

Councilmembers Present:

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

Councilmembers Absent:

Councilmember Brian Reyes

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
Steven Steinmetz, Public Works Director
Linda Crosland, Library Director
Dan Jones, 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, September 3, 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

Rose Gail Leatherberry, 20711 FM 3009, spoke regarding the Garden Ridge Library.

Linda Potts, 8142 Ridge North Drive, spoke regarding the Public Works Department, Bat Cave Road repaving project, tree trimming, and golf carts.

Timothy Kasner, 21619 Forest Waters Circle, spoke regarding golf carts.

Andrée Mericle, 21520 Forest Waters Circle, spoke regarding golf carts.

Cyndie Segovia, 8435 Twisted Oaks, spoke regarding golf carts.

Sharon Stripling, 21729 Forest Waters Circle, spoke regarding the Public Works Department and 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 August 5, 2025, City Council Special Meeting.**
- b) **Approval of Minutes for the August 6, 2025, City Council Regular Meeting.**
- c) **Approval of Minutes for the August 25, 2025, City Council Special Meeting.**



d) Financial Statement, Summary Report, and Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Results of Operations – July 31, 2025.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Arvidson, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Smith, to approve consent agenda items a)-d). The City Council voted four (4) 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 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 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:

1. Receive monthly activity update as applicable.

Mayor Swint stated the Commission did not meet in August.

b) Water Commission:

1. Expiring Terms (September 30, 2025) of Commissioners.

1.1. Receive recommendation to reappoint Commissioner Dr. Carmichael and Commissioner Harshbarger to serve another term with terms expiring September 30, 2027.

Chair Pohl stated the Commission recommends the reappointment of Commissioner Dr. Carmichael and Commissioner Harshbarger to serve another term on the Water Commission.

1.2. Discuss and take action.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Mueller, seconded by Councilmember Arvidson, to approve the Water Commission’s recommendation and reappoint Commissioner Dr. Carmichael and Commissioner Harshbarger to serve another term on the Water Commission with terms expiring September 30, 2027. The City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Receive monthly activity update as applicable.

Chair Pohl provided City Council with an update on items discussed during the Commission’s meeting.

8. Approvals and Authorizations

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

- a) 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.**

City Manager Ryan Rapelye spoke regarding the request from Buckley Powder Company for a Partial Exemption Permit to conduct blasting activities at Heidelberg Materials Servtex Quarry and reviewed the annual permit fee.

Dustin Althoff, Buckley Powder Company, spoke regarding Buckley Powder Company’s blasting operations and addressed questions from Councilmembers.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Arvidson, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Smith, to approve the 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 the annual permit fee at \$33,026.22. The City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

- b) Ordinance No. 245-092025 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, adopting the Budget for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2025, and ending September 30, 2026; providing for a cumulative clause, a severability clause, and a savings clause; declaring an effective date; and declaring proper notice of meeting.**

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Harralson, seconded by Councilmember Mueller, to approve Ordinance No. 245-092025 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, adopting the Budget for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2025, and ending September 30, 2026; providing for a cumulative clause, a severability clause, and a savings clause; declaring an effective date; and declaring proper notice of meeting.

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 – absent

The motion carried unanimously.

c) 2025 Tax Rate.

City Manager Ryan Rapelye reviewed the proposed 2025 Tax Rate.

1. Hold a public hearing.

Mayor Swint opened the public hearing at 7:01 p.m.

John Andrews, 9403 Gloxinia, spoke regarding the proposed tax rate.

City Secretary Marisa Spencer stated no written comments were submitted.

Mayor Swint closed the public hearing at 7:03 p.m.

2. Discuss and take action on Ordinance No. 246-092025 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, adopting a Tax Rate of \$0.246430 per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) consisting of the Maintenance and Operation Rate and Debt Service Rate of assessed valuation for the City of Garden Ridge to be effective for the 2025 Tax Year (Fiscal Year 2026).

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Mueller, seconded by Councilmember Harralson, to approve Ordinance No. 246-092025 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, adopting a Tax Rate of \$0.246430 per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) consisting of the Maintenance and Operation Rate and Debt Service Rate of assessed valuation for the City of Garden Ridge to be effective for the 2025 Tax Year (Fiscal Year 2026).

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 – absent

The motion carried unanimously.

d) Ratify the property tax increase reflected in the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget for the City of Garden Ridge.

City Manager Ryan Rapelye spoke regarding ratifying the property tax increase reflected in the FY 2026 Budget.

Motion: A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Smith, seconded by Councilmember Arvidson, to ratify the property tax increase reflected in the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget for the City of Garden Ridge. The City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

e) Interview Panel Recommendation for Appointment to Water Commission.

Mayor Swint stated this is still an ongoing process.

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

Chief Eberhardt spoke regarding possible amendments to Ordinance No. 168 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.

g) Agenda Format/Structure.

City Manager Ryan Rapelye stated this item will be tabled until all Councilmembers are present to provide input.

h) Third-Party Monitoring related to Ordinance No. 34.

City Manager Ryan Rapelye spoke regarding the third-party monitoring requirements in Ordinance No. 34 and stated in collaboration with Quarry Consultant Jill Shackelford, it is recommended to transition from Vibra-Tech to IGS (Integrated Geotechnical Solutions) as the City's third-party monitoring provider.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Arvidson, seconded by Councilmember Mueller, to authorize the City Manager to provide Vibra-Tech with 30-day written notice of contract termination. The City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Harralson, seconded by Councilmember Arvidson, to authorize the City Manager to negotiate and enter into a new service agreement with IGS (Integrated Geotechnical Solutions) as the City's third-party monitoring provider. The City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

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 provided updates related to mitigation of growth and encroachment impacts on Garden Ridge.

3. Economic Development (Smith and Swint).

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

4. Outreach and Communication Efforts between Residents and City Council (Reyes).

Mayor Swint stated there are no updates at this time due to Councilmember Reyes being absent.

10. Discussion of Future Agenda Items

None at this time.

11. Citizen Comment Period

Vanessa J-Douglas, 9045 Sumac Cove, spoke regarding the Utilities Department.

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. Mayor Swint spoke regarding the Garden Ridge Women’s Club.

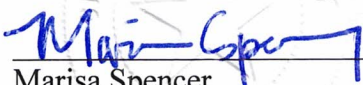
13. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Wednesday, September 3, 2025, City Council regular meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m. by Mayor Swint.



Lisa Swint
Mayor

ATTEST



Marisa Spencer
City Secretary