



City of Garden Ridge

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

MINUTES WATER COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2022, 6:00 P.M.

Commissioners Present:

Chair James Mueller
Vice-Chair Keven Harshbarger
Commissioner Joseph Haltaman
Commissioner Don Stone
Commissioner Brenda Reynolds
Mayor Robb Erickson, Ex-Officio

Commissioners Absent:

Commissioner Dr. Richard Carmichael, (Unannounced Absence)

City Staff, City Councilmembers, and Other Commissioners Present:

Nancy Cain, City Administrator
Marisa Spencer, City Secretary
Kat Balbi, Assistant City Secretary/Communications Specialist
Michelle Hinojosa, Utility Clerk
Steven Steinmetz, Public Works Director
Jesse Valdez, City Councilmember

1. Call to Order

With a quorum of the Water Commissioners present, Chair Mueller called the regular meeting of the Garden Ridge Water Commission to order at 6:01 p.m. on Wednesday, February 16, 2022, 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: Chair Mueller led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Citizen Comment Period: None.

5. Business Items

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

a) Approvals

1. Minutes for January 18, 2022, Water Commission Regular Meeting.

Motion: A motion was made by Commissioner Stone, seconded by Vice-Chair Harshbarger, to approve the minutes for the January 18, 2022, Water Commission Regular Meeting. The Commission voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

b) Discussions/Reports/Updates

1. Utility Department Monthly Activity Report.

i. Water Pumping/usage from City wells, Water system infrastructure maintenance, repairs and/or projects, and Water and/or Drought Management (current Watering Stage).

Steven Steinmetz, Public Works Director, reviewed the monthly activity report and answered questions from the Commission.

2. Items applicable to the Water Commission discussed at the February City Council Meeting.

Chair Mueller updated the Commission on the items applicable to the Commission discussed at the February City Council Meeting.

c) Recommendations

- 1. Request for water leak adjustment for 9427 Gloxinia Dr. for the billing period of August 23, 2021 – September 23, 2021 and September 23, 2021 – October 22, 2021.**

Review and make recommendations regarding the request.

The Commission reviewed the water leak adjustment request for 9427 Gloxinia Dr. submitted by Charles Elia; the requestor was not in attendance to address questions from the Commission.

Motion: A motion was made by Vice-Chair Harshbarger, seconded by Commissioner Haltaman, to recommend to the City Administrator to approve a water leak adjustment credit in the amount of \$251.34 for 9427 Gloxinia Dr. for the billing period of August 23, 2021 – September 23, 2021 and September 23, 2021 – October 22, 2021. The Commission voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

- 2. Discuss and make possible recommendations on the amount of Transferable Water Rights for proposed Pensionmark Office Center development.**

Chair Mueller discussed the amount of Transferable Water Rights for proposed Pensionmark Office Center development.

Motion: A motion was made by Vice-Chair Harshbarger, seconded by Commissioner Reynolds, to recommend to City Council the requirement to transfer 4.75 acre feet of Edwards water rights for Phase I prior to filing of the final plat for the project and 6.33 acre feet of Edwards water rights to the City of Garden Ridge prior to the issuance of building permits related to Phase II of the Pensionmark Office Center development. The Commission voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

- 3. Discuss and make possible recommendations on Transferable Water Rights.**

- i. Discuss and make possible recommendations to amend Ordinance No. 7.**

The Commission requested this item be placed on a future agenda.

- ii. Discuss and make possible recommendations on discounting or offsetting water rates for future developers who transfer water rights to the City of Garden Ridge.**

Chair Mueller discussed attempts to obtain additional information from Edwards Aquifer regarding Transferable Water Rights. The Commission requested this item be placed on a future agenda.

- 4. Discuss and make possible recommendations on the Leak Adjustment Process.**

Vice-Chair Harshbarger discussed the current Leak Adjustment Process. The Commission agreed by consensus to direct City Staff to perform an administrative change to remove “5,000 gallons” from Section 16.07 c. in Ordinance No. 54.

- 5. Discuss and make possible recommendations on the Review/Development process for Water Rates.**

Vice-Chair Harshbarger presented possible recommendations for the Commission’s future involvement during the Water Rate Review and Development Process. Mayor Erickson and Nancy Cain, City Administrator, spoke regarding timelines for budgeting process.

- 6. Water Commission activities and projects.**

- i. Update of Commissioner’s activities and projects list and receive update from Commissioners.**

Commissioner Reynolds presented suggestions regarding increasing participation in the AMI Customer Portal.

- ii. Discuss and make possible recommendations on future meetings or direction regarding Water Commission activities and projects.**

The Commissioners updated their projects.

d) Future Agenda Items

- 1. Commissioners input on agenda items.**

Vice-Chair Harshbarger requested to review the Water Rate Review and Development Process.

Commissioner Reynolds requested to review the AMI Education/Incentives.

- 2. Announce the date, time, and location for next meeting (Tuesday, March 15, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall).**

Chair Mueller announced the next Water Commission Regular Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 15, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall in the City Council Chambers.

6. **Citizen Comment Period:** None wished to speak.

7. **Adjournment**

Motion: A motion was made by Commissioner Reynolds, seconded by Commissioner Stone, to adjourn. The Commission voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously. There being no further business, the Wednesday, February 16, 2022, Water Commission Regular Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m. by Chair Mueller.

ATTEST:


Michelle Hinojosa
Utility Clerk


James Mueller
Chair