

Councilmembers Present:

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

Councilmembers Absent:

Councilmember Todd Arvidson

City Staff Present:

Nancy Cain, City Manager
Marisa Spencer, City Secretary
Courtney Billi, Assistant City Secretary
Robyn Achu, Finance/HR Director
Ron Eberhardt, Chief of Police
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, December 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.

3. Proclamations/Presentations**a) Davenport High School Band Presentation.**

Mayor Erickson spoke regarding Davenport High School and stated the band is unable to be in attendance due to a Community Pep Rally.

4. Citizen Comment Period

John Rivera, 19530 Creekview Oaks, spoke regarding development in the City of Garden Ridge.

Bill Pohl, 21016 Hickory Bend, spoke regarding development in the City of Garden Ridge.

Sharon Stripling, 21729 Forest Waters Circle, spoke regarding oak wilt and garbage services.

DerryAnn Krupinsky, 19454 Arrowood Place, spoke regarding development in the City of Garden Ridge.

5. 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 November 1, 2023, City Council Regular Meeting.**b) Financial Statement, Summary Report, and Management's Discussion and Analysis of Results of Operations – October 31, 2023.**

Motion: A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Swint, seconded by Councilmember Bower, to approve Consent Agenda items a)-b). The City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Staff Reports

a) City Manager Monthly Activity Report.

City Manager Nancy Cain reviewed employee anniversaries and City Staff recognitions. She stated there were 509 *Volunteer Garden Ridge!* hours for the month of November and spoke regarding the Annual Christmas Tree Lighting and Comal County's Pop-Up Tax Office.

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.

7. City Engineer Projects Status Reports

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

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

a) Planning and Zoning Commission:

1. Final Plat combining a 1.4-acre tract and a 1.707-acre tract to create a 3.107-acre tract to be known as Lot 1, Block 1, The Revival, located at 19186 FM 2252 and owned by Eric T. Fischer.

1.1. Receive recommendation from Planning and Zoning Commission.

Chair Jacaman stated the Commission recommends approval of the Final Plat combining a 1.4-acre tract and a 1.707-acre tract to create a 3.107-acre tract to be known as Lot 1, Block 1, The Revival, located at 19186 FM 2252 and owned by Eric T. Fischer.

1.2. 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 approve the Final Plat combining a 1.4-acre tract and a 1.707-acre tract to create a 3.107-acre tract to be known as Lot 1, Block 1, The Revival, located at 19186 FM 2252 and owned by Eric T. Fischer. The City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Receive monthly activity update as applicable.

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

b) Water Commission:

- 1. Ordinance No. 61-082022 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, establishing the Drought Management Plan for the City of Garden Ridge; establishing trigger points and demand reduction measures; providing a variance procedure; providing a penalty for violations of this ordinance; providing a cumulative and savings clause; providing for severability; and declaring an effective date.**

- 1.1. Receive recommendation and take action on variance to use City water for future construction of a pool at 20103 Regency Run, Garden Ridge, Texas.**

Chair Mueller stated the Commission recommends denial of the variance to use City water for future construction of a pool at 20103 Regency Run, Garden Ridge, Texas.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Valdez, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Swint, to approve the Water Commission's recommendation and deny the variance to use City water for future construction of a pool at 20103 Regency Run, Garden Ridge, Texas. The City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

- 1.2. Receive recommendation and take action on variance to Stage 2 watering restrictions for 8922 Comanche Path, Garden Ridge, Texas.**

Chair Mueller stated the Commission recommends denial of the variance to Stage 2 watering restrictions for 8922 Comanche Path, Garden Ridge, Texas.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Bower, seconded by Councilmember Valdez, to approve the Water Commission's recommendation and deny the variance to Stage 2 watering restrictions for 8922 Comanche Path, Garden Ridge, Texas. The City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

- 1.3. Receive recommendation and take action on variance to Stage 2 watering restrictions for 8918 Comanche Path, Garden Ridge, Texas.**

Chair Mueller stated the Commission recommends denial of the variance to Stage 2 watering restrictions for 8918 Comanche Path, Garden Ridge, Texas.

Motion: A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Swint, seconded by Councilmember Bower, to approve the Water Commission's recommendation and deny the variance to Stage 2 watering restrictions for 8918 Comanche Path, Garden Ridge, Texas. The City Council voted four (4) 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 topics discussed at the Commission's meeting.

c) Parks Committee:

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

9. Approvals and Authorizations

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

- a) Resolution No. 512-122023 A Resolution of votes cast to elect Board of Directors for the Comal Appraisal District for the years 2024-2025.**

Mayor Erickson spoke regarding Resolution No. 512-122023 and the candidates on the official ballot. The City Council discussed splitting the City's allotted votes equally among the candidates.

Motion: A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Swint, seconded by Councilmember Smith, to cast five (5) votes for each candidate on the official ballot and approve Resolution No. 512-122023 A Resolution of votes cast to elect Board of Directors for the Comal Appraisal District for the years 2024-2025. The City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

- b) **Resolution No. 513-122023 A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, authorizing and approving membership in the Cities Served by CenterPoint Gas (Cities) for the purpose of protecting the interest of the City and its citizens with respect to CenterPoint matters; further suspending the December 4, 2023 effective date of the Statement of Intent of CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp., d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Entex and CenterPoint Energy Texas Gas to change rates in the Texas division; to permit the City time to study the request and to establish reasonable rates; finding that the City's reasonable rate case expenses shall be reimbursed by the Company; authorizing participation with the Cities Served by CenterPoint Gas; hiring legal and consulting services to negotiate with the Company and direct any necessary litigation and appeals; finding that the meeting at which this Resolution is passed is open to the public as required by law; requiring notice of this Resolution to the Company and legal counsel.**

City Manager Nancy Cain spoke regarding Resolution No. 513-122023 and stated the Statement of Intent effective date has been postponed from December 4, 2023, to January 27, 2024.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Bower, to amend the Statement of Intent effective date to January 27, 2024, and approve Resolution No. 513-122023 A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, authorizing and approving membership in the Cities Served by CenterPoint Gas (Cities) for the purpose of protecting the interest of the City and its citizens with respect to CenterPoint matters; further suspending the December 4, 2023 effective date of the Statement of Intent of CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp., d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Entex and CenterPoint Energy Texas Gas to change rates in the Texas division; to permit the City time to study the request and to establish reasonable rates; finding that the City's reasonable rate case expenses shall be reimbursed by the Company; authorizing participation with the Cities Served by CenterPoint Gas; hiring legal and consulting services to negotiate with the Company and direct any necessary litigation and appeals; finding that the meeting at which this Resolution is passed is open to the public as required by law; requiring notice of this Resolution to the Company and legal counsel. The City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

- c) **Ordinance No. 70-122023 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, amending the regulations of the Police Department for the City of Garden Ridge; providing for the appointment and composition of the Police Department; providing for findings of fact, savings, severability, repealer, an effective date, and proper notice and meeting.**

Mayor Erickson spoke regarding Ordinance No. 70-122023, stating the ordinance is being amended to be consistent with regulations for a Home Rule City.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Valdez, seconded by Councilmember Smith, to approve Ordinance No. 70-122023 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, amending the regulations of the Police Department for the City of Garden Ridge; providing for the appointment and composition of the Police Department; providing for findings of fact, savings, severability, repealer, an effective date, and proper notice and meeting. The City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

- d) **Ordinance No. 210-102022 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, adopting board and commission policies and procedures; providing a cumulative and savings clause; providing for severability; and declaring an effective date.**

1. Interview Panel Recommendation for Appointment to Planning and Zoning Commission.

City Manager Nancy Cain stated the Interview Panel recommends the appointment of Gwen Estrada and Richard Howard to serve on the Planning and Zoning Commission with the terms expiring September 30, 2025.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Bower, seconded by Councilmember Valdez, to appoint Gwen Estrada and Richard Howard to the Planning and Zoning Commission with the terms expiring September 30, 2025. The City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Interview Panel Recommendation for Appointment to Water Commission.

City Manager Nancy Cain stated the Interview Panel recommends the appointment of Steve Stedman to serve on the Water Commission with the term expiring September 30, 2024.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Bower, seconded by Councilmember Valdez, to appoint Steve Stedman to the Water Commission with the term expiring September 30, 2024. The City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

e) Board of Adjustment Appointments.

Mayor Erickson spoke regarding the Board of Adjustment Appointments.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Bower, seconded by Councilmember Smith, to appoint Veronica Garcia, David Krawczynski, Roy Leatherberry, Liz Templeman, and Autumn Flanagan as regular members and Jennifer Dalton as an alternate member to serve on the Board of Adjustment for two-year terms. The City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

f) Contract for Services related to City Logo on Schoenthal Road Well Site Water Storage Tank.

The City Council discussed the Contact for Services related to City Logo on Schoenthal Road Well Site Water Storage Tank and the logo variations contained in the City of Garden Ridge Branding Guide.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Swint, to authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with Maguire Iron, Inc. for application of the green horizontal city logo version with the tagline as approved in the City of Garden Ridge Branding Guide with army green for the bottom band of the tank and acid green for the top band of the tank. The City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

g) Paul Davis Park Signage.

Mayor Erickson and City Manager Nancy Cain spoke regarding Paul Davis Park Signage and addressed questions from Councilmembers.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Bower, seconded by Councilmember Smith, to authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with Boulder Designs for the installation of “Option 1” for Paul Davis Park at a base cost of \$4,389 to include \$450 for graffiti protectant and \$789 for installation of a low voltage lighting system for a total contract cost of \$5,628. The City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

10. 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).

Mayor Erickson and Councilmember Valdez provided updates related to the Water Rate Structure.

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

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

11. Discussion of Future Agenda Items

None at this time.

12. Citizen Comment Period

Tom Klimas, 9610 Meadow Rue, spoke regarding Ordinance No. 54 and water loss adjustments.

13. 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:

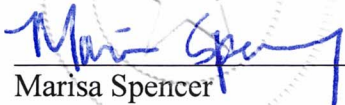
Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, Boy Scouts and/or Girl Scouts, City of Garden Ridge sponsored events and outreach efforts, Comal ISD (Garden Ridge Elementary/Danville Middle School/Davenport High School), Counties (Bexar/Comal/Guadalupe), Families of Garden Ridge, Garden Ridge Lions Club 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 upcoming events. Mayor Pro-Tem Swint spoke regarding Comal County Parks Master Plan. Councilmember Valdez spoke regarding the Texas Department of Transportation survey along FM 3009 and Great Springs Project. Mayor Erickson spoke regarding Families of Garden Ridge Adopt-A-Highway Program and Northeast Partnership for Economic Development.

14. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Wednesday, December 6, 2023, City Council regular meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m. by Mayor Erickson.

ATTEST


Marisa Spencer
City Secretary


Robb Erickson
Mayor