

City Manager
Georgia A. Vines

City of George West



Mayor
Andrew J. Garza

City Secretary
Maria Hernandez

Mayor Pro-Tem
Jearl Rannefeld

Interim City Attorney
Carlos Valdez

Council
Kitley Wasicek
Patricia Clifton
Rindle Wilson

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Special Session City Council Meeting Minutes – July 26, 2018

I. The City Council met in Special Session with **Mayor Andrew Garza** calling the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

II. **Roll Call** by City Secretary Maria Hernandez

Council Present: Mayor Andrew Garza, Mayor Pro Tem Jearl Rannefeld, Council Members Kitley Wasicek, Patricia Clifton, and Rindle Wilson. A quorum was present.

Staff Present: Maria Hernandez, Georgia Vines, Jason Lee, James Valadez, Noelia Martinez, Manuel Medina.

Attorney Present: Carlos Valdez

Guest Present: See Sign -in Sheet

III. Council Member Rindle Wilson gave the Invocation.

IV. City Secretary Maria Hernandez led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

V. City Secretary Maria Hernandez led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag.

VI. **Public Comments** were given by:

Mrs. Sandra Amoles

- Asked the following: Why are we having special meeting before having the regular meeting and why budget was not posted on the agenda.
- On June 18, Ms. Amoles sent a picture of the pool to the City Manager, addressing her consent on a manager level and she decided to share the information with lifeguard parents turning the situation into a sick pedophile issue. And because of that she had the parents making allegations. Someone in a professional position like Georgia needs to address city matters of concerns from the citizens in a professional way but instead she chose to instigate retaliation on the person who reported the concern of the city to her.
- She feels that Ms. Vines Slander her name
- She will file defamation of character lawsuit.
- Requesting the city council to do an evaluation on Georgia, due to the fact of lack of management in the vacancy of essential personnel.
- Requesting a copy of the evaluation and all documents, and if the council chooses not to evaluate her, she is requesting the council to vote no confidence on her
- If they fail to act on her request, Ms. Amoles will turn the case to the Texas Rangers to investigate.
- The only things positive the City Manager has done positive her eyes, is sale Cabanas and open the Pool, but without proper certifications.

- Ms. Amoles has been informed of city employees being remove or quitting due to false lies and allegations.
- Allowing the Mayor to meddle in the day to day city operations
- As per city charter, 3.08 (for everyone to go home and read it themselves) if he fails to do what is needed, he needs to be removed.
- If the council has any question to feel free to call her or better yet to place concern on agenda for further discussions

Ms. Teresa Cisneros

- First meeting to attend for Ms. Cisneros, Mayor explained how the public comments work.
- Directed comments to the comments before her.
- Ms. Cisneros does not feel the issue of the pool was taken out of any context or anybody trying to be slander. Ms. Amoles did that to herself.
- She is the mother of one of the lifeguards.
- The picture Ms. Amoles was sending was the picture of Ms. Cisneros daughter.
- A lot of parents were aware of the situation,
- Parents got together and new something was going on, people going by taking pictures of the city pool.
- She has people telling her to her face and via phone that they were sent to take picture of the Children. Trying to catch them doing wrong.
- Kids feel unsafe being at work
- She asked Ms. Amoles if she was going to continue to take pictures of the children? And that she was not comfortable of, Ms. Amoles taking pictures of the kids.
- Ms. Amoles said that she was advise and it was ok, and it was not against the law to take pictures. Since the children were hired if they were not comfortable with that, then they shall not be working there.
- Ms. Amoles is basically a town bully, she is instigating, her name and a lot of other names were brought up on the TOPIX website and a lot of awful things were said there.
- Ms. Georgia has done an awesome job getting the pool open, getting the kids certify, the children when through extensive training to do what they needed to do to be able to work there.
- If she needs to do anything in returned, filling motions or getting an attorney she will be glad to do so, because she is tired of the bullies in general.

Ms. Laura Gonzales

- Thanked Ms. Vines for the pool, it has been great, they used it every weekend.
- A positive thing here at George West, not many things for the kids to do, when they don't have things for them to do that is when they get in trouble.
- Everything has been positive that is what they need to see more.
- They teach the kids not to bully but when they see parents doing it that is not teaching them to do right.
- Ms. Vines has done good here at George West and Mr. Lee has done good
She agrees with Ms. Cisneros on all she said
- Thanked Ms. Vines for the Pool and Officer Lee for all he has done for the kids.
- Hope to continue to work with George West and has talked to Ms. Kitley to bring more drug programs because is bad in the schools.
- If they need help with anything, she offers her help with anything.

Mrs. Grace Wilson

- Downtown Pots have been adopted.
- Fall Pride Cleanup Day Second week in October, will do it two weeks before Story fest. The last time the city provided a wonderful lunch, and this time is UTB to return the favor and provide lunch.
- The city did a fantastic job and money went go to open the pool she wants to see the same excitement for the downtown buildings to go away.
- Mrs. Wilson, called a Commercial Demo they are working in Live Oak county, he has provided four numbers for the survey that needs to be done first. He was concern of how unsafe the building is. He was afraid to walk on the side walk.
- It will be nice if the buildings go away before Storyfest.
- Had talked about the other program and need to have everything in place for other buildings that are coming after those two to go away.

Mr. Wilson

- Expressed concern about the abnormally high turnover of City Staff in the last several years.
- The Council need to find out why people are leaving and correct it.
- The City has been without a qualify Public Works director for too long. Somebody that has the knowledge the license and experience to come and do a job, they have a responsibility to drinking water, sewerage and streets.
- Three rivers had over 20 applicants for the Public Works director position.
- Asking to get the jobs posted and to get people hired.
- What is the status on the overflow pond of the waste water?

Ms. Pat Lancaster

- To the office holders Do not listed to the bullies and idiots they do not know what they are talking about.
- To the employees not to be intimidated by the bullies.

VII. Announcements and Correspondence

Mayor Garza

- No Artisan Market Days
- No Pets left behind are having a car wash, dog wash, bake sale August 4th, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m.
- Explores doing car wash, bake sale on July 28th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- School starts August 15th

BUSINESS:

1. Mayor Andrew Garza Administer the Oath of Office to newly appointed City Secretary, Maria Hernandez.

City Secretary spoke to the residents:

Happy to be in George West, her office is always open for any questions the residents might have.

2. There was no Municipal Court presentation

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

3. Discussion on continuing the processes for filling the positions of Public Works Director, Chief of Police, and Municipal Court Judge.

- City Manager has not gotten a qualify applicant, for Public Works
- Has been advertise in TML since August of last year, and has been advertise in the Progress, Beeville and San Antonio newspaper.

For Chief of Police:

- The Council has all the applications received for Police Chief. One withdrew his application.
- Council will take a vote and choose their top five applicants.
- After a brief discussion, three applicants were chosen.
- Attorney advised that first the council needs to decide what format they want to use, and also to consider breaking it up into two days.
- Tammy Burr, Robert McGinnis, David Perkins,
- Interviews for police chief scheduled for Monday August 13, 2018 at 6:00 and 7:00 p.m. and August 14, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

Public Works

- City Manager will call three rivers and asked where they advertise.
- Ms. Vines said that they want for the applicants to know the procedures.
- Can they hired somebody that can learn on the field?
- She also asked if they want to lower their standards?
- City Manager stated that the city needs to hire somebody that is qualify and know what needs to be done.
- Councilmember Clifton said that they need to go back to the original description and required that they have a license.
- Mayor: as the application are received for these positions, need to be forward to the council qualified or not, by Ms. Vines.
- City Attorney Mr. Valdez read the qualifications for Public Works Director, High School diploma, or GED, Texas driver license, Class C water license and a Class C waste water license. Shall be a resident of the city.
- Mayor-pro tem will put together a matrix that Ms. Vines will email to all the council members.

Municipal Court Judge

- 14,482 open cases
- The court is five legislative sessions behind, on forms on procedures, on policies, on fines. The citations had the incorrect information on it.
- The citations had not the correct information on it.
- Fees have not been updated in a long time.
- Mayor Garza said that there are several checks and money orders that were never deposit and that now are going to be sent to the comptroller's office.
- Ms. Grace Wilson asked how the court got this way? and said that the city needs help. She does know that the Mayor works long hours, but the court needs help.
- Mr. Walker, in the year past they had less than professional people in the court room.
- Mr. Valdez, said that when he started working in the court, he belief that the court was beyond repair. But he has worked with three judges already and with several court clerks. The new clerk is excited and eager to learn, she needs to be train. The problem is that the city cannot keep people employed.

- Mr. Wilson said, that the city needs to hire a full-time judge for a year, to come and clear cases.
- Councilmember Clifton, said that she has not heard nothing but good things for Mayor Garza, but the City Charter requires to appoint a Municipal Court Judge.
- Mr. Valdez said that is the Council's duty to appoint a Municipal Court Judge.
- Ms. Cisneros commented that the Council needs to hire a Judge, the Mayor cannot be two people at once.
- Council decided, for the Mayor to continue as Judge until the November's audit.
- The court needs another clerk and needs to be very selective on the new court clerk.
- Mayor Garza asked City Secretary for her input. She said that the forms, fines and fees are wrong. She suggested for the city to hire a professional Court clerk to come and train the court clerk. The new court clerk has a lot of energy, smart and wants to make the court her career, the city needs to give her the tools and she will stay.
- Ms. Vines said that, the Municipal Court revenue is higher than the expenses.
- Mr. Garza said that "The only reward the he gets is that he is doing something that matters for the city he lives in, was born in and will die in."

4. Discussion on the Sewer Plant relining project.

- **Ms. Vines stated**, that the week before the council meeting clay samples were taken, and the test came out very good. She gave the test result to the Council. The surveyor is going in there to make sure the elevation is still the same, after the survey is done, the city is going out for bids and Ms. Vines hopes that within the next two months she has bids for the council, to accept or reject on the sewer plant repairs.
- Top soil and clay samples were tested, and Ms. Vines gave the council the results.
- The city is getting the clay from a local vendor who is also excavating and providing the clay for \$3 cubic yard for the clay including excavation.
- These meets all the standards of TCEQ. Samples were tested by a Rock Engineering.
- Ms. Clifton thank Ms. Vines for following through with these.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- 5. Consideration and Action to approve the following minutes:**
 - a. 06-14-2018 Regular Session City Council Meeting Minutes**
 - b. 06-16-2018 Special Session City Council Meeting Minutes**
- 6. Consideration and Action to approve the City Secretary to attend the Texas Municipal; Clerks Certification Program (TMCCP) Records Management Seminar August 8th – 10th, 2018**
- 7. Consideration and Action to approve the George West Police Explorers to hold a car wash in the George West City Hall parking lot on July 28th, 2018 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**
- 8. Consideration and Action to approve No Pet Left Behind to hold a car wash, dog wash, and bake sale on August 4th, 2018 beginning at 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the George West City Hall parking lot.**
 - Councilmember Clifton to pull consent agenda item number 6 from the consent agenda
 - Mayor asked for a motion to approved consent agenda 5, 7 and 8.
 - Motion: Councilmember Kitley Wasicek
Second: Councilmember Patricia Clifton
All in favor, consent agenda carried minus item 6.

Consideration and action to approve the City Secretary to attend the Texas Municipal Clerks Certification Program Records Management Seminar August 8th-10th, 2018.

Motion moved as read by Councilmember Kitley Wasicek

Second by Councilmember Patricia Clifton

- Council Clifton needed clarification on the term Municipal Clerk, Mayor Garza and Ms. Vines, explained that the City Clerk is the title for the City Secretary. And that the Municipal Clerk is the only position required for a city to operate statutorily.
- Mayor called for a vote to approved item 6. All in favor, motion carried

BUSINESS:

9. Consideration and Action to adopt Resolution No. 2018-9, removing Debra Myers as Signatory on the South Trust Bank accounts, and adding Maria Hernandez.

Move as read by Councilmember Kitley Wasicek

Second by Mayor Pro-tem Jearl Rannefeld

All in favor, motion carried

10. Consideration and Action to approve the Live Oak County Appraisal District Certification of 2018 Appraisal Roll.

Move as read by Councilmember Kitley Wasicek

Second by Mayor Pro-tem Jearl Rannefeld

Ms. Vines will be meeting with the Chief appraiser to get the effective Tax rate.

Councilmember Wilson said that we should work on the budget and then come up with the Tax Rate.

Mayor explained that is backwards in the County and that there is a specific budget calendar that the city needs to go by.

All in favor, motion carried.

11. Consideration and Action to adopt a proposed form for Council Members to place items on the agenda. (Mayor Pro-Tem Rannefeld)

Move as read by Councilmember Kitley Wasicek

Second by Councilmember Patricia Clifton

- The form Mayor Pro-tem Rannefeld presented has been used for years at the City of Live Oak, and the Mayor there, is past president of TML.
- The form is used for any councilmembers to place items on the agenda. It allows the city councilmembers, city manager to submit agenda items for the George West city council meeting and will provide complete transparency of the agenda item and provide detailed documentation of the agenda item prior to the City Council meeting.
- This is a perfect example; this meeting has taken too long. After the form is completed the city Manager or City Secretary will turned in the form to all the city Councilmembers for review.
- This form will be emailed to all the councilmembers once all the necessary information has been completed this will allowed all the Councilmembers to ask any questions to the City Manager about the agenda item. Councilmembers are not to discuss any agenda item among themselves.
- Mr. Valdez said that the whole point of the meeting is for the Councilmembers to discuss items in front of everybody at the meeting. Mr. Valdez suggested to simplify the form, he also said that all the information is not needed.
- Councilmember Clifton said that she emailed the City Attorney, City Manager and Mayor to make sure they understand what she was asking.

- Ms. Vine asked for Councilmembers to email the City Secretary with items for the agenda. She has a folder where she puts items that will be put on future agendas.
- Councilmember said that he has been asked many times what a certain item is about, and he has no idea.
- Mr. Valdez said that whoever is proposing the agenda item shall know what the agenda item is about.
- Mr. Valdez, also said that, the council can do it this way, and go through the meeting in 30 minutes, but to his opinion that is not democracy.
- The form is a good idea, because it leaves paper trail.
- Mr. Valdez suggested items to be on the form; Name, what the request is, date for the meeting, the action and the description of the action looking to have.
- The importance of the agenda is, that it is the only notice that the citizens have.
- Items to be on the form for the agenda; 1. Discussion, 2. Presentation, 3. Action item, 4. Ordinance, 5. Resolution, 6. Proclamation.
- The Attorney explained how the policy works on submitting agenda items.
- Mayor Garza has never said no, to anybody wanting to put an item on the agenda.

Mayor entertained a motion to postpone item 11 until is modify.

Motion by Councilmember Rindle Wilson

Second by Councilmember Jearl Rannefeld

All in favor, motion carried

12. Consideration and Action to determine the 2018 closure of the George West City Pool.

Move as read by Councilmember Kitley Wasicek

Second: Councilmember Patricia Clifton

- Ms. Vines presented the council with a graph showing a head count, day by day since the pool was open, there is no pattern to it.
- Since the pool was open there has been 940 people, about 26 people a day go to the pool.
- And sold \$1,132.82 in concessions.
- Ms. Vines stated that the pool is a quality of life thing and is not going to make money.
- Up to the council if they want to close the pool when school starts.

There was a discussion on how many parties have taken place at the pool and how much is charge for the parties. Is something for the children to do and get some stress out.

The council directed the City Manager to keep the city pool open on the weekends and open for parties.

No action on agenda item 12.

Motion by Councilmember Kitley Wasicek

Second by Councilmember Rindle Wilson

13. Consideration and Action to appoint the members of the City of George West investment Committee Board.

- Need one councilperson, and two citizens.
- Names given where Richard Galloway, Kristen Gert, Laura Gilmore. Kitley Wasicek, Shirley Holm, City Secretary and Georgia Vines.
- Mayor asked for nominations from the council for the investment committee.
- They each wrote down names of a residents.

Mayor entertain a motion to amend item number 13.

Motion by Councilmember Patricia Clifton

Second by Mayor Pro-tem Jearl Rannefeld

- Consideration and Action to appoint Richard Galloway, Kristen Gerth, Laura Gilmore, and Councilmember Kitley Wasicek as members of the City of George West investment Committee.

All in favor on approving amendment agenda item number 13

All in favor, motion carried.

14. Consideration and Action to establish an Economic Development Board, consisting of five to seven citizens and/or business owners, with business within the City of George West territorial jurisdiction, appointed by Councils recommendations, for a term of 2 years. (Mayor Garza)

Move as read by Councilmember Kitley Wasicek

Second by Councilmember Patricia Clifton

- Agenda item pull by Mayor Garza for lack of time.
Mayor entertain a motion for no action on agenda item 14
Motion by Councilmember Rindle Wilson
Second by Councilmember Kitley Wasicek

All in favor, motion carries

15. Consideration and Action to change the time of the Council Meetings to 6:00 p.m. instead of 7:00 p.m. (Councilperson Clifton)

Motion by Councilmember Kitley Wasicek

Second by Mayor Pro-tem Jearl Rannefeld

Open for discussion, Councilmember Wasicek had a problem, 6:00 o'clock is unreasonable.

- Mayor proposed for 6:30 instead of 6:00 p.m.
- Councilmember called point of order
- Ms. Amoles said that back in the day they had the meetings at 5 o'clock.

Motion to amend council item 15 to strike 6 and put 6:30

Motion to approved amended agenda item number 15 by Councilmember Kitley Wasicek.

Second by Councilmember Clifton

Motion carries to amend agenda item 15

All in favor, motion carried

16. Consideration and Action to return to the Public Works Director job title (that is in our city charter) and it also be advertised as such. (Council Clifton)

Move as read by Councilmember Kitley Wasicek

Second by Mayor Pro-tem Jearl Rannefeld

Ms. Vines mention that the ordinance to change the title never passed was for change.

motion for no action by Mayor Pro-tem Jearl Rannefeld

Second by Councilmember Patricia Clifton

all in favor motion carried

17. Consideration and Action to fill the Public Works Director position. (Councilperson Clifton)

Moved as read by Councilmember Kitley Wasicek

Second by Mayor Pro-tem Jearl Rannefeld

- Mr. Valdez advised that the item was discussed already.

Mayor entertained a motion for not action.

Motion by Councilmember Kitley Wasicek
Second by Mayor Pro-tem Jearl Rannefeld
All in favor, motion carried.

18. Consideration and Action to fill the Chief of Police position. (Councilperson Clifton)

Move as read by Mayor Pro-tem Jearl Rannefeld
Second by Councilmember Kitley Wasicek
Motion for no action by Councilmember
Second by Councilmember
All in favor, motion carried.

19. Consideration and Action to fill the Municipal Court Judges position. (Councilperson Clifton)

Motion to move as read by Councilmember Kitley Wasicek
Second by Councilmember Patricia Clifton

- Mr. Valdez said, that Item was discussed previously.

The consensus was to wait until after the audit to hire a Municipal Court Judge.
Move for no action by Mayor Pro-tem Jearl Rannefeld
Second by Councilmember Rindle Wilson.
All in favor, motion carried.

20. Consideration and Action to approve June 2018 Accounts Payable.

- Discussion by Councilmember Patricia Clifton. Her question was on Leann Ray on Parks and Recs and ETC marketing.

Mayor entertain a motion to recessed for five minutes.

Motion by Councilmember Kitley Wasicek
Second by Councilmember Patricia Clifton

Meeting **Reconvene** at 10:24 p.m.

- Ms. Vines said that she will ask Noelia the following day, hold on the approval of the item. because she does not remember what the professional services is for. The name does not sound familiar either. Mayor said that it could be a coding error.
- Ms. Vines cannot find the back up for it and check will not have been printed if there was no back up for it.
- Ms. Vines Said that ETC is the name of the natural Gas provider.
Mayor entertain the motion to amend agenda item number 20 by pulling the accounts payable under Parks and Recreations to Lean Ray in the amount of \$1,085.
Motion by Councilmember Kitley Wasicek
Second by Councilmember Patricia Clifton
No more discussion All in favor, motion carried to amend agenda item 20.
Consideration and action to approve accounts payable except for the account for Parks and Recreation vendor Leann Ray in the amount of \$1,080.
All in favor, motion carried.

BRIEFFINGS:

21. City Manager's Report:

- Shirley was not feeling well and was not in attendance, but she prepared the report for the council meeting.
- Questions were brought about the buildings that needed to be removed.

a. Revenue and Expense Report for June 2018

b. City and Projected updates

Councilmember Patricia Clifton asked for the splash pad status.

Ms. Vines said that they are taking the final measurements and the components are being order. She also hopes that it will be ready in the next two months.

22. Chief of Police Report:

a. Education and Classes for G.W.P.D. Personnel

- Officer Lee updated the council on the training the officers have taken.
- Ms. Vines, added that most of the officer were basic and now they are moving to intermedia, people are still advancing and improving.
- Officer Lee, said that the school open a position for a School Resource officer, and an officer has been hired. The school resource officer will be an extra officer after school is out.

23. Questions or Briefings at the City Council's Request:

a. City Secretary

b. Volunteer Fire Department

c. Code Enforcement

d. Public Works

No questions were asked on item 23

24. Adjournment.

Motion to adjourn by Councilmember Rindle Wilson

Second by Councilmember Kitley Wasicek

Meeting adjourn at 10:45 p.m.

ATTEST:



Maria Hernandez, City Secretary

SIGNED:



Andrew Garza, Mayor

SIGN IN SHEET

JULY 26, 2018

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

(PLEASE PRINT & SIGN)

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