Council Governance Work Session - Day 2

I. Call To Order

With a quorum present, the governance session of the San Marcos City Council was called to order by Mayor Thomaides at 9:41 a.m. Friday, January 19, 2018 in the City Hall Conference Room, 630 E. Hopkins, San Marcos, Texas 78666.

II. Roll Call

Present: 6 - Mayor Pro Tem Lisa Prewitt, Council Member Saul Gonzales, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Scott Gregson, Council Member Melissa Derrick, Mayor John Thomaides and Council Member Ed Mihalkanin

Absent: 1 - Council Member Jane Hughson

1. Receive Staff presentations and hold discussion regarding Council Committees, Community Partnerships and Boards and Commissions, and provide direction to Staff.

Jamie Lee Case, City Clerk, provided the Council with an introduction of the three topics to be covered. She continued by reviewing Council Committees, both current and past.

Bert Lumbreras, City Manager, introduced the idea of having standing Council Committees. The standing committees that he recommended were: Finance & Audit, Housing, Legislative, and Transit.

Following discussion it was decided that committees would consist of 3 members of Council, but would be posted to avoid Open Meetings violations. Committee meeting packets would be shared with the entire City Council.

Direction was provided for Staff to draft a proposed scope of work and defined role for the Legislative and Transit committees and to bring it back to the Council. Staff was also directed to place the appointments to these committees on a future agenda as well. Council would also like to see quarterly reports from all council committees.

Mr. Lumbreras introduced the recently created strategic goal of the City Council, Community Partnerships. He provided the goals of having meetings with the Texas State University President, Hays County, San Marcos CISD, and these organizations' key staff. Focus will be on common interests and
benefits, formulation of policy, Memorandums of Understanding and collaborations.

Mr. Lumbreras further explained the proposed structure of the community partnership groups. Following discussion the Council provided consensus to move forward with the structures as proposed. Staff will meet with each entity to determine that everyone is on board. Staff will bring back recommendations on defined and agreed upon processes. Staff will provide any information packets related to meetings of the above mentioned groups to the entire Council.

Mrs. Case introduced the Boards and Commissions discussion and provided an overview related to the 26 boards or commissions the Council appoints. She reviewed the recommendations of the 2014 Sunset Advisory Commission and explained that the next review will be in 2019. Council discussed the desire to direct issues to an advisory board for recommendation if the issue is within their scope. Mrs. Case explained that staff will be compiling quarterly activity reports from all Boards and Commissions with the first quarter reports going out the first week of February.

Council provided direction to staff to review the charge of each board or commission and determine if there are any appointments that may need to be placed on hold in order to make updates to any ordinances. Staff will also make sure that all boards and commissions are discussing items that they are authorized by their charge to discuss or review. Staff was directed to ask for candid evaluations from all staff liaisons regarding their charge and function. If there are any boards or commissions that may need to be adjusted and staff freed up the Council wants a recommendation related to how those need to be adjusted.

Council also directed staff to propose an ordinance that would standardize rules and regulations via bylaws for boards and commissions that currently are not authorized within their ordinance to adopt. Specifically related to the process of placing an item on an agenda, the period of time in which an item can be added to an agenda for recommendation to be made to the City Council, ensuring that items are germane to the assigned scope of work or charge of the board or commission.

Council directed Staff to make sure that recommendations are provided to them via memo as soon as they are available.
No further direction was provided.

III. Adjournment.

Mayor Thomaides adjourned the governance work session of the San Marcos City Council at 12:10 p.m.

Jamie Lee Case, City Clerk                              John Thomaides, Mayor