

Councilmembers Present:

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

Councilmembers Absent:

None

City Staff Present:

Nancy Cain, City Manager
Marisa Spencer, City Secretary
Cyndi Simmons, Assistant City Secretary
Ron Eberhardt, Chief of Police
Steven Steinmetz, Public Works Director
Linda Crosland, Library Director
Megan Santee, 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, November 6, 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. Citizen Comment Period

Maria Currie, 10811 Tonne Drive, spoke regarding aggregate production operations and the Garden Ridge Area Coalition for the Environment.

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 October 2, 2024, City Council Regular Meeting.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Reyes, seconded by Councilmember Smith, to approve the Consent Agenda. 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 recognitions and employee anniversaries. She stated there were 619.50 *Volunteer Garden Ridge!* hours for the month of October and spoke regarding upcoming events and the annual audit.

b) Finance/HR Monthly Activity Report.

City Manager Nancy Cain 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 Hank Krippen 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:

Mayor Erickson stated the Commission did not meet in October.

b) Water Commission:

Mayor Erickson stated the Commission did not meet in October.

8. Approvals and Authorizations

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

a) Resolution No. 528-112024 A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, of votes cast to elect Board of Directors for the Comal Appraisal District for the years 2025 and 2025-2027.

The City Council discussed the Board of Directors for the Comal Appraisal District Election Ballot.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Reyes, seconded by Councilmember Valdez, to distribute the City of Garden Ridge's 27 total available votes as follows: 9 votes for Eric Couch, 9 votes for Douglas Miller Jr., and 9 votes for Robert Slupik. The City Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

b) Ordinance No. 22-112024 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, regulating traffic on streets, roads, and highways within the City of Garden Ridge by establishing stop sign locations and placement of traffic control devices; establishing prima facie speed limits and placement of traffic control devices; establishing through truck traffic regulations and placement of traffic control devices; establishing "no parking zones"; regulating and requiring permits for certain assemblages and processions; providing a penalty; providing for severability; and declaring an effective date.

City Manager Nancy Cain spoke regarding Ordinance No. 22-112024 and addressed questions from Councilmembers.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Valdez, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Arvidson, to approve Ordinance No. 22-112024 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, regulating traffic on streets, roads, and highways within the City of Garden Ridge by establishing stop sign locations and placement of traffic control devices; establishing prima facie speed limits and placement of traffic control devices; establishing through truck traffic regulations and placement of traffic control devices; establishing “no parking zones”; regulating and requiring permits for certain assemblages and processions; providing a penalty; providing for severability; and declaring an effective date. The City Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

c) City of Garden Ridge Covered Applications and Prohibited Technology Policy.

City Manager Nancy Cain spoke regarding the City of Garden Ridge Covered Applications and Prohibited Technology Policy and addressed questions from Councilmembers.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Swint, seconded by Councilmember Smith, to approve the City of Garden Ridge Covered Applications and Prohibited Technology Policy. The City Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

d) Amendments to City of Garden Ridge Police Department Step Pay Program.

City Manager Nancy Cain and Chief Eberhardt spoke regarding the proposed amendments to the City of Garden Ridge Police Department Step Pay Program and addressed questions from Councilmembers.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Arvidson, to approve the proposed amendments to the City of Garden Ridge Police Department Step Pay Program. The City Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

e) Amendments to City of Garden Ridge Personnel Policy Manual.

City Manager Nancy Cain and Chief Eberhardt spoke regarding the proposed amendments to the City of Garden Ridge Personnel Policy Manual and addressed questions from Councilmembers.

Motion: A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Arvidson, seconded by Councilmember Smith, to approve the proposed amendments to the City of Garden Ridge Personnel Policy Manual. The City Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

f) Consulting Agreement between the City of Garden Ridge and Jill Shackelford.

City Manager Nancy Cain and Councilmember Swint spoke regarding the Consulting Agreement between the City of Garden Ridge and Jill Shackelford and addressed questions from Councilmembers.

The City Council discussed narrowing the scope of work and provided input related to the Consulting Agreement.

The City Council agreed by consensus for Councilmember Swint to work with the Consultant, City Manager, and City Attorney to prepare a proposal for the Consultant to conduct a strategic planning session with the City of Garden Ridge regarding aggregate production operations.

g) Status of recruitment process for City Manager and provide direction to staff as needed.

The City Council discussed the status of recruitment process for City Manager.

9. Updates

a) City Council Projects.

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

Councilmember Swint and Mayor Pro-Tem Arvidson 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 Reyes).

Mayor Pro-Tem Arvidson and Councilmember Reyes provided updates related to Council Liaison to Comal ISD.

10. Discussion of Future Agenda Items

Councilmember Smith requested to discuss Ordinance No. 168 relating to golf carts.

11. Citizen Comment Period

Sharon Stripling, 21729 Forest Waters Circle, spoke regarding aggregate production operations.

Vanessa Douglas, 9045 Sumac Cove, spoke regarding oak wilt abatement.

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:

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), Tri-County Chamber of Commerce.

Councilmember Smith spoke regarding Tri-County Chamber of Commerce events. Councilmember Swint spoke regarding working with the Great Springs Project for a Texas Parks and Wildlife Department grant. Councilmember Valdez spoke regarding Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee and Texas Department of Transportation. Mayor Pro-Tem Arvidson spoke regarding Eagle Scouts and Davenport High School. Councilmember Reyes spoke regarding Garden Ridge Elementary School. Mayor Erickson spoke regarding Northeast Partnership for Economic Development.

13. 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. Petition for Declaratory Judgment (Eric Fischer v. City of Garden Ridge, Cause #: C2024-1164B).**
- 2. 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 8:01 p.m. and reconvene into Executive Session at 8:10 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 8:21 p.m.

14. 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.

15. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Wednesday, November 6, 2024, City Council regular meeting was adjourned at 8:21 p.m. by Mayor Erickson.

ATTEST



Marisa Spencer
City Secretary



Robb Erickson
Mayor