

Councilmembers Present:

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

Councilmembers Absent:

Councilmember Brian Reyes

City Staff Present:

Nancy Cain, City Manager
Marisa Spencer, City Secretary
Cyndi Simmons, 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, August 7, 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 Carlos Rivera and Officer Joshua Martinez.

4. Citizen Comment Period

Thomas Klimas, 9610 Meadow Rue, spoke regarding garbage and recycling services.

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 July 9, 2024, City Council Special Meeting.**b) Financial Statement, Summary Report, and Management's Discussion and Analysis of Results of Operations – June 30, 2024.**

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Swint, seconded by Councilmember Smith, 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 recognitions and employee anniversaries. She stated there were 229 *Volunteer Garden Ridge!* hours for the month of July and spoke regarding 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 July.

b) Water Commission:

1. Receive monthly activity update as applicable.

Mayor Erickson stated the Commission did not meet in July.

9. Approvals and Authorizations

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

a) Unified Development Code (UDC) Comparative Analysis presented by THE SILVAS GROUP.

Kate Silvas, THE SILVAS GROUP, presented the Unified Development Code (UDC) Comparative Analysis and addressed questions from Councilmembers.

b) Tri-County Chamber of Commerce Membership.

Mindy Paxton, Tri-County Chamber of Commerce, spoke regarding the Tri-County Chamber of Commerce. The City Council discussed continuing membership as a City Partner with Tri-County Chamber of Commerce.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Swint, to approve the renewal of the Tri-County Chamber of Commerce City Partner Membership. The City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

c) Request from Buckley Powder Co., for a Partial Exemption Permit to conduct blasting activities at Heidelberg Materials Servtex Quarry for the period of October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2025, and set annual permit fee.

City Manager Nancy Cain spoke regarding the request from Buckley Powder Co. for a Partial Exemption Permit and addressed questions from Councilmembers.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Valdez, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Arvidson, to approve the request from Buckley Powder Company for a Partial Exemption Permit to conduct blasting activities at Heidelberg Materials Servtex Quarry for the period of October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2025, with an annual permit fee of \$33,026.22. The City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

d) 2024 Tax Rates.

1. Review the 2024 No-New-Revenue, Voter-Approval, and De Minimis Tax Rate Calculations.

City Manager Nancy Cain reviewed the 2024 No-New-Revenue, Voter-Approval, and De Minimis Tax Rate Calculations and addressed questions from Councilmembers.

2. Propose, by record vote, a tax rate for the 2024 tax year.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Valdez, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Arvidson, to propose the Voter-Approval rate of \$0.255156 for the 2024 tax year. The City Council voted by roll call:

Councilmember Smith, Place 1	aye
Councilmember Swint, Place 2	aye
Councilmember Valdez, Place 3	aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Arvidson, Place 4	aye
Councilmember Reyes, Place 5	absent

The motion carried unanimously.

3. Announce date, time, and place of 2024 Tax Rate Public Hearing and Adoption.

Mayor Erickson stated the 2024 Tax Rate Public Hearing and Adoption will be held on Wednesday, September 4, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

e) Interview Panel Recommendation for Appointment to Water Commission.

Mayor Erickson and City Manager Nancy Cain spoke regarding interviewing a candidate to fill the vacancy on the Water Commission and stated the Interview Panel recommends the appointment of Nathan Dorsey to the Water Commission Place 7 with a term of office expiring September 30, 2024.

Motion: A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Arvidson, seconded by Councilmember Valdez, to approve the Interview Panel Recommendation and appoint Nathan Dorsey to the Water Commission Place 7 with a term of office expiring September 30, 2024. The City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

f) Proposal for Executive Recruitment Services.

Mayor Erickson presented an overview of Proposals for Executive Recruitment Services and addressed questions from Councilmembers. The City Council discussed the Proposals for Executive Recruitment Services from Strategic Government Resources (SGR), Baker Tilly, Clear Career Professionals, and Lunt Consulting.

Motion: A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Arvidson, seconded by Councilmember Smith, to hire Strategic Government Resources (SGR) to conduct recruitment services for a new City Manager for the City of Garden Ridge. The City Council voted three (3) for and one (1) opposed (Councilmember Swint). The motion passed by a vote of 3-1 (Councilmember Swint).

g) Republic Services Annual Rate Adjustment.

City Manager Nancy Cain spoke regarding the Republic Services Annual Rate Adjustment and addressed questions from Councilmembers.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Valdez, seconded by Councilmember Swint, to approve the Republic Services Annual Rate Adjustment as presented. The City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

h) Davenport High School Homecoming Parade.

Mayor Erickson spoke regarding the Davenport High School Homecoming Parade.

The City Council agreed by consensus to continue supporting the Davenport High School Homecoming Parade.

i) Proposed FY2025 Budgets for the City of Garden Ridge.

1. Discuss proposed FY2025 Budgets: General Fund, Water Company Operation and Maintenance Fund, Interest & Sinking Fund, Capital Improvements Fund.

Finance/HR Director Robyn Achu reviewed the proposed FY2025 Budgets for the City of Garden Ridge and addressed questions from Councilmembers.

The City Council discussed the proposed FY2025 Budgets for the City of Garden Ridge and the budget process.

2. File the proposed FY2025 Budgets with the City Secretary.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Valdez, seconded by Councilmember Swint, to file the proposed Water Company Operation and Maintenance Fund Budget Option B as presented with the City Secretary. The City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Swint, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Arvidson, to file the proposed Interest and Sinking Fund Budget Option B as presented with the City Secretary. The City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion: A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Arvidson, seconded by Councilmember Valdez, to file the proposed Capital Improvements Fund Budget Option B as presented with the City Secretary. The City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Swint, seconded by Councilmember Smith, to file the proposed General Fund Budget Option B as presented with the City Secretary. The City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

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 Pro-Tem Arvidson provided updates related to Council Liaison to Comal ISD.

6. Grant Writing and Grant Opportunities (Reyes and Erickson).

Mayor Erickson stated there were no updates at this time.

11. Discussion of Future Agenda Items

Councilmember Smith requested to add Tri-County Chamber of Commerce to the list under Reports and Comments from Mayor and City Councilmembers.

Councilmember Swint requested to discuss personnel titles related to City Staff.

12. Citizen Comment Period

Sharon Stripling, 21729 Forest Waters Circle, spoke regarding Tri-County Chamber of Commerce, Davenport High School Homecoming Parade, Republic Services, and the Unified Development Code Comparative Analysis.

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).

Mayor Pro-Tem Arvidson spoke regarding Davenport High School. 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).**
- 3. Notice of Claim Letter pursuant to Texas Tort Claims Act (Craig Dillard v. City of Garden Ridge, Cause #: C2024-1193E).**

Mayor Erickson announced the City Council will recess at 8:57 p.m. and reconvene into Executive Session at 9:05 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 9:16 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

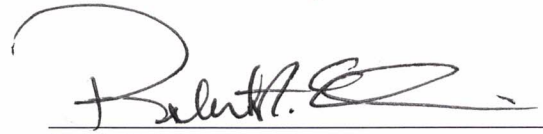
There being no further business, the Wednesday, August 7, 2024, City Council regular meeting was adjourned at 9:16 p.m. by Mayor Erickson.

ATTEST



Marisa Spencer

City Secretary



Robb Erickson
Mayor