



City of Garden Ridge

"A way of life, not just a place to live"

MINUTES CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2021, 6:00 P.M.

Councilmembers Present:

Mayor Robb Erickson
Mayor Pro-Tem Lisa Swint
Councilmember John McCaw
Councilmember Jesse Valdez
Councilmember Todd Arvidson
Councilmember Kay Bower

Councilmembers Absent: None

City Staff Present:

Nancy Cain, City Administrator
Marisa Spencer, City Secretary
Kat Balbi, Assistant City Secretary
Karen Ford, Finance/HR Director
Ron Eberhardt, Police Chief
Eric Lowman, Public Facilities Foreman/Animal Services
Duane Scognio, Utilities Foreman
Linda Crosland, Librarian
Cynthia Trevino, City Attorney

City Commissioners Present:

Dr. Jim Miller, Chair, Planning and Zoning Commission
James Mueller, Chair, Water Commission
Johnell Holly, Chair, Quarry Commission
Dr. Richard Carmichael, Water Commissioner
Wayne Mudge, Quarry Commissioner

1. Call to Order

With a quorum of the City Councilmembers present, Mayor Erickson called the regular meeting of the Garden Ridge City Council to order at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 4, 2021, in the City Council Chambers of the Garden Ridge City Hall, 9400 Municipal Parkway, Garden Ridge, Texas 78266.

2. Roll Call: See above.

3. Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor Erickson led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge.

4. CPS Energy Presentation

Mayor Erickson introduced John Leal, Director of Local Government Relations at CPS Energy.

Mr. Leal spoke regarding Winter Storm Uri and CPS Energy's efforts related to weatherization, resiliency, reliability, and communication. He addressed questions from Councilmembers.

5. City/Employee Recognitions/Employee Introductions

a) Thank you note from Kitty Owen to the Public Works Department.

City Administrator Nancy Cain stated a thank you note was received from Kitty Owen to the Public Works Department for maintaining landscaping within the City.

b) Thank you note from Royce and Debra Simmonds to Librarian Linda Crosland.

City Administrator Nancy Cain stated a thank you note was received from Royce and Debra Simmonds to Librarian Linda Crosland for her efforts in making the Garden Ridge Library a great place for all.

c) Recognition of Employee Service Years with the City of Garden Ridge.

City Administrator Nancy Cain recognized employees with anniversary dates in the month of August for their hard work, dedication, and tenure with the City. This recognition included: Michelle Hinojosa-1 year of service.

6. Citizen Comment Period

Paul Klinge, 9305 Bluebell Drive, spoke regarding activities at Paul Davis Park.

7. Consent Agenda

THESE ITEMS MAY BE ACTED UPON IN A SINGLE MOTION. NO SEPARATE DISCUSSION OR ACTION ON THESE ITEMS WILL BE HELD UNLESS REQUESTED BY A COUNCILMEMBER. PUBLIC COMMENT ON THESE ITEMS MAY BE HEARD DURING CITIZENS' PARTICIPATION; HOWEVER, THAT DOES NOT MEAN THE ITEM WILL BE CONSIDERED OUTSIDE THE CONSENT AGENDA.

a) Approval of Minutes for the July 7, 2021, City Council Regular Meeting.

b) Approval of Minutes for the July 28, 2021, City Council Special Meeting.

c) Financial Statement, Summary Report, and Management's Discussion and Analysis of Results of Operations – June 30, 2021.

Motion: A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Swint, seconded by Councilmember Arvidson, to approve Consent Agenda items a)-c). The City Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

8. Staff Reports

a) City Administrator Monthly Activity Report.

City Administrator Nancy Cain provided City Council with an update on upcoming meetings, upcoming events, and the new position titles in the Public Works Department.

b) Finance/HR Monthly Activity Report.

Finance/HR Director Karen Ford provided City Council with an update regarding the American Rescue Plan.

c) City Secretary Monthly Activity Report.

City Secretary Marisa Spencer reviewed the monthly activity report and spoke regarding continuity of operations related to the Administrative Department.

d) Police Department Monthly Activity Report.

Chief Eberhardt reviewed the monthly activity report and spoke regarding continuity of operations related to the Police Department.

e) Public Works Department Monthly Activity Report.

Public Facilities Foreman/Animal Services Eric Lowman reviewed the monthly activity report and spoke regarding continuity of operations related to the Public Facilities Department.

Utilities Foreman Duane Scognio reviewed the monthly activity report and spoke regarding continuity of operations related to the Utilities Department.

f) Library Monthly Activity Report.

Librarian Linda Crosland reviewed the monthly activity report and spoke regarding continuity of operations related to the Library.

9. City Engineer Projects Status Reports

City Engineer Sam Johnson reviewed the Trihydro Engineering Report. He spoke regarding the FM 2252 TxDOT Project and FM 2252 Wastewater Project and addressed questions from Councilmembers.

10. City Commission and Committee Reports/Recommendations/Possible Actions

a) Planning and Zoning Commission

Chair Dr. Miller provided City Council with an update on the topics discussed at the Commission's July meeting.

b) Quarry Commission

1. Receive recommendation regarding a request from Buckley Powder Co., for a Partial Exemption Permit to conduct blasting activities at the Hanson Quarry for the period of October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022.

Chair Holly stated the Commission recommends approval of the request from Buckley Powder Company for a Partial Exemption Permit to conduct blasting activities at the Hanson Quarry for the period of October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022.

1.1. Take action on recommendation.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember McCaw, seconded by Councilmember Valdez, to approve the Quarry Commission's recommendation and approve the request from Buckley Powder Company for a Partial Exemption Permit to conduct blasting activities at the Hanson Quarry for the period of October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022. The City Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

1.2. Set annual fee for the Partial Exemption Permit.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Bower, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Swint, to set the annual fee for the Partial Exemption Permit at \$28,529.31 for the period of October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022. The City Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Expiring terms (September 30, 2021) of Commissioners.

2.1. Receive recommendation and take action on the reappointment of Commissioner Diaz to serve another term (term expiring September 30, 2023).

Chair Holly stated the Commission recommends the reappointment of Commissioner Diaz to serve another term.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Valdez, seconded by Councilmember Arvidson, to approve the Quarry Commission's recommendation and reappoint Commissioner Diaz to serve another term with term expiring September 30, 2023. The City Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

2.2. Receive recommendation and take action on the reappointment of Commissioner Mudge and Commissioner Shands to serve another term (terms expiring September 30, 2023) as specified in Ordinance No. 210-022018 Section III. E. for the purpose of good cause.

Chair Holly stated the Commission recommends the reappointment of Commissioner Mudge and Commissioner Shands to serve another term as specified in Ordinance No. 210 Section III. E. for the purpose of good cause due to their knowledge and the lack of candidates showing interest in serving on the Quarry Commission.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember McCaw, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Swint, to approve the Quarry Commission's recommendation and reappoint Commissioner Mudge and Commissioner Shands to serve another term with terms expiring September 30, 2023, as specified in Ordinance No. 210-022018 Section III. E. for the purpose of good cause. The City Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Receive monthly activity update as applicable.

Chair Holly provided City Council with an update on the topics discussed at the Commission's July meeting.

c) Water Commission

1. Receive recommendation to appoint Brenda Reynolds to the Water Commission Place 1 Vacancy (term expiring September 30, 2022).

Chair Mueller stated the Commission recommends the appointment of Brenda Reynolds.

1.1. Take action on recommendation.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Bower, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Swint, to approve the Water Commission's recommendation and appoint Brenda Reynolds to the Water Commission Place 1 Vacancy with term expiring September 30, 2022. The City Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Receive monthly activity update as applicable.

Chair Mueller provided City Council with an update on the topics discussed at the Commission's July meeting.

d) Wildlife Management Advisory Commission

Mayor Erickson stated the Commission did not meet in July and does not have anything to report at this time.

e) Parks Committee

Rod Chamberlain, Parks Committee, provided City Council with an update on the Parks Committee's projects.

f) *Volunteer Garden Ridge!*

City Administrator Nancy Cain stated *Volunteer Garden Ridge!* reported 837 hours for the month of July.

11. Approvals and Authorizations

The following items are for discussion, consideration, and action.

a) 2021 Tax Rates.

1. Review the 2021 No-New-Revenue, Voter-Approval, and De Minimis Tax Rate Calculations.

City Administrator Nancy Cain reviewed the 2021 No-New-Revenue, Voter-Approval, and De Minimis Tax Rate Calculations. She spoke regarding the tax rate proposal of \$0.305149 for the 2021 tax year and addressed questions from Councilmembers.

2. Propose, by record vote, a tax rate for the 2021 tax year.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember McCaw, seconded by Councilmember Valdez, to propose a tax rate of \$0.305149 for the 2021 tax year. The City Council voted by roll call:

Councilmember McCaw, Place 1 – aye

Mayor Pro-Tem Swint, Place 2 – aye

Councilmember Valdez, Place 3 – aye

Councilmember Arvidson, Place 4 – aye

Councilmember Bower, Place 5 – aye

The motion carried unanimously.

3. Announce date, time, and place of 2021 Tax Rate Public Hearing and Adoption.

Mayor Erickson announced the 2021 Tax Rate Public Hearing and Adoption is scheduled for Wednesday, September 1st, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

b) Comal Appraisal District Board of Directors Election.

City Administrator Nancy Cain spoke regarding nominations for the Comal Appraisal District Board of Directors Election.

The City Council discussed canvassing residents in order to make a nomination during the September meeting.

12. Updates

a) City Council Projects.

1. Traffic and Development along FM 3009/FM 2252 Corridor (Swint and Arvidson).

Mayor Pro-Tem Swint spoke regarding construction and traffic along FM 3009 and Councilmember Arvidson spoke regarding development along FM 3009/FM 2252 Corridor.

The City Council discussed TxDOT communications and inviting TxDOT Representative Will Lockett to a future City Council meeting.

2. Bulk Dumpsters/Brush along FM 3009 (Valdez).

Councilmember Valdez spoke regarding brush along FM 3009 during bulk dumpster weekends.

3. City of Garden Ridge 50th Anniversary (Bower).

Councilmember Bower spoke regarding the City of Garden Ridge 50th Anniversary.

13. Discussion of Future Agenda Items

Mayor Erickson stated CenterPoint Energy will be on the next agenda.

14. Citizen Comment Period

Johnell Holly, 9916 Trophy Oaks Drive, spoke regarding CPS Energy and generators.

Dr. Jim Miller, 9910 Marie Meadow, spoke regarding illegal dumping.

15. Reports and Comments from Mayor and City Councilmembers

The Mayor and/or City Councilmembers may comment, make general announcements, and/or provide progress reports on events, activities and/or committees/board meetings concerning the following:

Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, Boy Scouts and/or Girl Scouts, City of Garden Ridge sponsored events and outreach efforts, Comal ISD (Garden Ridge Elementary/Danville Middle School/Davenport High School), Counties (Bexar/Comal/Guadalupe), Families of Garden Ridge, Garden Ridge Lions Club, Garden Ridge Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association/Citizen Patrol, Garden Ridge Women's Club, Greater Bexar County Council of Cities, Northeast Partnership.

Mayor Pro-Tem Swint spoke regarding Comal ISD participating in the next Garden Ridge Market Days.

16. Executive Session

The City Council will recess its open meeting and reconvene in Executive Session:

a) Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071(1) and 551.071(2) – Consultation with Attorney and 551.072 – Deliberations About Real Property.

- 1. To deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the governmental body in negotiations with a third person and legal advice on same: wastewater utility easement acquisition and property acquisition for city building project and related matters.**
- 2. A matter in which the duty of the attorney to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with Texas Government Code Chapter 551 regarding possible computer/data breach (Mayor's Access & PC) and related investigation.**

Mayor Erickson announced the City Council will recess at 8:00 p.m. and reconvene into Executive Session at 8:10 p.m., in accordance with Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 – Consultation with Attorney and 551.072 – Deliberations About Real Property to discuss and seek legal advice on the items stated above.

Mayor Erickson adjourned the Executive Session and reconvened back into Regular Session at 8:19 p.m.

17. Business Items

The City Council will reconvene into Regular Session upon conclusion of the Executive Session and may recall any item posted for Executive Session for action, as necessary.

No action taken.

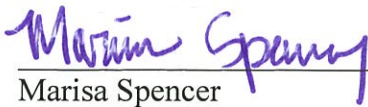
18. Adjournment

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Bower, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Swint, to adjourn. The City Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously. There being no further business, the Wednesday, August 4, 2021, City Council regular meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m. by Mayor Erickson.



Robb Erickson
Mayor

ATTEST



Marisa Spencer
City Secretary