

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
David Ainsworth, Jr.
John Walker

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REGULAR SESSION CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES JULY 30, 2024

- I. Call Meeting to Order-Mayor Garza called the meeting to order at 5:38 p.m.
- II. Roll Call-Roll call by D'Ann Lane, John Walker arrived at 5:59 p.m.
- 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 Texas Flag was led by D'Ann Lane.
- VI. Public Comments
None
- VII. Announcements and Correspondence
 - a) **GWISD 2024-2025 School Year begins August 12, 2024.**
 - b) **The McMullen County Veterans Memorial will have a ceremony on July 31, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.**

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. **Consideration and Action** to change the time of the August 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 June 20, 2024.**
3. **Consideration and Action** to approve Accounts Payable for June 2024.

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.

PRESENTATIONS:

4. **Presentation of Voluntary Donation on City Utility Bill-3 Minutes each**

a) **Animal Control Support Group- Councilman Jearl Rannefeld**

Jearl Rannefeld presented on behalf of the Animal Control Support Group. This money would help increase adoption rates, build relationships, and reunite pets with owners. It would help fund the spay and neuter program we have right now.

b) **Boys & Girls Club of Live Oak County-George West-John Corkill**

John Corkill presented on behalf of the Boys & Girls Club of Live Oak County. Currently the Boys & Girls Club in George West has 328 members, this is great for a community of only about 2,500-3,000. They plan to utilize funds to continue the program.

c) **Dobie West Performing Art Theatre-Glynis Strause**

Glynis Strause presented on behalf of the Dobie West Theatre. They plan to use their funds to cover the repeating necessities of the theatre. This includes changing the a/c filters every other month, ink to make flyers, and batteries.

d) **Live Oak County Child Welfare-Kathy Campbell**

Pat Jarratt arrived on behalf of Live Oak County Child Welfare. She was not present because she arrived after the presentations had finished.

e) **Unify to Beautify-Michelle Crisp**

Michelle Crisp presented on behalf of Unify to Beautify. They plan on doing a school pocket park, and a mural this year.

The Utility Bill Donations will continue as is.

ORDINANCE:

5. **PUBLIC HEARING** Consideration and Action to approve the Second Reading of Ordinance No. 930, an amendment to Ordinance No. 924, increasing garbage rates, per Republic contract, beginning August 1, 2024.

Mayor Garza opened the hearing at 5:54 p.m. there were no objections. Mayor Garza closed the hearing at 5:54 p.m.

Move as read by Nathan Stroleny. Seconded by Jearl Rannefeld. Open for discussion. There was no discussion. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

BUSINESS

6. Discussion on Animal Control Ordinance.

The council discussed the proposed Animal Control Ordinance. In the proposed Ordinance it does not mention euthanasia. It does mention a dangerous dog, but there were questions from Mayor Garza about what would be considered a dangerous dog. Ms. Holm mentioned that we have a dog in the shelter right now that was picked up on Austin St., as a dangerous dog with no owner and that dog does not seem to be adoptable. There have been many reports that the dog is vicious. Council members asked City Attorney Epi Ysassi, what the city is liable for when it comes to adopting out animals. If the city discloses all information about the dog prior to adoption the city will not be held liable if the dog does anything to harm anyone or anything. After the city discloses the information, the new owner is now held liable. The city will continue to work on the Ordinance.

- 7. Consideration and Action** to approve the announcement of the City of George West City Manager position, which will become vacant FY 2025.

Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by Nathan Stroleny. Mayor Garza would like to post the City Manager position on the TML Career Website. The council directed Ms. Holm to post on the website, and for the salary benefits add DOQ (depending on qualifications). Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

- 8. Consideration and Action** to approve the following attendees to attend the TML Annual Conference October 9-11, 2024, in Houston Texas.

- Mayor-Andrew Garza
- City Manager- Shirley Holm
- City Secretary- D'Ann Lane
- Municipal Court Judge- Yolanda Guerrero
- Chief of Police- David Perkins
- Head Utility Clerk- Erma Gutierrez

Move as read by Nathan Stroleny. Seconded by Jearl Rannefeld. Open for discussion. Ms. Holm informed the council that this year it would cost approximately \$1,500.00 per employee in attendance. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

- 9. 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 111 Houston St., George West, Tx 78022.

Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by Nathan Stroleny. Mayor Garza called for a vote to enter into Executive Session. All in favor. The council entered Executive Session at 6:39 p.m.

10. RECONVENE

Mayor Garza entertained a motion to reconvene. Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by Nathan Stroleny. All in favor. The council reconvened at 7:19 p.m. There was no action taken during the Executive Session.

BRIEFINGS:

11. Interim City Manager's Report:

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

Ms. Holm gave the Revenue and Expense Report for the period ending June 2024. The General Fund is 85% of the budget for revenue and 75% of the budget for expenditures. In the Utility Fund, we are 70% of budget for revenue and 63% of budget for expenditures. Both Funds are well within the budget currently and reflect a net positive balance of combined balance of \$369,165. The bank balance total is \$ 2,472,865. The City is financially sound at this time with budget expenditures below the reasonable 75% level and revenue on target with the exception of water sales, which is slightly below level.

She also reported the following items. The Swimming Pool will close July 31, 2024, and Splash Pad on September 2, 2024. TXDOT is currently on their second mow for Hwy 59 between GW and I37. The US House passed the Interior's Appropriation Bill, which had the district 15 Grant for 2-Generator's for City of GW in the amount of \$742,548 for FY 2025 and now is in the US Senate. Mayor Garza and I met with John Cornyn's representative on 7/23/2024 to discuss needs for City. Lyssy Eckel completed the project on Mike Street that the Council had requested in the residential area. SPEED Entertainment, LLC is requesting a Game Room in George West. The City Council reviewed their business plan and wished them success but stated they must keep it legal and according to the City Ordinance. A GW Animal Shelter Puppy Adoption Event will be 08/17/2024 at Tractor Supply with Bob Crank and Haley Maywald managing.

Ms. Holm presented the new TX Health Benefits Pool rates for employees that needed to be voted on for FY 2024-2025 and submitted July 31, 2024. The action item was left off the agenda. City Council agreed to the same BCBS Plan option as FY 2023-2024 with an increased premium of \$ 1,154.40 per employee. Also, the (1) employee with a family plan, the City will pay \$ 1,038.92 each month. The vote will be ratified at the August 2024 City Council Meeting.

Ms. Holm finished by discussing setting up a meeting with Old Marbach School Water System Board to discuss the cost of having to replace the 2-booster pumps at the distribution

station in the amount of \$ 17,702 on CR 799/Hwy 59 to back up their water system. The Council was supportive of the meeting.

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

13. Adjournment.

The Council Meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

ATTEST: _____
D'Ann Lane, City Secretary

SIGNED: _____
Andrew Garza, Mayor