

Councilmembers Present:

Mayor Robb Erickson
Councilmember Kelly Smith
Councilmember Lisa Swint
Councilmember Jesús Valdez
Councilmember Brian Reyes

Councilmembers Absent:

Mayor Pro-Tem Todd Arvidson

City Staff Present:

Nancy Cain, City Manager
Marisa Spencer, City Secretary
Cyndi Simmons, Assistant City Secretary/Communications Specialist
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 special meeting of the Garden Ridge City Council to order at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 9, 2024, 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. Presentations/Proclamations**a) Introduction/Swearing in of Police Officers.**

Chief Eberhardt conducted a swearing in ceremony and introduction of Officer Erin Brown.

4. Citizen Comment Period

Gary Gates, 8025 Jethro, spoke regarding Ordinance No. 22 regulating traffic within 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 June 5, 2024, City Council Regular Meeting.**b) Financial Statement, Summary Report, and Management's Discussion and Analysis of Results of Operations – May 31, 2024.****c) Bexar Metro 9-1-1 Network Fiscal Year 2025 Financial Plan and Budget.****d) Designate Comal County Tax Assessor-Collector to calculate 2024 Tax Rate for the City of Garden Ridge.****e) Resolution No. 522-072024 A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, amending authorized representatives between TexPool and the City of Garden Ridge.**

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Swint, seconded by Councilmember Smith, to approve Consent Agenda items a)-e). 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 recognitions and employee anniversaries. She stated there were 189 *Volunteer Garden Ridge!* hours for the month of June and spoke regarding the 4th of July Parade and Celebration and First Friday.

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 Hank Krippen 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. Receive monthly activity update as applicable.

Mayor Erickson stated the Commission did not meet in June.

b) Water Commission:

1. Receive monthly activity update as applicable.

Mayor Erickson stated the Commission did not meet in June.

9. Approvals and Authorizations

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

a) City Manager

1. Accept retirement letter from Nancy Cain.

City Manager Nancy Cain announced her retirement from the City of Garden Ridge effective March 22, 2025.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Reyes, seconded by Councilmember Valdez, to accept the retirement letter from Nancy Cain. The City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Discussion on possible hiring process.

The City Council discussed the hiring process and executive recruitment services.

b) Around the Flagpole Commemorative Brick Program.

City Manager Nancy Cain spoke regarding the Around the Flagpole Commemorative Brick Program and addressed questions from Councilmembers.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Swint, to approve the Around the Flagpole Commemorative Brick Program as presented. The City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

c) Nominations to the Board of Trustees of the Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental Risk Pool.

The City Council discussed Nominations to the Board of Trustees of the Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental Risk Pool. The City Council agreed by consensus to table this item for further discussion at the next meeting.

d) Approval of employee benefits for fiscal year 2025 and authorization for the City Manager to negotiate contracts with Texas Health Benefits Pool.

City Manager Nancy Cain and Finance/HR Director Robyn Achu spoke regarding the employee benefits for fiscal year 2025 and addressed questions from Councilmembers.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Valdez, seconded by Councilmember Reyes, to approve City Staff's recommendation of Option 1 with a 15.74% increase and authorize the City Manager to negotiate contracts with Texas Health Benefits Pool. The City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

e) Budget Reserves Discussion.

City Manager Nancy Cain and Finance/HR Director Robyn Achu spoke regarding budget reserves and addressed questions from Councilmembers.

f) Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Air Sensor Loan Program Discussion.

Councilmember Swint provided updates related to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Air Sensor Loan Program.

10. Updates

a) City Council Projects.

1. Aggregate Production Operations (APO) impacting Garden Ridge (Swint and Arvidson).

Councilmember Swint provided updates related to Aggregate Production Operations (APO) impacting Garden Ridge.

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

Mayor Erickson and Councilmember Swint provided updates related to mitigation of growth and encroachment on Garden Ridge.

3. Economic Development (Smith and Swint).

Councilmember Smith and Councilmember Swint provided updates related to Economic Development.

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

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

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

Mayor Erickson provided updates related to Council Liaison to Comal ISD.

11. Discussion of Future Agenda Items

Councilmember Reyes requested to discuss grant writing and grant opportunities.

12. Citizen Comment Period

Scott Miller, 9312 Berean Way, spoke regarding proposed development in the City of Garden Ridge.

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:

100 Club of Comal County, Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization/Technical Advisory Committee, 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).

Councilmember Valdez spoke regarding Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee and Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). Mayor Erickson spoke regarding Northeast Partnership for Economic Development.

14. Executive Session

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

a) Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071(1) Pending or Contemplated Litigation and 551.071(2) – Consultation with City Attorney on the following items:

1. Notice of Claim Letter (Daniel Post).
2. Petition for Declaratory Judgment (Eric Fischer v. City of Garden Ridge).

Mayor Erickson announced the City Council will recess at 8:05 p.m. and reconvene into Executive Session at 8:15 p.m., to discuss and seek legal advice on the items stated above.

Mayor Erickson adjourned the Executive Session and reconvened back into Regular Session at 8:58 p.m.

15. Business Items

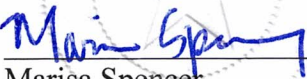
The City Council will reconvene into Regular Session upon conclusion of the Executive Session and may recall any item posted for Executive Session for action, as necessary.

No action taken.

16. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Tuesday, July 9, 2024, City Council special meeting was adjourned at 8:59 p.m. by Mayor Erickson.

ATTEST


Marisa Spencer
City Secretary



Robb Erickson
Mayor