

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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REGULAR SESSION CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 10/26/2022

- I. Call Meeting to Order-Mayor Garza called to the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.
- II. Roll Call-Jearl Rannefeld was absent, Tim Humphrey was on via Zoom.
- III. Invocation-Mayor Garza gave the invocation.
- IV. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States- The Pledge to the United States Flag was led by D'Ann Lane.
- V. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of Texas- The Pledge to the Flag of Texas was led by D'Ann Lane.
- VI. Public Comments
NONE

- VII. Announcements and Correspondence
 - a) Lighting of the Park will be on 12/01/2022.
 - b) Church Christmas Story Stroll 12/11/2022 from 5:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. **Consideration and Action** to change the time of the November City Council Regular Session Meeting to 6:30 p.m.
 2. **Consideration and Action** to approve the following minutes:
 - a) **Special Session City Council Meeting Minutes September 14, 2022**
 - b) **Regular Session City Council Meeting Minutes September 28, 2022**
 3. **Consideration and Action** to approve the street closures of Frio, Crockett, and San Antonio St. for the Church Christmas Story Stroll from 5:00-7:30 p.m. on December 11, 2022.
 4. **Consideration and Action** to approve the resignation of Julie Hardwick from the Economic Development Commission on October 11, 2022.
 5. **Consideration and Action** to approve Accounts Payable for September 2022.
- Mayor Garza asked if anything needed to be pulled from the consent agenda. Nothing was

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

ORDINANCE:

6. **PUBLIC HEARING Consideration and Action** to approve the First Reading of Ordinance No. 918, an ordinance of the City of George West, Texas providing for the Animal Control Officer to enforce Texas Health and Safety Code § 821.102; providing a savings and severability clause; repealing ordinances in conflict and providing an effective date.

Mayor Garza opened a public hearing at 5:07 p.m. The hearing was closed at 5:07 p.m. Move as read by Patricia Clifton. Seconded by John Walker. Open for discussion. Chief Perkins explained that this would allow the Animal Control Officer to write citations for the new leash law. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

BUSINESS

7. **Consideration and Action** to approve the Building Standard's Board recommendation to demolish the structure at 200 E. Houston St., George West, Texas and place a lien on said property for any expenses incurred.

Move as read by Patricia Clifton. Seconded by Tim Humphrey. Open for discussion. Bob Crank explained to the council that a demolition permit had been pulled, and demolition as already started. Mayor Garza asked Epi Ysassi the city attorney if they should go ahead and approve this item due to them already pulling a permit. Epi stated that it would be a good idea to approve just in case they do not complete the demolition. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

8. **Consideration and Action** to approve the Building Standard's Board recommendation to demolish the structure at 1200 Catholic Cemetery Rd., George West, Texas and place a lien on said property for any expenses incurred.

Move as read by Tim Humphrey. Seconded by Patricia Clifton. Mayor Garza asked if this was the property that the owner was trying to sell. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

9. **Consideration and Action** to approve the Building Standard's Board recommendation to demolish the structure at 400 Austin St., George West, Texas and place a lien on said property for any expenses incurred.

Move as read by Patricia Clifton. Seconded by John Walker. Bob Crank stated that this was two buildings on the same property. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

10. **Consideration and Action** to approve the Building Standard's Board recommendation to demolish the structure at 1316 Houston St., George West, Texas and place a lien on said property for any expenses incurred.

13. Consideration and Action to select a member for the Economic Development Commission.

Mayor to administer Oath

Move as read by Patricia Clifton. Seconded by Tim Humphrey. Open for discussion. John Walker and Mayor Garza both talked to several citizens regarding this open position. The council feel that we will continue to take applications for this position. Mayor Garza entertained a motion to postpone until applications are received.

Move as read by Patricia Clifton. Seconded by John Walker. All in favor. Agenda item #13 is postponed.

BRIEFINGS:

14. Interim City Manager's Report:

- a) Revenue and Expense Report for September 2022.
- b) City and Project Updates

Shirley Holm gave her updates regarding the September 2022 and FY ending September 30, 2022. The General Fund is 11% over budget for revenue and 4% over budget for expenditures. The reason we are over budget for revenue is that this month we received our 2nd payment for the American Rescue Fund in the amount of \$318,000. Our revenue was short this year by 85,000. The Utility Fund is over budget for revenue by 8% and 9% over budget for expenditures. Both revenue and expenditures are due to inflation. We had the extra fuel and utility expenses for the year. We also have been doing extra street repairs and equipment needed maintenance. Both Funds combined will finish the year at \$103,216. The balance in the bank accounts total \$2,575,472.

- **Texas Water Development Board Granted for \$100,000 for Asset Management Program for City's Wastewater Treatment Plant.**
- **CenterPoint Energy has scheduled a walkthrough of our gas system next week.**
- **The appraisal of the WWTP should be done in November 2022.**
- **The first Home was approved for the HOME Grant Program.**

15. 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

16. Adjournment.

Move as read by Patricia Clifton. Seconded by Tim Humphrey. John Walker stated that if this house was demolished the property does have value. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

- 11. Consideration and Action to accept an agreement from Nueces River Authority in the amount of \$ 6,000 per month to provide daily operations of (1) Wastewater Treatment Plant, (6) Wastewater Lift Stations, (4) Potable Water Wells and (1) Pump Station.**

Move as read by Patricia Clifton. Seconded by Tim Humphrey. Shirley Holm met with Travis Pruski, John Byrum, II from the Nueces River Authority earlier in the month to tour our facility. She included Rodney Pfouts, who is one of our current Class C Operators. They were very impressed with the condition our systems. Their agreement includes initially informing us of future maintenance needed, so that we can provide the plan to follow through on the needs of the Plants. She also mentioned that the addition of the Lift Stations will be a tremendous help to the city, due to their high cost to maintain. She sent the agreement to Epi Ysassi and Grady Atkinson to review, and they both agreed it looks appropriate. Shirley Holm explained that the price per month is within our FY 2022-2023 approved budget if we do not fill the Public Works Director position this fiscal year. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

- 12. Consideration and Action to approve a contract from SRP & Associates, LLC on an hourly rate of \$195 to provide a professional evaluation & recommendation of bids received for the sale of the Natural Gas Distribution System to the City Council.**

Move as read Patricia Clifton. Seconded by Tim Humphrey. Open for discussion. John Walker added that this firm knows our system. Patricia Clifton added that she is concerned with the secretarial fee of \$45 per hour in the appendix. Shirley Holm said she is sure that he has some projects where he needs more assistance, and this is only his price list. She does not anticipate the needed assistance with this project. Mayor Garza entertained a motion to amend by inserting at the end (contingent upon contract modifications pertaining to associated fees). Move as read by Patricia Clifton. Seconded by John Walker. All in favor. Amendment carried.

Amended Agenda item #12 Consideration and Action to approve a contract from SRP & Associates, LLC on an hourly rate of \$195 to provide a professional evaluation & recommendation of bids received for the sale of the Natural Gas Distribution System to the City Council contingent upon contract modifications pertaining to associated fees.

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

Mayor Garza entertained a motion to adjourn. Move as read by John Walker. Seconded by Tim Humphrey. All in favor. The council meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

ATTEST: _____
D'Ann Lane, City Secretary

SIGNED: _____
Andrew Garza, Mayor