

Councilmembers Present:

Mayor Robb Erickson
Mayor Pro-Tem Lisa Swint
Councilmember Kelly Smith
Councilmember Jesús Valdez
Councilmember Todd Arvidson
Councilmember Kay Bower

Councilmembers Absent: None**City Staff Present:**

Nancy Cain, City Manager
Marisa Spencer, City Secretary
Courtney Billi, Assistant City Secretary
Robyn Achu, Finance/HR Director
Ron Eberhardt, Police Chief
Steven Steinmetz, Public Works Director
Linda Crosland, Library Director
Cynthia Trevino, City Attorney

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

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, September 6, 2023, in the City Council Chambers of the Garden Ridge City Hall, 9400 Municipal Parkway, Garden Ridge, Texas 78266.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

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

Mayor Erickson spoke regarding former Councilmember Bryan Lantzy and observed a moment of silence in honor of him.

3. Citizen Comment Period

Steve Stedman, 20011 Hickory Bend, spoke regarding development in the City of Garden Ridge.

Jim Miller, 9910 Marie Meadow, spoke regarding garbage and recycling services in the City of Garden Ridge.

4. 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 August 2, 2023, City Council Regular Meeting.**
- b) **Approval of Minutes for the August 14, 2023, City Council Special Meeting.**
- c) **Financial Statement, Summary Report, and Management's Discussion and Analysis of Results of Operations – July 31, 2023.**

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

5. Staff Reports

a) City Manager Monthly Activity Report.

City Manager Nancy Cain reviewed employee anniversaries and City Staff recognitions. She stated there were 322 *Volunteer Garden Ridge!* hours for the month of August and spoke regarding First Friday and TxDOT conducting surveying on FM 3009.

b) Finance/HR Monthly Activity Report.

Finance/HR Director Robyn Achu spoke regarding continuity of operations related to the Finance/HR Department.

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 Works Director Steven Steinmetz reviewed the monthly activity report and spoke regarding continuity of operations related to the Public Works Department.

f) Library Monthly Activity Report.

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

6. City Engineer Projects Status Reports

City Engineer Sam Johnson reviewed the City Engineer monthly activity report and addressed questions from Councilmembers.

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

a) Planning and Zoning Commission:

1. Garden Ridge Walkable Community Workshop Report.

1.1. Receive presentation from Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (AAMPO) and receive recommendation from Planning and Zoning Commission.

Matthew Moreno, Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, reviewed the Garden Ridge Walkable Community Workshop Report.

1.2. Discuss and take action.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Valdez, seconded by Councilmember Arvidson, to approve the Garden Ridge Walkable Community Workshop Report as an official document for use in future planning efforts within the City of Garden Ridge. The City Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Expiring Terms (September 30, 2023) of Commissioners.

2.1. Receive recommendation to reappoint Commissioner Miller and Commissioner Maloney to serve another term with terms expiring September 30, 2025.

Vice-Chair Jacaman spoke regarding the expiring terms of Commissioners. He stated Commissioner Crow and Commissioner Leatherberry did not desire to seek reappointment; therefore, the Commission recommends the reappointment of Commissioner Miller and Commissioner Maloney to serve another term.

2.2. Discuss and take action.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Valdez, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Swint, to approve the Planning and Zoning Commission's recommendation and reappoint Commissioner Miller and Commissioner Maloney to serve another term with terms expiring September 30, 2025. The City Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Receive monthly activity update as applicable.

Vice-Chair Jacaman provided City Council with an update on the Commission's upcoming meeting.

b) Water Commission:

Mayor Erickson stated the Commission did not meet in August and there are no updates at this time.

c) Parks Committee:

City Manager Nancy Cain provided City Council with an update on the committee's projects.

8. Approvals and Authorizations

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

a) 2023 Tax Rate.

1. Review and discuss the 2023 Tax Rate Proposal of \$0.257734.

City Manager Nancy Cain reviewed the 2023 Tax Rate Proposal of \$0.257734.

2. Hold a public hearing.

Mayor Erickson opened the public hearing at 6:56 p.m.

No one wished to speak and City Secretary Marisa Spencer stated no written comments were submitted.

Mayor Erickson closed the public hearing at 6:56 p.m.

3. Approve \$0.192839 as the 2023 Maintenance and Operation Rate for the City of Garden Ridge.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Valdez, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Swint, to approve \$0.192839 as the 2023 Maintenance and Operation Rate for the City of Garden Ridge. The City Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Approve \$0.064895 as the 2023 Debt Service Rate for the City of Garden Ridge.

Motion: A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Swint, seconded by Councilmember Smith, to approve \$0.064895 as the 2023 Debt Service Rate for the City of Garden Ridge. The City Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Take action on Ordinance No. 239-092023 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, adopting a Tax Rate of \$0.257734 per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) consisting of the approved Maintenance and Operation Rate and Debt Service Rate of assessed valuation for the City of Garden Ridge to be effective for the 2023 Tax Year (Fiscal Year 2024).

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Bower, seconded by Councilmember Arvidson, moving that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$0.257734, which is effectively a 3.9982 percent increase in the tax rate, and that Ordinance No. 239-092023 is approved to adopt \$0.257734 as the 2023 tax rate for the City of Garden Ridge. The City Council voted by roll call:

Place 1, Councilmember Smith – aye

Place 2, Mayor Pro-Tem Swint – aye

Place 3, Councilmember Valdez – aye

Place 4, Councilmember Arvidson – aye

Place 5, Councilmember Bower – aye

The motion carried unanimously.

b) Natural Features Overlay (NFO) District related to undeveloped properties along FM2252/FM3009.
Councilmember Valdez spoke regarding the Natural Features Overlay (NFO) District related to undeveloped properties along FM2252/FM2009.

The City Council agreed by consensus to task the Planning and Zoning Commission with looking into the Natural Features Overlay (NFO) District and related information to then bring a recommendation back to City Council.

9. Updates

a) City Council Projects.

1. Mitigation of growth and encroachment impacts on Garden Ridge (Swint and Erickson).

Mayor Erickson and Mayor Pro-Tem Swint provided updates related to mitigation of growth and encroachment impacts on Garden Ridge.

2. Economic Development/Council Liaison to Tri-County Chamber of Commerce (Smith and Bower).

Councilmember Smith and Councilmember Bower provided updates related to Economic Development and Tri-County Chamber of Commerce.

3. Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee Update (Valdez and Erickson).

Councilmember Valdez provided updates related to the Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee.

4. Council Liaison to the Water Company/Utilities Department (Valdez and Erickson).

Councilmember Valdez provided updates related to the Water Company/Utilities Department.

5. Council Liaison to Comal ISD (Arvidson and Erickson).

Mayor Erickson and Councilmember Arvidson provided updates related to Comal ISD.

6. City Welcome Signage (Bower and Erickson).

Councilmember Bower provided updates related to City Welcome Signage.

The City Council agreed by consensus for Councilmember Bower to continue working with City Manager Nancy Cain and the proposed artist for this project and to bring a formal quote with pictures to City Council in October.

10. Discussion of Future Agenda Items

None at this time.

11. Citizen Comment Period

Sharon Stripling, 21729 Forest Waters Circle, spoke regarding traffic concerns within the City of Garden Ridge.

Sonia Jimenez, AAMPO Deputy Director, spoke regarding upcoming opportunities and funding through the Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization.

12. 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 and Garden Ridge Women's Club, Garden Ridge

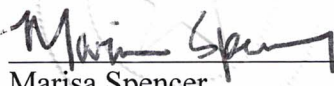
Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association/Citizen Patrol, Great Springs Project, Greater Bexar County Council of Cities, Hill Country Alliance, Northeast Partnership, Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), Tri-County Chamber of Commerce.

Councilmember Smith spoke regarding Tri-County Chamber of Commerce events. Mayor Pro-Tem Swint spoke regarding Hill Country Alliance. Councilmember Valdez spoke regarding the Comal ISD opening ceremony and the Garden Ridge Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association Annual Car Show. Councilmember Arvidson spoke regarding Eagle Scouts and Davenport High School. Mayor Erickson spoke regarding Families of Garden Ridge Adopt-A-Highway Program and Northeast Partnership for Economic Development.

13. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Wednesday, September 6, 2023, City Council regular meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m. by Mayor Erickson.

ATTEST



Marisa Spencer
City Secretary



Robb Erickson
Mayor