



MINUTES
WATER COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2023 | 6:00 P.M.

Commissioners Present:

Chair James Mueller
Vice-Chair Keven Harshbarger
Commissioner Dr. Richard Carmichael
Commissioner Don Stone
Commissioner William Pohl
Mayor Robb Erickson, Ex-Officio

Commissioners Absent:

Vacant Position
Vacant Position

City Staff, City Councilmembers, and Other Commissioners Present:

Nancy Cain, City Manager
Marisa Spencer, City Secretary
Courtney Billi, Assistant City Secretary/Communications Specialist
Michelle Hinojosa, Utility Clerk
Steven Steinmetz, Public Works Director
Jesús 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 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 21, 2023, 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 wished to speak.

5. Business Items:

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

a) Approvals

1. Minutes for September 19, 2023, Water Commission Regular Meeting.

Motion: A motion was made by Commissioner Pohl, seconded by Commissioner Dr. Carmichael, to approve the minutes for the September 19, 2023, 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 October and November City



Council Regular Meetings.

Chair Mueller updated the Commission on the items applicable to the Commission discussed at the October and November 2023 City Council Meetings.

3. Update on the Water Rate Structure.

Nancy Cain, City Manager, discussed the Water Rate Structure and process.

c) Recommendations

1. Request for appeal on a water loss adjustment denial for 21916 Park View Dr. for the billing period of July 21, 2023 – August 23, 2023.

Steven Steinmetz, Public Works Director, answered questions regarding the appeal on a water loss adjustment denial for 21916 Park View Dr. for the billing period of July 21, 2023 – August 23, 2023.

i. Review and make recommendation regarding the request.

Motion: A motion was made by Vice-Chair Harshbarger, seconded by Commissioner Stone, to table the appeal, recommend staff make contact with the homeowner, and provide an additional 45 days to submit supporting documentation. The Commission voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

2. 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.

i. Review and make recommendations regarding the requests.

a. Variance to use City water for future construction of a pool at 20103 Regency Run, Garden Ridge, Texas.

The Commissioners asked the homeowner questions and discussed the Variance request.

Motion: A motion was made by Vice-Chair Harshbarger, seconded by Commissioner Stone, recommend to City Council to not approve the Variance request. The commission voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

b. Variance to Stage 2 watering restrictions for 8922 Comanche Path, Garden Ridge, Texas.

The Commissioners asked the homeowner questions and discussed the Variance request.

Motion: A motion was made by Commissioner Dr. Carmichael, seconded by Commissioner Pohl, to recommend to City Council to not approve the Variance request. The commission voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

c. Variance to Stage 2 watering restrictions for 8918 Comanche Path, Garden Ridge, Texas.

The Commissioners asked the homeowner questions and discussed the Variance request.

Motion: A motion was made by Vice-Chair Harshbarger, seconded by Commissioner Stone, to recommend to City Council to not approve the Variance request. The commission voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Discuss options for increasing AMI Portal users and educational outreach.

Commissioner Pohl discussed options for increasing AMI Portal users. Nancy Cain, City Manager, answered questions regarding educational outreach.

d) Future Agenda Items

1. Commissioners input on agenda items.

Commissioner Pohl requested to keep AMI outreach on the agenda.

2. Announce the date, time, and location for next meeting (Tuesday, December 19, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall).

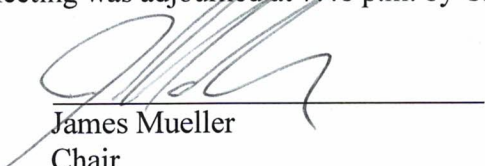
Chair Mueller announced the next Water Commission Regular Meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 19, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall in the City Council Chambers.

6. Citizen Comment Period:

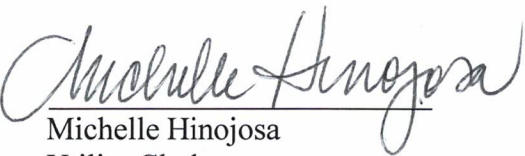
Darren Bates, 20103 Regency Run, spoke regarding benefits of water conservation efforts.

7. Adjournment:

Motion: A motion was made by Vice-Chair Harshbarger, seconded by Commissioner Pohl, to adjourn. The Commission voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously. There being no further business, the Tuesday, November 21, 2023, Water Commission Regular Meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m. by Chair Mueller.


James Mueller
Chair

ATTEST


Michelle Hinojosa
Utility Clerk