City Manager
Darrell Pullin

City Secretary
D'Ann Lane

Finance Director
Shirley Holm

City Attorney
Epi Ysassi

City of George West

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Mayor
Andrew J. Garza

Mayor Pro-Tem
Jearl Rannefeld

Council
VACANT
David Ainsworth
John Walker

BUDGET WORKSHOP/SPECIAL SESSION MEETING MINUTES 8/18/2026

I. Call Meeting to Order-**Mayor Garza called the meeting to order at 12:14 p.m.**

II. Roll Call-**All council members were present with the vacancy for Place 1.**

III. Invocation-**Mayor Andrew Garza gave the invocation.**

IV. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States- **The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States was led by D'Ann Lane.**

V. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of Texas-**The Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag was led by D'Ann Lane.**

VI. Public Comments

NONE

VII. Announcements and Correspondence

In conjunction with the Open Meetings Act, there will be No Citizen Participation during the Workshop.

BUSINESS

1. **Discussion** on 2026 Appraisal Roll Certifications and Tax Calculation Worksheet.

   Financial Director Shirley Holm explained the 2026 Appraisal Roll Certification and Tax Calculation Worksheet to the council. Our 2026 Total Taxable Value is $154,230,727, which is $ 1,755,442 less than the 2025 Total Taxable Value of $ 155,364,754 . Based on the 2026 Tax Rate Calculation Worksheet, the NNRR is .78363, VAR .91502, De Minimis Rate 1.04898, and Debt Rate .07603.

2. **Consideration and Action** to set the Proposed FY 2026-2027 Tax Rate.

   Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by John Walker. Open for discussion. Mayor Garza entertained a motion to amend by at the end adding at 0.78363 per $100 of appraised property value. Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by David Ainsworth. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor amendment carried.

ROLL CALL VOTE:
Mayor Andrew Garza-AYE
Mayor Pro Tem Jearl Rannefeld-AYE
Council place 3 David Ainsworth-AYE
Council place 4 John Walker-AYE

Motion carried.

Amended agenda item #2 Consideration and Action to set the Proposed FY 2026-2027 Tax Rate at $0.78363 per $100 of appraised property value.

3. **Consideration and Action** to approve dates and times for Public Hearings on the Proposed FY 2026-2027 Tax Rate.

Move as read by Jearl Rannfeld. Seconded by John Walker. Open for discussion. Shirley Holm presented the council with some proposed meeting dates. Mayor Andrew Garza entertained a motion to amend by at the end inserting (for September 9, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. and September 23, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.) Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by David Ainsworth. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor. Amendment carried.

Amended Agenda Item #3 Consideration and Action to approve dates and times for Public Hearings on the Proposed FY 2026-2027 Tax Rate for September 9, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. and September 23, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

4. **Consideration and Action** to approve dates and times for Public Hearings on the Proposed FY 2026-2027 Budget.

Move as read by Jearl Rannefld. Seconded by David Ainsworth. Mayor Garza entertained a motion to amend by at the end inserting (for September 9, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. and September 23, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.) Move as read by Jearl Rannfeld. Seconded by David Ainworth. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor. Amendment carried.

Amended Agenda Item #4 Consideration and Action to approve dates and times for Public Hearings on the Proposed FY 2026-2027 Budget for September 9, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. and September 23, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.

5. **Consideration and Action** to approve the Employee Health Plan rates for FY 2026-2027.

Financial Director Shirley Holm informed the council that we have reached out to TML to try to get back in their Health Insurance Pool. We are currently with United Health Care and employees have been reporting that the coverage is not comparable to what we used to have through TML. We have requested all the

reports from United Health Care to send to TML with information needed for insurance underwriters. Mayor Garza entertained a motion for no action. Move as read by Jearl Rannfeld. Seconded by David Ainsworth. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor. There will be no action.

6. **Discussion** on new city website options.

   Jearl Rannefeld explained to the rest of the council that our website is outdated and needs to be ADA compliant. D'Ann Lane has reached out to a couple of website creators and presented the council with a presentation by Govstack. Govstack provided her with examples of some city sites they currently host, and they look so nice and up to date. Govstack is available 24/7 for any and all calls related to the website. They will train all users who will be posting and can convert all forms to PDF files for links on the site. The council asked to have this as an action item on the next agenda.

7. **2026-2027 Proposed Budget Workshop.**

   Shirley Holm and Darrell Pullin led the Budget Workshop. The council went through all departments and discussed necessities for the upcoming FY. A decision was made to keep the employee staffing complement of 21 for the General Fund and a 10.25 for the Utility Fund with 2 positions moving from the General (Streets) Fund to the Utility (Water) Funds. A total of 2 positions were reduced to not fill at this time. The surplus funds in the General Fund will remain in a buildings improvement account for future needs. It was agreed to increase the Water and Sewer Revenue Accounts by 10%, due to no increases since 2012 and 2019.

   Mayor Garza entertained a motion to recess. Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by David Ainsworth. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor. The council recessed at 2:38 p.m.

   Mayor Garza entertained a motion to reconvene. Move as read by Jearl Rannfeld. Seconded by David Ainsworth. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor. The council reconvened at 2:54 p.m.

   The budget workshop continued after the recess.

8. **Adjournment.**

   Mayor Garza entertained a motion to adjourn. Move as read by John Walker. Seconded by David Ainsworth. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor. The council adjourned at 5:45 p.m.