

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
Nathan Stroleny
Patricia Clifton
John Walker

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REGULAR SESSION CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 2/9/2023

- I. Call Meeting to Order-Mayor Andrew Garza called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.
- II. Roll Call-All council was present with Nathan Stroleny arriving at 5:13 p.m.
- III. Invocation-Mayor Andy Garza gave the invocation.
- IV. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States- D'Ann Lane led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States.
- V. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of Texas-D'Ann Lane led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of Texas.
- VI. Public Comments

NONE

VII. Announcements and Correspondence

- a) Live Oak County Fair Parade will be in George West on February 25, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.
- b) Live Oak County Fair will be March 1-4, 2023.
- c) Bulky Trash Pickup will be on February 23, 2023.
- d) Applications for City Council Places 1, 2, 4, & Mayor will be available for pickup with a deadline to file for a place on the ballot will be February 17, 2023, at City Hall at 5:00 p.m.
- e) Market Days February 25, 2023
- f) 2023 HOT Funds applications due March 9, 2023, by 5:00 p.m.
- g) Mayor Garza signed a proclamation declaring February, as National Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month.

Mayor Garza went over all the announcements. Patricia Clifton brought up the proclamation for Missy Beck and thanked Mayor Garza for doing that. Mayor read the Proclamation for National Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month and it was signed at 5:11 p.m. Interim City Manager Shirley Holm, added that a suicide prevention program asked to add a link to our City Website.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. **Consideration and Action** to change the time of the March City Council Regular Session Meeting to 5:00 p.m.
2. **Consideration and Action** to approve the following minutes:
 - a) **Regular Session City Council Meeting Minutes January 10, 2023.**
3. **Consideration and Action** to approve Accounts Payable for January 2023.
4. **Consideration and Action** to approve the street closures of Fannin Street, Travis Street and Nueces Street on Saturday, February 25, 2023, for the Live Oak County Fair Parade 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

Mayor Garza asked if anything need to be pulled. Nothing was pulled. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION:

5. **Consideration and Action** to Ratify the adoption of Resolution No. 2023-04 approving the submission for FEMA Mitigation Funds for FM-5420 Grant.

Move as read by Patricia Clifton. Seconded by Jearl Rannefeld. Open for discussion. Shirley Holm informed the council that this grant came up with TxDot it is worth 2.4 million dollars. Mayor Garza signed the Resolution, because it was part of application process. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor.. Resolution was adopted.

PRESENTATION:

6. **City of George West Financial Audit Report for Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2022. (20 Minutes)**

Deborah F. Frasier- Armstrong, Vaughan and Associates, P.C.

Debbie Frasier went over the City of George West audit. She stated that every year the audit gets better. Debbie thanked all the staff at City Hall for sending in information to the firm before they did their site visit. John Walker commended Shirley Holm on how well the audit went. Ms. Holm responded that all her staff work diligently day in and day out to ensure work is completed within good audit guidelines.

7. **Discussion** regarding the status of the Economic Development Commission Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, and 4A 4B organization. **(10 Minutes)**

Jim Jorrie was present from the Economic Development Commission. They have met with

the Chamber of Commerce, and have gone to Cuero to visit with their Economic Development Commission. Their members are doing the training course for the Open Meetings Act. He stated that the County is applying with TxDot to expand the airport. And they have asked the Economic Development Commission to participate. This would increase corporate aviation. The EDC is currently reviewing 3 different grants. They will send the grants to the council for approval once they feel they are ready to apply. The EDC have surveys going out on the Utility Bill that will ask questions, like what residents would like to see in the City. They will be having a business Town Hall at the Dobie West Theater on March 15, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. Mayor Garza informed Jim Jorrie that they would have to rename it to a (Forum) because they cannot use the name "Town Hall" if the city is not there and putting it on. After the survey they would want to publish the results as they come in. In the last two meetings they have approved a draft to send to council of the Articles and Bylaws. The EDC has a few legal questions for our City Attorney Epi Ysassi like, "Who needs to be the registered agent?" And questions regarding getting bonded for the corporation. Shirley Holm went and researched Bylaws of other commissions and agreed that these are in line with those researched. Jim Jorrie added that the EDC does not have another agenda the commission just needs to be synched with the city. Shirley Holm stated that we will try to get it on the March 16, 2023 City Council Meeting for approval. Shirley Holm added that on the TDA grants for downtown revitalization, one of the criteria was that your EDC had to be incorporated. Mayor Garza brought up that city is incorporated, and they fall under the city.

BUSINESS:

8. **Consideration and Action** to approve the City of George West Financial Audit for Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2022, from Armstrong, Vaughan and Associates, P.C.

Move as read by Patricia Clifton. Seconded by Jearl Rannefeld. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

9. **Consideration and Action** to Issue Order of Election and Notice of Election for the City Election to be held on May 6, 2023.

Consideración y Acción para emitir Orden de Elección y Aviso de Elección para la Elección de la ciudad que tendrá lugar 06 de Mayo de 2023.

Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by Patricia Clifton. All in favor. Motion carried.

10. **Consideration and Action** to hold a joint election with the George West Independent School District May 6, 2023.

Move as read by Patricia Clifton. Seconded by Nathan Stroleny. All in favor. Motion carried.

11. Consideration and Action to award the TDA project for contract # CDV21-0321 Street Improvement Project to Tom Oaks Construction in the amount of \$ 307,195 (Base Bid + Additive Alternate No. 1 & No. 2) contingent on TDA approval of Amendment #1 based on the recommendation from Ardurra Group, Inc.

Move as read by Patricia Clifton. Seconded by Jearl Rannefeld. Open for discussion. Grady Atkinson was present from Ardurra Group, Inc., and he stated that they recommend the changes. All in favor. Motion carried.

Move Garza entertained a motion to rescind agenda item #11. Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by Patricia Clifton. All in favor. Agenda item #11 is rescinded.

Reconsider

Mayor Garza entertained a motion to amend by inserting at the end with \$ 295,000 allocated from the grant received and \$ 12,195 from the City of George West General Fund. Move as read by Patricia Clifton. Seconded by Jearl Rannefeld. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor. Amendment carried.

Amended agenda item #11 Consideration and Action to award the TDA project for contract # CDV21-0321 Street Improvement Project to Tom Oaks Construction in the amount of \$ 307,195 (Base Bid + Additive Alternate No. 1 & No. 2) contingent on TDA approval of Amendment #1 based on the recommendation from Ardurra Group, Inc., with \$ 295,000 allocated from the grant received and \$ 12,195 from the City of George West General Fund. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

- 12. Consideration and Action to convene into EXECUTIVE SESSION.** In accordance with Section 551.072 of the Texas Government Code (Deliberations about Real Property), the City Council may go into executive session to discuss the following:
- a. Discussion on the Wastewater Sewer Treatment Plant.

Mayor Garza entertained a motion to suspend the rules. Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by Nathan Stroleny. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor. Rules have been suspended.

Move as read Patricia Clifton. Seconded by Nathan Stroleny. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor. The Council entered into Executive Session at 6:07 p.m.

13. Consideration and Action to convene into EXECUTIVE SESSION. In accordance with Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code (Consultation with Attorney).

14. Reconvene

ZOOM ID: 882 6828 9710

ZOOM PW: 163408

Mayor Garza entertained a motion to reconvene. Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by Nathan Stroleny. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor the council reconvened at 7:26 p.m.

Mayor Garza entertained a motion for No Action on agenda item #13. Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by Patricia Clifton. All in favor. Motion carried.

15. Consideration and Action to select a bonded contract company for the remediation project of the 4 ponds located at the Waste Water Treatment Plant.

Move as read by Patricia Clifton. Seconded by Jearl Rannefeld. Open for discussion. The first bid was \$34,400 from Seis-Hache, the second bid was from Cactus Tools in the amount of \$150,000, and the last bid was from David Kaase in the amount of \$55,000.

Mayor Garza entertained a motion to amend (by striking a and replace with the at end of company Seis-Hache at the end in the amount of 34,400.) Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by Nathan Stroleny. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor. Amendment carried.

Amended agenda item #15 Consideration and Action to select the bonded contract company Seis-Hache for the remediation project of the 4 ponds located at the Waste Water Treatment Plant in the amount of \$34,400. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

BRIEFINGS:

16. Interim City Manager's Report:

- a) Revenue and Expense Report for January 2023.
- b) City and Project Updates

17. 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

Shirley Holm gave the financial updates for period ending January 31, 2023. She reported that we are at 39% of budget for revenue and 34% of budget for expenditures in the General Fund. Both are on target. We have 66% of ad valorem taxes collected. Since, we had our meeting a little earlier than normal we did not have the sales tax posted for the month of January 2023. We are sitting at a positive balance in the General Fund of \$89,447.

In the Utility Fund we are at 34% of budget for revenue and 26% of budget for expenditures. We are at a positive balance in the Utility Fund of \$150,499. In both Funds, we are at a positive \$239,947 net position. The bank account balances are \$2,701,985.

City Projects & Updates:

Submitted FM-5420 TDEM Grant for 2 generators for Water Well's 3 and the Waste Water Treatment Plant, which totals slightly over \$2 million.

Submitted TXDOT Grant for Safe Routes to School Program for slightly over \$1 million. This includes sidewalks at Primary Campus, GW Baseball Fields, Cactus Park Museum and Swimming Pool.

Continuous work on the Gas Distribution request from potential bidders on the Proposal to purchase the Gas Distribution System.

Several Pump Repairs Needed at Tex Best and I37 Lift Stations and the WWTP Aerator/Rotor. Working closely with Nueces River Authority for a smooth transition of management with the WWTP and Water Facilities.

Quarterly City Brush pickup will be February 23, 2023 by Republic Garbage Services.

Resolution has been accomplished with Live Oak County for the daily disposal of brush by City employees.

The first home from the HOME Program, will start being built in May 2023. Mayor Garza would like to do a ribbon cutting when they finish the first house.

Ms. Holm extended an invitation from Live Oak Historic Foundation to the City Council to attend meeting on February 27, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the Grace Armantrout Museum, as a tour of facility will be conducted.

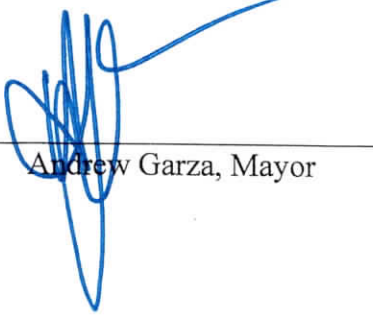
Mayor Garza entertained a motion to reinstate the rules. Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by Patricia Clifton. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor. Motion carried. the rules were reinstated at 6:07 p.m.

18. Adjournment.

Mayor Garza entertained a motion to adjourn. Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded

by Patricia Clifton. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

ATTEST: 
D'Ann Lane, City Secretary

SIGNED: 
Andrew Garza, Mayor