA GARDINER	- ALDERWOMAN	X
KEVIN CUDD	-ALDERMAN	X
MICHAEL HENDRIX	-ALDERMAN	X

Also present or absent were the following officers and individuals of the City of Sour Lake:

The City Manager, Jack Provost	-	Present
The City Secretary, Debra Morgan	-	Present
The Police Chief Aaron Burleson	-	Present
City Attorney, Alex Stelly for Sour Lake	-	Present
Public Works Department (Joey Keel)		Present
Jeff Leavens with LEAD Eng.	-	Present
MaryAnn Boyd, Library Director	-	Present
Jenny Murphy	-	Present
And two guests		

The Mayor then directed the City Council's attention to Agenda Item No. 1 for approval of Regular Minutes of July 18, 2023. Following a review of the Meeting Minutes of July 18, 2023, a motion was made by Alderwoman Gardiner to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of July 18 2023 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Murphy and approved by the following vote of Council:

FOR	-	5
AGAINST	-	0

The Mayor then directed the City Council’s attention to Agenda Item No. 2 for Discussion and Action to approve the Accounts Payable for the month of July 2023. Following a review of Accounts Payable for the month of July 2023, a motion was made by Alderman Cudd to approve the payment of Accounts Payable as presented for the month of July 2023. The motion was seconded by Alderwoman Gardiner and approved by the following majority vote of Council:

FOR	-	5
AGAINST	-	0

The Council thereafter considered Agenda Item No. 3 for “Citizen Comments. Any citizen comments to Council could not be discussed or acted upon; however, such comments by any citizen or individual are considered for information purposes only.

The Mayor moved to Agenda Item No. 4 requesting the City Manager to provide the Financial Report of the City of Sour Lake for the Month of July 2023 to Council. Following the presentation to and discussion by Council, no action was requested of Council, and none taken. The Agenda Item No. 4 was provided to Council for information purposes only.

The Mayor moved to Agenda Item No. 5 for the City Manager’s Report, the City Manager informed the Mayor and Council that he had spoken with Dr. Wesolow’s Brother and that he was now in charge of the Estate and that the building and land had possibly sold. He will keep the city informed of any changes. This was for information purposes only.

The Mayor next directed the Council’s attention to Agenda Item No. 6 concerning the Police Department report with Chief Burlison providing Council his Monthly Updates on the Department and his monthly report. Chief informed the Mayor and Council of 7 arrests, Radio Grant Closed out, Chief School Sept. 18-27, no outside police service without an MOU and one new Officer hired. Following the Chiefs report no action was requested nor taken by the council with the report being provided to Council for information purposes only.

The Mayor moved to Agenda Item No. 7 concerning the Public Works Department with Mr. Joseph Keel. Mr. Keel informed the Council of the 2 new services, all in compliance, Pipe Burst Grant Completed, several leaks, Booster Pump Down.

The Mayor moved to Agenda Item No. 8, Engineering Projects. Mr. Jeff Levins with LEAD Engineering informed the City Council that September 1, Test Well begin, walk thru on Sewer Project, and talked about TxDot Funding Application. The report was provided to Council for information purposes only.

The Mayor moved to Agenda Item No. 9 for the Library Report. Librarian Mary Ann Boyd reported on the purchase of 26 Books, and 40 new Patrons. The report was provided to Council for information purposes only. No action required.

The Mayor moved to Agenda Item No. 10 Chamber of Commerce Report. Alderwoman Gardiner informed the Mayor and Council about the meeting with Rep. Bailes and one Ribbon Cutting for Trading Post Assignment Shop.

The Mayor moved to Agenda Item No. 11, Discussion and Action to authorize the City Manager and City Secretary to be signatories for General, Revenue and Payroll Bank Accounts. After discussion a motion was made by Alderman McDonald to authorize City Manager Jack Provost and City Secretary Debbie Morgan to be signatories for the above-mentioned accounts. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Murphy and approved by the following vote of the Board:

FOR	5
AGAINST	0

The Mayor moved to Agenda Item No. 12, Discussion and Action on a rate increase for Residential and Commercial Waste Collection Pick Up starting November 1, 2023. After discussion a motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Murphy to table the Agenda Item on the increase of Waste Collection Pick Up. The motion was seconded by Alderman Hendrix and approved by the following vote of the Board:

FOR	5
AGAINST	0

The Mayor moved to Agenda Item No. 13, on presentation from Viking for a possible contract on all elevated towers for repairs, maintenance, and inspections. After discussion and presentation no action was taken at this time.

The Mayor moved to Agenda Item No. 14, Discussion and Action to authorize the settlement of the proposed fuel reconciliation of Entergy Texas. After discussion a motion was made by Alderwoman Gardiner to authorize the settlement proposal present by Lawton Law Firm. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Murphy and approved by the following vote of the Board:

FOR	5
AGAINST	0

The Mayor moved to Agenda Item N. 15, Discussion and Action on Human Resources. After discussion no action was taken at this time.

The Mayor moved to Agenda Item No. 16, Discussion on FY2024 Budget. The Mayor and Council requested a workshop for the FY 2024 Budget no action was taken.

The Mayor moved to Agenda Item No. 17, Discussion and Action on proposed Tax Rate for 2023 M & O .349224 and I & S .052360 for a rate of .401584 per \$100 valuation. After discussion a motion was made by Alderman Hendrix to approve the Proposed Tax Rate for FY 2023. The motion was seconded by Alderman McDonald and approved by the following Roll Call:

Mayor	Bruce Robinson
Mayor Pro-Tem	Connie Murphy
Alderman	Kevin Cudd
Alderman	Michael Hendrix
Alderman	Shannon McDonald
Alderwoman	Rebecca Gardiner

To approve the proposed Tax Rate for the City of Sour Lake

The Mayor moved to Agenda Item No. 18, Discussion and Action on Change Order #1 for the American Rescue Plan Grant. After discussion a motion was made by Alderwoman Gardiner to approve the change order for the American Rescue Plan Grant. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Murphy and approved by the following vote of the Board:

FOR	5
AGAINST	0

There being no additional Agenda Items to consider, a motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Murphy to adjourn the Sour Lake City Council meeting at approximately 7:12 P.M. on August 15, 2023. The motion was seconded by Alderman Hendrix and approved by the following vote of the Sour Lake City Council:

FOR	-	5
AGAINST	-	0

The Sour Lake City Council adjourned the August 15, 2023, Regular City Council Meeting at 7:41 P.M.

CITY OF SOUR LAKE

Bruce Robinson, Mayor
Connie Murphy, Mayor Pro-Tem

ATTEST:

Debra Morgan, City Secretary