

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 3/21/2024

- I. Call Meeting to Order-Mayor Andrew Garza called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
- II. Roll Call-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 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

Bobby Joe Stewart was present for a Public Comment. He updated the council and citizens as to why there was a tax increase for the ESD. The reasons being lack of payments for services from client and the price of delivering their services.

VII. Announcements and Correspondence

- a) City Hall will be closed March 29, 2024, for Good Friday.
- b) Five Card Draw will play at the theatre on Saturday at 7:00 p.m.
- c) Commissioner Lucio Morin and his crew finished Longhorn Park next to the river and will have a grand opening on March 28, 2024.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. **Consideration and Action** to change the time of the April 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 February 22, 2024**
3. **Consideration and Action** to approve Accounts Payable for February 2024.
4. **Consideration and Action** to approve the usage of the City Hall parking lot for The Longest Yard Sale on May 4, 2024, from 8:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.

5. **Consideration and Action** to ratify the adoption of Resolution No. 2024-02, approving the submission of an application for the Community Project Funding (CPF) Proposed Generator Improvement Project grant.
6. **Consideration and Action** to ratify the adoption of Resolution No. 2024-03, approving the submission of an application for the Community Project Funding (CPF) Proposed Waterline Improvement Project grant.
7. **Consideration and Action** to ratify the adoption of Resolution No. 2024-04, approving the submission of an application for the Operation Stonegarden Grant Program FY23.
8. **Consideration and Action** to ratify the adoption of Resolution No. 2024-05, approving the submission of an application for the FY2025 Local Border Security Program.
9. **Consideration and Action** to ratify the adoption of Resolution No. 2024-06, approving the submission of an application for the FY2025 Operation Lone Star Grant.

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

HOT FUND PRESENTATIONS: Not to exceed 3 minutes.

Dobie West Theatre - Glynis Strause

Glynis Strause presented on behalf of Dobie West Theatre. They are requesting \$40,000.00.

George West Chamber of Commerce - Rena McWilliams

Rena McWilliams presented on behalf of the George West Chamber of Commerce. They are requesting \$41,000.00.

Dobie Dichos - Mary Margaret Campbell

Mary Margaret Campbell presented on behalf of Dobie Dichos. They are requesting \$7,000.00.

Grace Armantrout Museum at Cactus Park - Leslie Walker

Leslie Walker presented on behalf of Grace Armantrout Museum at Cactus Park. They are requesting \$40,000.00.

RESOLUTION:

- 10. Consideration and Action** to adopt Resolution No. 2024-07, Canceling the Regular City Officer's Election scheduled to be held on the 4th day of May, 2024, in Accordance with Section 2.053 (a) of the Texas Election Code; Directing the Giving of Notice of Such Cancellation of Election; and Providing Details relating to the Cancellation of Such Election.

Aprobar la Resolución Nro. 2024-07, Cancelando la Elección Regular de Funcionarios Municipales programada para celebrarse el día 4 de mayo de 2024 de acuerdo con la Sección 2.053 (a) del Código Electoral de Texas; instruyendo que se de aviso de tal cancelación de elección; y proveyendo detalles relativos a la cancelación de tal elección.

Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by John Walker. Mayor Garza asked the City Secretary if there are any issues for cancelling the Regular Election. D'Ann Lane informed the council that there are no issues, both candidates are unopposed. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

- 11. Consideration and Action** to adopt Resolution No. 2024-08 denying a request from AEP to increase rates.

Move as read by Patricia Clifton. Seconded by Jearl Rannefeld. Epi Ysassi informed what the Resolution from AEP was about. They are requesting a rate increase to keep up with inflation and to update their equipment. They would like a uniformed raise. They are asking cities to deny the request to the PUC. Epi Ysassi stated that AEP has proposed their own Resolution, but we are part of a pact with Thomas Brocato a law firm out of Austin, they drew up their own Resolution asking the city to deny the request. Ms. Strause from AEP reviewed the Resolution from Thomas Brocato, and she had no objection to it. Approving the Resolution from Thomas Brocato will allow us to be part of a lawsuit, versus the city filing alone.

Mayor Garza called for a vote. 1 aye from John Walker, which he rescinded. All opposed. The Resolution failed.

BUSINESS:

- 12. Consideration and Action** to disburse Hotel Occupancy Tax for the calendar year 2024.

Move as read by Patricia Clifton. Seconded by Nathan Stroleny. Ms. Holm reported that last year the council approved \$104,755. The total HOT Funds that came in last year were \$164,355.; therefore leaving a surplus of \$ 59,600. All the applicants fulfilled their financial responsibilities of submitting reports throughout the year. Mayor Garza entertained a

motion to amend by inserting at end of 2024 as follows Dobie Theatre 31%, George West Chamber of Commerce 32%, Dobie Dichos 6%, and Grace Armantrout Cactus Park Museum 31%, capping the total amount paid out at \$135,000. Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by Patricia Clifton. All in favor. Amendment carried.

Amended Agenda Item #12 Consideration and Action to disburse Hotel Occupancy Tax for the calendar year 2024 as follows Dobie Theatre 31%, George West Chamber of Commerce 32%, Dobie Dichos 6%, and Grace Armantrout Cactus Park Museum 31%, capping the total amount paid out at \$135,000.00. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor. With 4 ays and John Walker abstaining from the vote.

BRIEFINGS:

13. Interim City Manager's Report:

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

Shirley Holm gave the Revenue and Expense Report for the period ending February 2024. The General Fund is 67% of the budget for revenue and 50% of budget for expenditures. In the Utility Fund, we are 41% of budget for revenue and 34% of budget for expenditures. Both Funds are well within the budget currently and reflect a net positive balance of combined balance of \$ 400,759. The bank balance total is \$ 2,556,770.

14. 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

15. Adjournment.

The council meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

ATTEST: _____
D'Ann Lane, City Secretary

SIGNED: _____
Andrew Garza, Mayor