



City of Garden Ridge

"A way of life, not just a place to live"

MINUTES CITY COUNCIL EMERGENCY MEETING TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2020, 1:00 P.M.

Councilmembers Present:

Mayor Larry Thompson
Mayor Pro-Tem John McCaw
Councilmember Lisa Swint
Councilmember Bryan Lantzy
Councilmember Todd Arvidson
Councilmember Kay Bower

Councilmembers Absent:

None

City Staff Present:

Nancy Cain, City Administrator
Marisa Spencer, City Secretary
Ron Eberhardt, Chief of Police
Karen Ford, Finance/HR
Steven Steinmetz, Public Works Director
Jacob Parsons, Water Manager
Linda Crosland, Librarian

1. Call to Order

With a quorum of the City Councilmembers present, Mayor Thompson called the emergency special meeting of the Garden Ridge City Council to order at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 24, 2020, in the City Council Chambers of the Garden Ridge City Hall, 9400 Municipal Parkway, Garden Ridge, Texas 78266.

2. Roll Call: See above.

3. Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor Thompson led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge.

4. Citizen Comment Period: No one signed up to speak.

5. Approvals/Authorizations

The following are for discussion, consideration, and action.

a) Discussion and possible action on precautionary public health measures in reference to the COVID-19 Virus.

Mayor Thompson spoke regarding recommendations and actions taken by federal, state, and local leaders in reference to COVID-19 as well as the precautionary public health measures already implemented by the City of Garden Ridge.

Mayor Thompson provided City Council with a brief update on meeting with Department Heads and requested each Department Head provide additional details regarding their individual departments. Each Department Head spoke regarding implementing protocols, work schedules, and additional steps taken in their department to ensure continuity of operations while also limiting in-person contact to protect citizens and staff.

The City Council discussed employees in quarantine as well as the essential personnel letter issued to City employees.

b) Discussion and possible action on an Ordinance declaring a local state of disaster and public health emergency in reference to the COVID-19 Virus.

The City Council discussed the proposed Ordinance to extend the Declaration of Local Disaster for the City of Garden Ridge declared on March 19th by Mayor Thompson. Mayor Thompson spoke regarding some large cities and counties in the state implementing orders to stay home; however, those orders also include lengthy exceptions. Mayor Thompson provided City Council with an update on discussions with Jeff Kelley, Comal County Emergency Management Coordinator, and encouraged Councilmembers to consider that Comal County has not issued any orders that are more stringent than the proposed Ordinance.

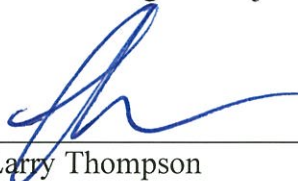
Mayor Thompson spoke regarding the proposed Ordinance, stating the duration of the Declaration as well as the rules and regulations set out in Exhibit A mirror Governor Abbott's Executive Order GA-08, issued on March 18th. Mayor Thompson requested City Secretary Marisa Spencer to update City Council on her discussions with the City Attorney regarding Section 6. Emergency Powers. Marisa Spencer, City Secretary, stated City Council can grant the Mayor authority to update rules and regulations set out in Exhibit A or measures set out in Exhibit B as necessary to respond to the evolving circumstances of this outbreak during the duration of the Declaration without the issuance of a new Declaration.

Motion: A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem McCaw, seconded by Councilmember Bower, to approve Ordinance No. 227-032020 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, extending a Declaration of Local Disaster; establishing rules and regulations for the duration of the disaster; restricting certain activities; providing a cumulative and savings clause; providing for severability; and declaring an effective date. The City Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Citizen Comment Period: No one wished to speak.

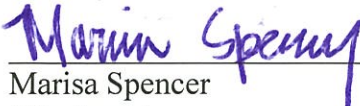
7. Adjournment

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Lantzy, seconded by Councilmember Swint, to adjourn. The City Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously. There being no further business, the Tuesday, March 24, 2020, City Council emergency special meeting was adjourned at 2:13 p.m. by Mayor Thompson.



Larry Thompson
Mayor

ATTEST



Marisa Spencer
City Secretary