

Interim City Manager
Shirley Holm

City Secretary
D'Ann Lane

City Attorney
Epi Ysassi

City of George West



Mayor
Andrew J. Garza

Mayor Pro-Tem
Jearl Rannefeld

Council
Tim Humphrey
Patricia Clifton
John Walker

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CITY COUNCIL AGENDA MINUTES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF GEORGE WEST, TEXAS, WILL HOLD A REGULAR SESSION CITY COUNCIL MEETING, ON MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 2021 AT 6:30 P.M. IN THE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 406 NUECES STREET, GEORGE WEST TEXAS, TO CONSIDER AND ACT UPON ANY LAWFUL SUBJECT WHICH MAY COME BEFORE SAID MEETING, ONLY AS IDENTIFIED IN THIS AGENDA.

THIS IS A BUSINESS MEETING CONDUCTED BY THE ELECTED GOVERNING BODY FOR THE CITY OF GEORGE WEST. Out of consideration for all attendees and per Council Policy, please silence all electrical devices. Furthermore, there shall be no talking, gesturing, or derogatory comments during the meeting. All comments must be addressed to the Council and will only be permitted through acknowledgement of the presiding officer. Policy prohibits the exchange of conversation/comments amongst audience members. The advancement of the meeting will not be altered due to any interruptions. **Any violation of Council Policies will result in removal from the City Council Meeting.** Thank you for your cooperation.

AGENDA

**Regular Session City Council Meeting
Monday– January 25, 2021 – 6:30 P.M.
Council Chamber - City Hall
Public Zoom Meeting ID: 431 302 5276
Passcode: 702385**

REGULAR SESSION CITY COUNCIL MEETING

- I.** The City Council met in Regular session with Mayor Andrew Garza calling the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
- II.** Roll Call by Deputy City Secretary, Haley Maywald.

Council Present: Mayor Andrew Garza, Mayor Pro-Tem, Jearl Rannefeld, Council Members: Tim Humphrey, Patricia Clifton, and John Walker.

Staff Present: Interim City Manager Shirley Holm, Chief of Police David Perkins, Deputy City Secretary Haley Maywald, Interim Public Works Director Pete Pena, Carmen

Molina, Bob Crank, Noel Zapata, and Missy Beck via Zoom.

Guest Present via Zoom: Jeff Osborne and City Attorney Epi Ysassi.

III. Mayor Garza gave the Invocation.

IV. Deputy City Secretary, Haley Maywald, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States.

V. Deputy City Secretary, Haley Maywald, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of Texas.

VI. Public Comments: No public comments were made.

VII. Announcements and Correspondence

- a) Live Oak County Fair will be held from February 22, 2021 thru March 3, 2021.
- b) Live Ok County Fair Parade will be held in George West on February 27, 2021 beginning at 10:00 a.m.
- c) Live Oak County Rodeo will be held from March 4, 2021 thru March 6, 2021.
- d) The Building Standard's Board will meet on February 8, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.
- e) The Planning and Zoning Committee will meet on February 8, 2021 at 5:15 p.m.
- f) Hotel Occupancy Tax application forms are due February 15, 2021.
- g) Mask Order extended until January 31, 2021.

Mayor Garza went over the announcements. No additional announcements were made.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. **Consideration and Action** to change the time of the February City Council Regular Session Meeting to 6:30 p.m.
2. **Consideration and Action** to approve the following minutes:
 - a) Regular Session City Council Meeting Minutes 12-10-2020.
3. **Consideration and Action** to allow the use of the city parking lot for Market Days for annual year 2021.
4. **Consideration and Action to** approve street closures for the Live Oak County Fair Parade on February 27, 2021 as shown in the attached map.
5. **Consideration and Action** to approve the Mayor's reappointments for the Building Standard's Board as follows: Joe Edward Ybanez, Merri Lee, and Randy Webster for a

term of 3 years commencing January 2021.

6. **Consideration and Action** to approve the Mayor’s reappointment for the Planning and Zoning Committee as follows: Rosalia Ena Pena for a term of 3 years commencing January 2021.
7. **Consideration and Action** to approve the Mayor’s reappointments for the Investment Committee as follows: Richard Galloway, John Walker, Kitley Wasicek, Shirley Holm, and Michelle Baker for a term of 2 years commencing January 2021.
8. **Consideration and Action** to approve Accounts Payable for December 2020.

Mayor Garza asked if all council members received their packets in a timely manner. All council members stated that they did. Mayor Garza asked if anything needed to be pulled from the Consent Agenda. No council member asked for anything to be pulled. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All council members were in favor of approving the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS:

9. **Presentation** of a STAR service project on differences between CASA and CPS given by 2 students from. George West High School.

Burke O’Neil and Raquel Martinez gave a presentation on the differences between CASA and CPS for their FCCLA school project. The council thanked Burke and Raquel and wished them well in their competition.

10. **Presentation** of the Employee of the Year Awards.

Interim City Manager, Shirley Holm, handed out Employee of the year awards as Mayor, Andrew Garza read on how each employee earned this title. Noel Zapata received Public Works Employee of the Year, Haley Maywald received Employee of the Year, Shari Guerrero received Court Employee of the Year, Bob Crank received the Police Department Employee of the Year, and Carmen Molina received Unsung Hero Employee of the Year.

ORDINANCES:

11. **Consideration and Action** to approve the **Second Reading** of Ordinance No. 884, Amending Ordinance No. 787, and the Code of Ordinances by revocation of Section 30-49 and the adoption of a new Section 30-49 declaring that weeds, grass and shrubs taller than 12 inches that are uncultivated are a public nuisance.

Mayor Garza read agenda item # 11. Councilwoman, Patricia Clifton, moved as read. Councilman, Tim Humphrey, seconded the motion. Mayor Garza opened agenda

item #11 for discussion. No council members needed a discussion. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All council members were in favor of passing the seconded reading or Ordinance # 884. Motion carried.

- 12. Consideration and Action** to approve the Second Reading of Ordinance No. 886, an amendment to ordinance No. 867, amending the garbage rates beginning December 2020.

Mayor Garza read agenda item # 12. Councilwoman, Patricia Clifton, moved as read. Mayor Pro-Tem, Jearl Rannefeld, seconded the motion. Mayor Garza opened agenda item #12 for discussion. Interim City Manager, Shirley Holm, stated that the garbage rates will not take effect in December but that they will start in February of 2021. Mayor Garza entertained a motion by striking “December 2020” and replacing it with “February 1, 2021.” Councilman, John Walker moved on the amendment. Mayor Pro-Tem, Jearl Rannefeld, seconded the amendment. Mayor Garza asked if there was any discussion on the amendment. No discussion needed. Mayor Garza called for a vote by striking “December 2020” and replacing it with “February 1, 2021.” All council members voted aye. Amendment carried.

Consideration and Action to approve the Second Reading of Ordinance No. 886, an amendment to ordinance No. 867, amending the garbage rates beginning February 1, 2021.

Mayor Garza read amended agenda item #12. No discussion was needed on amended agenda item # 12. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All council members voted aye. Amended agenda item #12 carried.

- 13. HEARING: Consideration and Action** to approve the First Reading of Ordinance No. 885, Amending Ordinance No. 867, Bulky Garbage Rates, incorporating the addition of Bulky Garbage Pickup on a quarterly basis at an additional rate of \$2.00 per month for all residents within George West city limits.

Mayor Garza opened the public hearing at 6:55p.m. for the first reading of Ordinance 885. No public comments for the hearing were made. Mayor Garza closed the hearing at 6:56 p.m.

Mayor Garza read agenda item # 13. Councilwoman, Patricia Clifton, moved as read. Councilman, Tim Humphrey, seconded the motion. No council members needed a discussion. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All council members were in favor of passing the first reading or Ordinance # 885. Motion carried.

- 14. Consideration and Action** to approve the First Reading of Ordinance No. 887, Amending Ordinance No. 753 Section IV. Employee Benefits and Compensation, Sub-Section G – Holidays and Special Closings.

Mayor Garza read agenda item # 14. Councilman, Jearl Rannefeld, moved as read. Councilman, Tim Humphrey, seconded the motion. Interim City Manager, Shirley Holm, proposed that the council take the “Fair Holiday” away as a paid holiday for

City employees and give Christmas Eve as a paid holiday. Mrs. Holm explains that many years ago the fair parade was on a weekday so the City gave that day to the employees so they could enjoy the parade. She stated that the parade is now on Saturday so there is no need for employees to be off on that day. She would like to see the employees be able to spend Christmas Eve with their families. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All council members were in favor of passing the First Reading of Ordinance # 887. Motion carried.

BUSINESS:

- 15. Consideration and Action** to Issue Order of Election and Notice of Election for the City Election to be held on May 1, 2021.

Consideración y Acción para emitir Orden de Elección y Aviso de Elección para la Elección de la ciudad que tendrá lugar 01 de Mayo de 2021.

Mayor Garza read agenda item # 15. Councilman, Jearl Rannefeld, moved as read. Councilwoman, Patricia Clifton, seconded the motion. No council members needed a discussion. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All council members voted aye. Agenda item #15 carries.

- 16. Consideration and Action** to hold a Joint Election with the George West Independent School District, if applicable, choosing paper ballots as the Method of Voting, Designating the Polling Place for Early Voting to be at City Hall and Election Day to be at the George West Independent School Cafeteria, and the two weekdays (April 19th and 20th) to be open 12 hours during the regular Early Voting Period are the first two days of's Early Voting.

Consideración y Acción para tener una Elección conjunta con el Distrito Escolar Independiente de George West, si es aplicable, elegir boletas de papel como el método de votación, designar el lugar de votación para votaciones tempranas como la Oficina de la Ciudad, y en la cafetería del Distrito Escolar Independiente de George West como el lugar para el Día de Elecciones, y designar que los días laborales (19 y 20 de Abril) en cuales el lugar de votación estará abierto 12 horas durante el periodo de votación temprana serán los primeros de días de votación temprana.

Mayor Garza read agenda item # 16. Councilwoman, Patricia Clifton, moved as read. Mayor Pro-Tem, Jearl Rannefeld, seconded the motion. No council members needed a discussion. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All council members voted aye. Agenda item #16 carried.

- 17. Consideration and Action** to authorize the City Manager to issue requests for proposals (RFPs) for administrative services and requests for qualifications (RFQs) for engineering services related to the 2021-2022 Community Development Fund administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA).

Mayor Garza read agenda item # 17. Councilwoman, Patricia Clifton, moved as

read. Mayor Pro-Tem, Jearl Rannefeld, seconded the motion. Interim City Manager, Shirley Holm, explains that this is the first step in applying for grants from TDA (Texas Department of Agriculture) to improve the City of George West. Mrs. Holm said that this will cover both the administrative services. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All council members voted aye. Agenda item #17 carries.

BRIEFINGS:

18. Interim City Manager's Report:

- a) Revenue and Expense Report for December 2020.
- b) City and Project Updates

Interim City Manager, Shirley Holm, explained the financials to the Council for the month of December. She begins with the "Summary of Revenues and Expenses." Mrs. Holm stated that we just finished the 1st quarter of the 2020/2021 Fiscal Year and we should be around 25% of our budget. Revenue is high due to Ad Valorem taxes that were paid in the first quarter. Revenue is sitting at 30% of budget in the General Fund. Expenditures are at 22% of budget in the General Fund. We are at positive \$115,356.10 in the General Fund. For the Utility Fund, we are slightly under 25% of budget in Revenue and Expenditures are at 20.68% of budget. We are at a positive \$61,180.56 in the Utility Fund. For the first quarter of 2020/2021 we are in the black by \$176,536.66. Mrs. Holm stated that all departments for the City of George West are under the 25% of budget for expenditures due to the Department Heads being diligent with their spending. Mrs. Holm continued to report that the bank account balance is at \$1,645,079.30.

Interim City Manager, Shirley Holm, gave her City Manager updates beginning with thanking the Council for allowing her to go out and seek grants for the City. There are a few grants she would like to pursue. She said one of the grants she is looking to get is the "Community Development Grant" in the amount of \$350,000.00. She informed the council that we have a hearing set up for February 1, 2021 at 5:15 pm for the public to come and ask questions and be informed about the Community Development Grant. Mrs. Holm continued with wanting to pursue a "Main Street Downtown Revitalization Program" for \$350,000.00. Mrs. Holm informed the council that the Public Hearing is the first step in applying for these grants. Having the Public Hearing gives the city two extra points towards the grant application.

Mrs. Holm stated she has been working on TDEM (Texas Department of Emergency Management) Coronavirus Relief Fund. We are eligible for \$141,460.00. Mrs. Holm is still pursuing it and so far, we have received \$28,292.00 which is 20% of the total amount.

Mrs. Holm stated she is planning on doing an Annual Refresher Training for all the employees of the city in February.

Mrs. Holm updated the council with revenue and expenditure report. She stated she

is working closely with all the department heads to keep cost down. She stated that we have reduced one and a half positions in City Hall and Public Works.

Mrs. Holm and the council discussed getting the Alcohol Sales on the 2021 Election Ballot.

Mrs. Holm stated that the Economic development Board and the Investment Committee will start meeting soon.

19. Questions or Briefings at the City Council’s Request:

- a) Code Enforcement
- b) Municipal Court Report
- c) Public Works
- d) Police Chief Report
- e) Animal Control

20. Adjournment.

Mayor Garza adjourned the meeting at 7:20p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

The City Council for the City of George West reserves the right to adjourn into Executive Session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any of the matters listed above, as authorized by Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), 551.072 (Deliberations about Real Property), 551.073 (Deliberations about Gifts and Donations), 551.074 (Personnel Matters), 551.076 (Deliberations about Security Devices) and 551.086 (Economic Development).

In the event the City Council goes into Executive Session the following Zoom ID and Password will be used once the City Council has reconvened:

Public Zoom Meeting ID: 431 302 5276

Password:783314

DISABILITY ACCESS STATEMENT

Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who may need auxiliary aid or services are requested to contact Haley Maywald, Deputy City Secretary, at (361) 449-1556 so that appropriate arrangements can be made. The accessible entrance and accessible parking spaces are located at City Hall, 406 Nueces Street.

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned authority, do hereby certify that this Notice of Meeting was posted on the bulletin board, at the City of George West City Hall, Texas, in a place convenient and readily

accessible to the general public at all times, and said Notice was posted on the following date and time: January 22, 2021 @ 2:00 p.m. and remained so posted continuously for at least 72 hours preceding the scheduled time of said Meeting.

Haley Maywald
Deputy City Secretary

Andrew Garza
Mayor