

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 2/22/2024

- I. Call Meeting to Order-Mayor Garza called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
- II. Roll Call-By City Secretary D'Ann Lane-All council was present.
- III. Invocation-Mayor Andrew Garza gave the invocation.
- IV. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States-The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States was led by D'Ann Lane.
- V. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of Texas-The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of Texas was led by D'Ann Lane.
- VI. Public Comments
 - Sid Moore turned in a Citizen Public Comment Form but was not present at the meeting.
 - C. David Brown also turned in a Citizen Public Comment Form but was not present at the meeting.

VII. Announcements and Correspondence

- a) Live Oak County Fair Parade will be in Three Rivers on February 24, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.
- b) Live Oak County Fair will be Thursday, February 29-March 2, 2024.
- c) Bulky Trash Pickup will be on February 22, 2024.

Mayor Garza read over all the announcements. Patricia Clifton asked how the bulky trash pickup went. Shirley Holm responded that it went well. City employees were reminding citizens that may have forgotten specific areas to stage bulky items earlier in the week to assist in nuisance complaints.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Consideration and Action to change the time of the March City Council Regular Session Meeting to 5:30 p.m.
2. Consideration and Action to approve the following minutes:
 - a) Regular Session City Council Meeting Minutes January 23, 2024.

3. **Consideration and Action** to approve the street closures of Guadalupe Street, Travis Street, and Crockett Street from 10:30-1:30 p.m., for the St. George Catholic Church Annual Barbecue Fundraiser on April 7, 2024.

4. **Consideration and Action** to approve Accounts Payable for January 2024.

Mayor Garza would like to pull Accounts Payable and Agenda Item #3 Mayor Called for a vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Agenda Item #3 Consideration and Action to approve the street closures of Guadalupe Street, Travis Street, and Crockett Street from 10:30-1:30 p.m., for the St. George Catholic Church Annual Barbecue Fundraiser on April 7, 2024. Move as read by Jearl Ranefeld. Seconded by Patricia Clifton. Mayor Garza entertained a motion to amend by inserting at the end (and the street closures of Crockett at the intersection of San Marcos and Crockett as well as Guadalupe and Crockett on March 29, 2024, from 2:00-5:00 p.m. for the Live Stations of the Cross.) Move as read by John Walker. Seconded by Jearl Ranefeld. All in favor. Amendment carried.

Agenda Item #3 Consideration and Action to approve the street closures of Guadalupe Street, Travis Street, and Crockett Street from 10:30-1:30 p.m., for the St. George Catholic Church Annual Barbecue Fundraiser on April 7, 2024, and the street closures of Crockett at the intersection of San Marcos and Crockett as well as Guadalupe and Crockett on March 29, 2024, from 2:00-5:00 p.m. for the Live Stations of the Cross.

Mayor Garza called for a vote on the amended agenda item. All in favor motion carried.

Agenda Item #4 Consideration and Action to approve Accounts Payable for January 2024. Move as read by Patricia Clifton. Seconded by Jearl Ranefeld. Mayor Garza asked to pull this agenda item from the packets, due to his concern on its validity. During his review, the Mayor questioned vendor payments left off. The report submitted by Haley Maywald for the packets did not include all the vendor payments for January 2024. There was a difference of \$ 68,000. Haley provided a new updated report to the city council and stated that when she ran the report again, she used check date rather than invoice date in Incode, which did include all vendor payments for January 2024 and was the correct report. She will ensure to use these criteria in future monthly Accounts Payable reports. The new report is by check date, so it is the correct amounts and was ran at 02/22/2024 at 11:00 am. Patricia Clifton asked the Mayor if there was anything particular, he was looking for. He responded with no; he just always looks over it. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

PRESENTATION:

5. **City of George West Financial Audit Report for Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2023.**

**Deborah F. Fraser, CPA, CGMA- Armstrong, Vaughan and Associates, P.C.
(30 Minutes)**

Deborah Fraser gave her audit report. The Independent auditors' report stated that the City of George West received an unmodified report, which is the best report a City can receive. The financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City of George West, as of September 30, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position and , where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the USA.

RESOLUTION:

- 6. Consideration and Action to adopt Resolution No. 2024-01, removing Noelia Martinez, and adding D'Ann Lane as a Signator on the South Trust Bank Accounts.**

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

BUSINESS:

- 7. Consideration and Action to approve the City of George West Financial Audit for Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2023, from Armstrong, Vaughan and Associates, P.C.**

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

- 8. Consideration and Action to set a salary for the Municipal Court Judge effective immediately.**

Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by Patricia Clifton. Open for discussion. Mayor Garza stated that when the judge was appointed we should have put on the agenda to make her a salaried employee. Shirley Holm did some research with surrounding areas, and she has recommended a salary of \$50,206.00. Mayor Garza entertained a motion to amend by (striking a inserting the of after salary 50,206.00 per year.) Mayor Garza called for a vote. Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by Patricia Clifton. All in favor. Amendment carried.

Amended Agenda Item #8 Consideration and Action to set the salary of \$50,206.00 per year for the Municipal Court Judge effective immediately. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

- 9. Consideration and Action to enter into an MOU with the city of Three Rivers to sponsor the Live Oak County Volunteer Medical Response Team 1.**

Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by John Walker. Mayor Garza and City

Attorney Epi Ysassi worked on the MOU. Mayor Garza spoke with the City of Three Rivers, and they are in agreement. It is just sponsorship. It relieves the cities of any liability. They are just sponsoring them to be able to provide their services. Patricia Clifton stated she has several questions. Jearl Rannefeld stated that it is much needed. Mayor Garza has done some research into our Emergency Service District. He stated that the citizens of George West were paying for EMS services; therefore, if you lived in the city limits, you would get double taxed to pay for EMS services. So, they formed an Emergency Service District. There is no representation from George West on that board. They need sponsorship from the cities because they need to have some government agency support to get their license to operate.

Mayor Garza entertained a motion to go into Executive Session. Move as read by Patricia Clifton. Seconded by Nathan Stroleny. All in favor. The council went into Executive Session at 6:38 p.m.

Mayor Garza entertained a motion to reconvene. Move as read by John Walker. Seconded by Patricia Clifton. All in favor. The council reconvened at 7:15 p.m.

Back to Agenda item #9 Move as read by Patricia Clifton. Seconded by Nathan Stroleny. All in favor. Motion carried.

10. Discussion on EDC Filing Status.

Shirley Holm stated that we reached out to TML regarding the State of Texas not approving the EDC Articles of Incorporation after the City Council was concerned that their changes to the document was not approved and TML stated that they do not offer legal advice for Municipal EDC's being incorporated. John Walker asked our City Attorney if EDC could operate without being incorporated and he said yes. The Mayor also had concerns about the future liability of the EDC. Ms. Holm mentioned that the goal of the current EDC was to be incorporated to qualify for more available grants. We will continue to pursue with a point of contact with the State of Texas to get answers to the concerns.

BRIEFINGS:

11. Interim City Manager's Report:

- a) Revenue and Expense Report for January 2024.
- b) City and Project Updates

12. 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

Ms. Holm reported that as of January 31, 2024, the General Fund and the Utility Fund exceeded budgeted Revenue and Expenditures were below budget; therefore, netting a positive balance of \$ 321,693 and \$ 112,224 for a total of \$ 433,917. The total cash in the bank is \$ 2,508,500.

13. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

ATTEST: _____
D'Ann Lane, City Secretary

SIGNED: _____
Andrew Garza, Mayor