

Councilmembers Present:

Mayor Lisa Swint
Mayor Pro-Tem Kelly Smith
Councilmember Jim Mueller
Councilmember Krendra Harralson
Councilmember Todd Arvidson
Councilmember Brian Reyes

Councilmembers Absent:

None

City Staff Present:

Ryan Rapelye, City Manager
Marisa Spencer, City Secretary
Cyndi Simmons, Assistant City Secretary
Ron Eberhardt, Chief of Police
Robyn Achu, Finance/HR Director
Eric Lowman, Public Facilities Foreman
Duane Scognio, Utilities Foreman
Linda Crosland, Library Director
Natalie Thamm, City Attorney

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

With a quorum of the City Councilmembers present, Mayor Swint called the regular meeting of the Garden Ridge City Council to order at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 6, 2025, in the City Council Chambers of the Garden Ridge City Hall, 9400 Municipal Parkway, Garden Ridge, Texas 78266.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Swint led the Pledge of Allegiance and Texas Pledge.

3. Citizen Comment Period

Tony Frasco, 8802 Wild Wind Park, spoke regarding the Texas Open Meetings Act, Republic Services Franchise Agreement, and water rates.

Kim Schimick, 8223 Shining Elk, spoke regarding golf carts.

Gabe Sopenfield, 9325 Bluebell Drive, spoke regarding golf carts.

Brian Campbell, 9335 Sumac Lane, spoke regarding golf carts.

David Krawczynski, 8475 Park Lane Drive, spoke regarding golf carts.

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 July 2, 2025, City Council Regular Meeting.**
- b) Approval of Minutes for the July 23, 2025, City Council Special Meeting.**



c) Financial Statement, Summary Report, and Management's Discussion and Analysis of Results of Operations – June 30, 2025.

Motion: A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Smith, seconded by Councilmember Harralson, to approve consent agenda items a)-c). 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 Ryan Rapelye reviewed employee recognitions/employee anniversaries and spoke regarding continuity of city operations.

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 Facilities Foreman Eric Lowman reviewed the monthly activity report and spoke regarding continuity of operations related to the Public Facilities Department.

Utilities Foreman Duane Scognio reviewed the monthly activity report and spoke regarding continuity of operations related to the Utilities 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 Crippen reviewed the City Engineer monthly activity report and addressed questions from Councilmembers.

7. City Commission Reports/Recommendations/Possible Actions

a) Planning and Zoning Commission:

Mayor Swint stated the Commission did not meet in July.

b) Water Commission:

Mayor Swint stated the Commission did not meet in July.

8. Approvals and Authorizations

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

- a) Ordinance No. 54-082025 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, adopting a comprehensive water company for the City of Garden Ridge; providing definitions and statement of organization; establishing a water commission, general policies, regulations and rules, and rates and billing cycles; providing for a penalty; providing for severability; and declaring an effective date.**

City Manager Ryan Rapelye reviewed Ordinance No. 54-082025 and addressed questions from Councilmembers.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Reyes, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Smith, to approve No. 54-082025 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, adopting a comprehensive water company for the City of Garden Ridge; providing definitions and statement of organization; establishing a water commission, general policies, regulations and rules, and rates and billing cycles; providing for 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.

b) Appointment of Ex-Officio Member to the Water Commission.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Arvidson, seconded by Councilmember Reyes, to appoint Councilmember Mueller as the Ex-Officio Member to the Water Commission. The City Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

c) 2025 Tax Rates.

1. Review the 2025 No-New-Revenue, Voter-Approval, and De Minimis Tax Rate Calculations.

City Manager Ryan Rapelye reviewed the 2025 Property Tax Rate Calculations and addressed questions from Councilmembers.

2. Propose, by record vote, a tax rate for the 2025 tax year.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Mueller, seconded by Councilmember Arvidson, to propose the voter-approval tax rate calculation of \$0.246430, consisting of \$0.199057 M&O Rate and \$0.047373 Debt Rate, for the 2025 tax year.

The City Council voted by roll call:

Place 1 Mayor Pro-Tem Smith – aye
Place 2 Councilmember Mueller – aye
Place 3 Councilmember Harralson – aye
Place 4 Councilmember Arvidson – aye
Place 5 Councilmember Reyes – aye

The motion carried unanimously.

3. Announce date, time, and place of 2025 tax rate public hearing and adoption.

Mayor Swint announced the 2025 tax rate public hearing and adoption is scheduled for Wednesday, September 3, 2025, at 6pm, at City Hall.

d) 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, 2025 – September 30, 2026, and set annual permit fee.

Mayor Swint stated this item needs further evaluation and recommended to table until the next meeting.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Arvidson, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Smith, to table this item until the next meeting. The City Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

e) Discussion on possible amendments to Ordinance No. 168 related to the use of golf carts.

Chief Eberhardt spoke regarding state regulations related to the use of golf carts and addressed questions from Councilmembers.

The City Council agreed by consensus to continue researching and discussing this item.

9. Updates

a) City Council Projects.

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

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

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

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

3. Economic Development (Smith and Swint).

Mayor Swint and Mayor Pro-Tem Smith provided updates related to Economic Development.

10. Discussion of Future Agenda Items

Councilmember Reyes requested to discuss outreach and communication efforts between residents and City Council.

11. Citizen Comment Period

Sharon Stripling, 21729 Forest Waters Circle, spoke regarding water restrictions and golf carts.

Bill Pohl, 21016 Hickory Bend, spoke regarding golf carts.

Dr. Jim Miller, 9910 Marie Meadow, spoke regarding water restrictions and the Texas Open Meetings Act.

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.

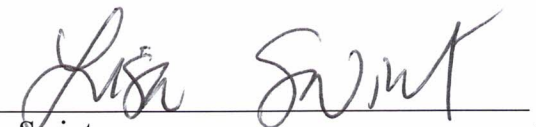
Mayor Pro-Tem Smith spoke regarding Tri-County Chamber of Commerce Events. Councilmember Arvidson spoke regarding Eagle Scouts and Comal ISD.

13. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Wednesday, August 6, 2025, City Council regular meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m. by Mayor Swint.

ATTEST


Marisa Spencer
City Secretary


Lisa Swint
Mayor