

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
Ron Eberhardt, Chief of Police
Robyn Achu, Finance/HR Director
Steven Steinmetz, Public Works Director
Linda Crosland, Library Director
Natalie Thamm, 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, February 5, 2025, 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) United Acts of Kindness Day Proclamation.**

Mayor Erickson presented a Proclamation to representatives from First United Bank declaring Friday, February 14th as United Acts of Kindness Day in the City of Garden Ridge.

b) Eagle Scout Certificates of Recognition-Markus Arvidson and Raithe Fox.

Mayor Erickson presented Certificates of Recognition to Markus Arvidson and Raithe Fox congratulating and recognizing them for their attainment of the rank of Eagle Scout.

4. Citizen Comment Period

Ken Kneupper, 8891 Schoenthal Road, spoke regarding the Contractor Agreement between the City of Garden Ridge and Jill Shackelford and acts of kindness.

Jeanette Baldwin, 20408 Wahl Lane, spoke regarding the Contractor Agreement between the City of Garden Ridge and Jill Shackelford.

Sharon Stripling, 21729 Forest Waters Circle, spoke regarding tree trimming within the City of Garden Ridge.

Mike Tillema, 20429 Wahl Lane, spoke regarding quarry blasting operations.



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 January 7, 2025, City Council Special Meeting.**
- b) **Financial Statement, Summary Report, and Management's Discussion and Analysis of Results of Operations – December 31, 2024.**
- c) **2024 Garden Ridge Police Department Racial Profiling Report.**
- d) **Ordinance No. 243-022025 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, ordering a General Election on May 3, 2025, for the purpose of electing a Mayor, City Council Place Two, and City Council Place Three; making provisions for the conduct of such election; and resolving other matters related to the conduct of such election.**

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Valdez, seconded by Councilmember Smith, to approve consent agenda items a)-d). The City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Erickson reordered the agenda as follows:

9. Approvals and Authorizations

- a) **Fiscal Year 2024 Audit Report (period ending September 30, 2024).**

Karl Goering with Armstrong, Vaughan & Associates, P.C. presented the Fiscal Year 2024 Audit Report and addressed questions from Councilmembers.

Motion: A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Arvidson, seconded by Councilmember Valdez, to approve the Fiscal Year 2024 Audit Report (period ending September 30, 2024) as presented. 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 for the month of February. She stated there were 140 *Volunteer Garden Ridge!* hours for the month of January and spoke regarding the Comal Appraisal District Board of Directors Election 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 Crippen 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:

Mayor Erickson stated the Commission did not meet in January.

b) Water Commission:

Mayor Erickson stated the Commission did not meet in January.

9. Approvals and Authorizations

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

a) Fiscal Year 2024 Audit Report (period ending September 30, 2024).

Mayor Erickson stated this item was completed earlier in the meeting.

b) Ordinance No. 88-022025 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, creating a Public Funds Investment Policy for the City of Garden Ridge; establishing policies governing the investment and security of public funds; and complying with the provisions of Chapter 2256; The Public Funds Investment Act (The Act), as amended, Texas Government Code.

City Manager Nancy Cain reviewed Ordinance No. 88-022025 and addressed questions from Councilmembers.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Swint, seconded by Councilmember Smith, to approve Ordinance No. 88-022025 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, creating a Public Funds Investment Policy for the City of Garden Ridge; establishing policies governing the investment and security of public funds; and complying with the provisions of Chapter 2256; The Public Funds Investment Act (The Act), as amended, Texas Government Code. The City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

c) Contractor Agreement between the City of Garden Ridge and Jill Shackelford.

City Manager Nancy Cain reviewed the proposed Contractor Agreement between the City of Garden Ridge and Jill Shackelford.

The City Council discussed the Contractor Agreement between the City of Garden Ridge and Jill Shackelford.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Swint, seconded by Councilmember Smith, to approve the Contractor Agreement between the City of Garden Ridge and Jill Shackelford as presented. The City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

d) Ordinance No. 232-042022 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, adopting City Council Conduct Policies including a Code of Ethics and Ethical Conduct Rules; providing disciplinary actions for violations of this Ordinance; providing a cumulative and savings clause, providing for severability; and declaring an effective date.

The City Council discussed Ordinance No. 232-042022 and agreed by consensus to direct the City Attorney's Office to begin the ordinance review process to update the ordinance to be consistent with the City transitioning to home rule.

e) 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.

10. 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 impacts on Garden Ridge.

3. Economic Development (Smith and Swint).

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

11. Discussion of Future Agenda Items

Mayor Pro-Tem Arvidson requested to discuss the 2025 Texas Legislative Session.

12. Citizen Comment Period

Ken Kneupper, 8891 Schoenthal Road, spoke regarding updates related to Comal Independent School District.

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), Tri-County Chamber of Commerce.

Councilmember Swint spoke regarding the Garden Ridge Women's Club, Garden Ridge Lions Club, and Garden Ridge Citizen Police Academy. Mayor Erickson spoke regarding Northeast Partnership.

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. 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).**
- 3. Notice of Claim Letter for payment of invoice (We Love Trees).**

Mayor Erickson announced the City Council will recess at 7:55 p.m. and reconvene into Executive Session at 8:05 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 8:13 p.m.

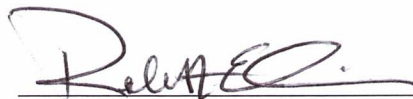
15. Business Items

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, February 5, 2025, City Council regular meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m. by Mayor Erickson.



Robb Erickson
Mayor

ATTEST



Marisa Spencer
City Secretary