

City Manager
Vacant

City Secretary
Maria Hernandez

Interim City Attorney
Carlos Valdez

City of George West



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Phone 361-449-1556 • Fax 361-449-3030

Mayor
Andrew J. Garza

Mayor Pro-Tem
Jearl Rannefeld

Council
Kitley Wasicek
Patricia Clifton
Rindle Wilson

Regular Session City Council Meeting Minutes – November 15, 2018

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 Noelia Martinez:

Council Present: Mayor Andrew Garza, Mayor Pro-Tem Jearl Rannefeld, Council Members Kitley Wasicek and Rindle Wilson.

Council Member Patricia Clifton arrived at 8:07 p.m.

Staff Present: Shirley Holm, Noelia Martinez, D'Ann Lane and Marguerite Shelton

Attorney Present: Carlos Valdez

III. Council Member Rindle Wilson gave the Invocation.

IV. Deputy City Secretary Noelia Martinez led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States.

V. Deputy City Secretary Noelia Martinez led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of Texas.

VI. Public Comments

Sandra Amoles comments are as follows:

Concerns about losing our City Secretary Maria Hernandez and that there are two City Council Members interfering with day to day operations and that they need to read the Charter and know what their boundaries are. Let the department heads run the City and let them do their job.

David Murphy was not present (turned in his Public Comment form earlier in the day)

VII. Announcements and Correspondence

a.) Ms. Lane received a donation from HEB in the amount of \$500.00 for Lighting of the Park

Mayor Andrew Garza acknowledged D'Ann Lane for receiving a donation from HEB for Lighting of the Park.

b.) Lighting of the Park November 29, at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Andrew Garza said Lighting of the Park will start at 5:30 p.m.

c.) Artisan Market Days November 17, 2018

Mayor Andrew Garza said the Artisan Market Days will be on November 17 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

d.) Winterfest December 14, and 15, 2018

Shirley Holm said the Winterfest nativity scene and play will be held at the City Park on the evening of December 14, 2018 and the festivities on the next day will be at the coliseum.

Mayor Andrew Garza read the letter the City received from the Texas Department of Agriculture, Commissioner Sid Miller, regarding the Texas Community Development Block Grant, CDBG Program, Notice of Award 2018 Community Development Fund, that the City was approved for a Community Development Fund Award in the amount \$300,000.00 for sewer improvements.

The Police Department is having a food drive and will have a box where people can donate food items and will then give it to one of the charity organization within the City to be able to deliver food to families that cannot afford meals during the Thanksgiving Holidays. They will also have a toy drive for children who are unable to receive Christmas.

Mayor Andrew Garza read Maria Hernandez's letter of resignation and is effective November 15, 2018.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. Consideration and Action to change the time of the December City Council Regular Session Meeting to 6:30 p.m.**

Mayor Andrew Garza called for a vote on the Consent Agenda. All in favor. Motion carried.

BUSINESS:

- 2. Consideration and Action to approve a contract between the City of George West Police Department and TLO Transunion at \$75 per month, for a period of 12 months, commencing on January 1, 2019.**

Council Member Kitley Wasicek made a motion to move as read, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Jearl Rannefeld. All in favor. Motion carried.

- 3. Consideration and Action to approve the addition of Vimeo video player, to the new City of George West website, for a fee not to exceed \$7 per month, billed annually at \$84.00 per year.**

Mayor Pro-Tem Jearl Rannefeld made a motion to move as read, seconded by Council Member Kitley Wasicek. All in favor. Motion carried.

- 4. Consideration and Action to approve the addition of Incode Online Utility Account Management system, to the City of George West's utility payment structure.**

Council Member Kitley Wasicek made a motion to move as read, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Jearl Rannefeld.

Open for Discussion: The City Council had questions on how the system works, application start up fees and other fees that will be assessed to the City per each transaction. The Council asked about how many people pay over the phone with a credit card, how many regular bills and reminder notices we send out and the cost of postage.

Council Member Rindle Wilson made a motion to postpone Agenda Item #4 until further research and cost analysis was done and present it to the City Council on the next Regular Session City Council meeting, seconded by Council Member Kitley Wasicek. All in favor. Motion carried.

- 5. Consideration and Action to approve the disbursement of the incentive pay to City of George West employees on December 7, 2018 in the amount of \$300.00.**

Council Member Kitley Wasicek made a motion to move as read, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Jearl Rannefeld. All in favor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS:

- 6. Consideration and action to adopt Resolution No. 2018-11, removing Georgia Vines as a Signatory on the South Trust Bank accounts.**

Council Member Kitley Wasicek made a motion to move as read, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Jearl Rannefeld. All in favor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS:

- 6. Consideration and action to adopt Resolution No. 2018-11, removing Georgia Vines as a Signatory on the South Trust Bank accounts.**

Council Member Kitley Wasicek made a motion to move as read, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Jearl Rannefeld. All in favor. Motion carried.

- 7. Consideration and Action to adopt Resolution No. 2018-12, the 2018 Tax Roll and Levy.**

Mayor Pro-Tem Jearl Rannefeld made a motion to move as read, seconded by Council Member Kitley Wasicek.

Open for Discussion: Council Member Rindle Wilson said when both figures on the Resolution are added together it does not add up with the same tax rate on the Live Oak County Appraisal District Jurisdiction Summary. City Council asked Shirley to try to get a hold of Mrs. Debra Morin with the Live Oak County Appraisal District to check on the figures.

Council Member Kitley Wasicek made a motion to table Agenda Item #7, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Jearl Rannefeld. All in favor. Motion carried.

- 8. Consideration and Action to adopt Resolution No. 2018-13, DESIGNATING AUTHORIZED SIGNATORIES FOR CONTRACTUAL DOCUMENTS AND DOCUMENTS FOR REQUESTING FUNDS PERTAINING TO THE TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM (TXCDBG), CONTRACT NUMBER 7218161.**

Council Member Kitley Wasicek made a motion to move as read, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Jearl Rannefeld.

Oralia Cardenas with GrantWorks gave a brief speech pertaining to the documents of the Texas Community Development Block Grant that was awarded to the City of George West.

Mayor Andrew Garza called for a vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

9. **Consideration and Action to adopt Resolution No. 2018-14, ADOPTING THE REQUIRED CDBG CIVIL RIGHTS POLICIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 109 OF THE TITLE I OF THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACT (24 CFR 6); THE AGE DISCRIMINATION ACT OF 1975 (42 U.S.C. 6101-6107); AND SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794); AND FOR CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS GREATER THAN \$10,000. THE CITY OF GEORGE WEST MUST TAKE ACTIONS TO ENSURE THAT NO PERSON OR GROUP IS DENIED BENEFITS SUCH AS EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING, HOUSING, AND CONTRACTS GENERATED BY THE CDBG ACTIVITY, ON THE BASIS OF RACE, COLOR, RELIGION, SEX, NATIONAL ORIGIN, AGE, OR DISABILITY.**

Council Member Kitley Wasicek made a motion to move as read, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Jearl Rannefeld.

Oralia Cardenas with GrantWorks said this is related to the Civil Rights requirements and are routine documents that come with the grant award related to the sewer improvements and that the documents would require the Mayor's signature.

Mayor Andrew Garza called for a vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE:

10. **Consideration and Action to approve Ordinance No. 854, PROVIDING FOR THE REALIGNMENT OF THE ANIMAL CONTROL DEPARTMENT TO BECOME PART OF THE GEORGE WEST PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT AND SUBJECT TO THE SUPERVISION OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR; PROVIDING A SAVINGS AND SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; REPEALING ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Council Member Kitley Wasicek made a motion to move as read, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Jearl Rannefeld. All in favor. Motion carried.

BUSINESS:

11. **Consideration and Action to Approve Accounts Payable for October 2018.**

Mayor Pro-Tem Jearl Rannefeld made a motion to approve as read, seconded by Council Member Kitley Wasicek. All in favor. Motion carried.

12. Consideration and Action to Appoint an Interim City Manager for the City of George West.

Mayor Andrew Garza recommended in tabling Agenda Item #12 without having to suspend the rules and move it to the end of the Agenda so we can actually do an addition in accordance with the Executive Sessions to take this into Executive Session because Shirley Holm has some things they need to discuss.

Mayor Pro-Tem Jearl Rannefeld made a motion to table Agenda Item #12, seconded by Council Member Kitley Wasicek. All in favor. Motion carried.

BRIEFINGS:

13. Interim City Manager's Report:

a. Revenue and Expense Report for October 2018

Shirley Holm gave the Revenue and Expense Report regarding the City's bank account balances, revenues, expenditures and the upcoming audit. She will have a final Revenue & Expense report for September at the next meeting.

b. City and Project Updates

JR Higgins, Director of Public Works, said there were no projects that he knew of but has been very busy with TCEQ and trying to clear up some violations and that he had a meeting with the LNV engineers. Mr. Higgins said he has been trying to get departments organized and reformatted and trying to catch up on small things that have been put aside & neglected and try to get caught up and move forward.

Shirley Holm said she called about the splash pad because she was concerned that she did not see the items at the park that the City Council voted on but will appear eventually but there are some things on our end that the City needs to get done, but that everything is there for us to connect to. We have not expended any funds yet to that project. We just wanted to get an update from the company to see where they are and where we are and to let the City Council know we are on top of it. Both parties are working together to get the project up and going.

14. Engineer's Report by LNV:

a. LNV – Sewer Pond

Grady Atkinson with LNV apologized for being absent at the last two council meetings due to the notice and was not able to reschedule prior obligations. Mr. Atkinson said he has been working on TCEQ violations and those have taken priority. Mr. Atkinson said the Class C water license operator that the City contracts with LNV

is there only to guide the City's operators. Mr. Atkinson also discussed was the Sewer Pond, clarifiers and sludge pumps. Mr. Atkinson also said that after talking with Mr. Higgins, they were on the same page about the emergency pond and that that there is \$237,000.00 in the budget to re-line the pond, but if possible, the City could reallocate the money to things that will actually fix the problems. Also, he asked if the City Council could give him time to evaluate alternatives and provide the cost for each option and try to fix the source of the problem and that maybe we don't need the pond and that a lot of wastewater treatment plants don't have ponds or emergency backups. Mr. Atkinson said he would have the proposals by the next council meeting.

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

- a. City Secretary**
- b. Volunteer Fire Department**
- c. Code Enforcement**
- d. Public Works**
- e. Police Chief Report**

There was no questions or briefings.

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION. In accordance with Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code (Consultation with Attorney), the City Council may go into executive session to discuss the following:

Contemplated Litigation.

Mayor Andrew Garza said since the City of George West reserves the right to adjourn into Executive Session at any time during the course of the meeting to discuss any of the matters listed above as authorized by Texas Government Code Section 551.074 (Personnel Matters), the City Council may go into Executive Session to discuss the following:

Contemplated Litigation and Agenda Item #12 Interim City Manager.

Council Member Kitley Wasicek made a motion to enter into Executive Session, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Jearl Rannefeld. All in favor. Motion carried. The City Council entered into Executive Session at 7:54 p.m.

17. Reconvene in Open Session

Council Member Kitley Wasicek made a motion to reconvene, seconded by Council Member Patricia Clifton. All in favor. Motion carried. The City Council reconvened at 9:21 p.m.

Mayor Andrew Garza said for the record Council Member Patricia Clifton arrived at the meeting at 8:07 p.m.

Mayor Andrew Garza entertained a motion to bring back Agenda Item #12.

Council Member Kitley Wasicek made a motion to bring back Agenda Item #12, seconded by Council Member Patricia Clifton. All in favor. Motion carried.

12. Consideration and Action to Appoint an Interim City Manager for the City of George West.

Council Member Kitley Wasicek made a motion to move as read, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Jearl Rannefeld. All in favor. Motion carried.

Council Member Kitley Wasicek made a motion to amend Agenda Item #12 and to read as follows:

Consideration and Action to appoint Shirley Holm as Interim City Manager for the City of George West pursuant to Section 602 of the George West City Charter with a salary of \$30.00 per hour effective immediately.

Seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Jearl Rannefeld.

Mayor Andrew Garza called for a vote on the amendment of Agenda Item #12. All in favor for the amendment. Motion carried.

Mayor Andrew Garza gave the Oath of Office to Shirley Holm.

Mayor Andrew Garza entertained a motion to bring back Agenda Item #7 back to the table.

Council Member Kitley Wasicek made a motion to bring back Agenda Item #7 back to the table, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Jearl Rannefeld. All in favor. Motion carried.

7. Consideration and Action to adopt Resolution No. 2018-12, the 2018 Tax Roll and Levy.

Council Member Patricia Clifton made a motion to move as read, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Jearl Rannefeld.

Open for Discussion: Shirley Holm could not make contact with Mrs. Debra Morin with the Live Oak County Appraisal District but will call her tomorrow to make sure which are the correct figures.

Council Member Kitley Wasicek made a motion to postpone Agenda Item #7, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Jearl Rannefeld. All in favor. Motion carried.

18. Adjournment.

Council Member Kitley Wasicek made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Council Member Patricia Clifton. All in favor. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:31 p.m.

ATTEST:

Noelia Martinez

Noelia Martinez
Deputy city Secretary

SIGNED:

Andrew Garza

Andrew Garza
Mayor

