I. Call To Order

With a quorum present, the workshop meeting of the San Marcos City Council was called to order by Mayor Tomaiades at 6:00 p.m. Monday, January 23, 2017 in the City Council Chambers, 630 E. Hopkins, San Marcos, Texas 78666.

II. Roll Call

Present: 7 - Mayor John Thomaides, Council Member Saul Gonzales, Mayor Pro-Tem Jane Hughson, Council Member Melissa Derrick, Council Member Scott Gregson, Council Member Ed Mihalkanin and Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Lisa Prewitt

1. Receive the final recommendations from Community Improvements Taskforce, and provide direction to Staff.

Steve Parker, CFO/Assistant City Manager, provided the Council with an overview of what the Council and Task Force have been doing up until this point. He provided a history of facility needs timeline going back to 2013 when a series of needs assessments were begun. The Council made facilities their number one goal in 2015 and 2016. Mr. Parker introduced the Co-Chair, Mr. Arthur Taylor, who will be providing the rest of the presentation.

Mr. Taylor provided the background of the Task Force and how they met nine times beginning on October 20, 2016 through January 5, 2017. Mr. Taylor reviewed the initial potential projects list that was provided to the Task Force. He then reviewed the projects selected by the Task Force for analysis: Police Facility Renovation, Public/Community Services Facility, City Hall Reconstruction, Fire Station #2, Fire Training Field, Fire Station #8 and Library.

Mayor Thomaides noted that Fire Station #8 is not an 8th fire station. It will actually be the 6th, but it is labeled that way due to the district that it is in. We are contractually obligated to build the Fire Station, but are receiving partial funding from the developer of the new Highpointe Trace subdivision. The Task Force also provided a recommendation that the current site of Fire Station #2 be maintained by the City for community space or be zoned Single Family and not changed to any other zoning.
Police Chief Chase Stapp expanded on the needs for the Police Department and Fire Chief Les Stephens provided further explanation regarding the training facility.

Mr. Parker provided the information on the City Hall Reconstruction and the need for a new City Hall due to the significant structural issues. Mr Taylor reviewed the Public/Community Services Facility and the inadequacies of the facility.

Mr. Taylor reviewed the Library Expansion and the lack of space for the amount of services and programming that they offer and the lack of security.

Mr. Parker reviewed the cost of debt service for the projects and Mr. Taylor provided the Council with the Community Improvements Task Force recommendation to place to propositions on the ballot. One for all Public Safety Projects and the other for the Library Improvements Project. The totals for those propositions would be as follows: $17,450,000 for the Public Safety projects with a possible tax rate effect of 5.30 cents and a total of $14,750,000 for the Library Improvements Project with a possible tax rate effect of 3.07 cents.

Following discussion the Council provided direction to call the election on two readings, the first on February 7, 2017 and the second on February 15 or 16, 2017. The Council accepted the Task Force recommendation as presented.

III. Question and Answer Session with Press and Public.

None.

IV. Adjournment.

Mayor Thomaides adjourned the workshop meeting of the San Marcos City Council at 8:55 p.m.

Jamie Lee Case, City Clerk                                John Thomaides, Mayor