

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

406 Nueces Street • George West, Texas 78022
Phone 361-449-1556 • Fax 361-449-3030

REGULAR SESSION CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 9/25/2024

- I. Call Meeting to Order-**Mayor Andrew Garza called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.**
- II. Roll Call-**All council was present with Jearl Rannefeld on zoom.**
- III. 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) National Night Out October 1, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.
 - b) George West ISD Homecoming Parade October 2, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. **Consideration and Action** to approve the following minutes:
 - a) **Special Session City Council Meeting Minutes-September 9, 2024.**
2. **Consideration and Action** to approve Accounts Payable for August 2024.
3. **Consideration and Action** to approve the usage of the City Hall Parking Lot for Trunk-R-Treat, on October 31, 2024, from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

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:

Public Hearing

**CITY OF GEORGE WEST, TEXAS
PUBLIC HEARING
FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 PROPOSED PROPERTY
TAX RATE
CITY HALL
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2024
AT 5:00 P.M.**

Notice is hereby given that the City of George West City Council will hold its Second Public Hearing at 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, September 25, 2024 at George West City Hall, 406 Nueces Street, George West, Texas to receive written and/or oral comments to discuss the proposed Property Tax Rate as it pertains to ad valorem taxes for use and support of the municipal government of the City of George West, Texas, for the 2024-2025 fiscal year; providing for apportioning each levy for specific purposes; providing discounts; and providing when taxes shall become due and when same shall become delinquent if not paid.

The Public Hearing was opened at 5:06 p.m. There was no opposition. The Public Hearing was closed at 5:07 p.m.

4. Consideration and Action to approve the Second Reading of Ordinance No. 931, LEVYING AD VALOREM TAXES FOR THE USE AND SUPPORT OF THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OF THE CITY OF GEORGE WEST, TEXAS FOR THE 2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR; PROVIDING FOR APPORTIONING EACH LEVY FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES; PROVIDING DISCOUNTS; AND PROVIDING WHEN TAXES SHALL BECOME DUE AND WHEN SAME SHALL BECOME DELINQUENT IF NOT PAID.

Move as read by David Ainsworth. Seconded by Nathan Stroleny. This was a roll call vote as follows:

Mayor Andrew Garza-AYE
Council Place 1 Nathan Stroleny-AYE
Council Place 2/Mayor Pro-Tem-AYE
Council Place 3 David Ainsworth, Jr.-AYE
Council Place 4 John Walker-AYE

ORDINANCE:

Public Hearing

**CITY OF GEORGE WEST, TEXAS
PUBLIC HEARING
2024-2025 PROPOSED BUDGET
CITY HALL**

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2024
AT 5:00 P.M.**

Notice is hereby given that the City of George West City Council will hold its Second Public Hearing at 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, September 25, 2024, at George West City Hall, 406 Nueces Street, George West, Texas to receive written and/or oral comments to discuss the Budget for Fiscal Year October 1, 2024, to September 30, 2025, for use of municipal funds to support the City of George West Budget.

The Public Hearing was opened at 5:09 p.m. There was no opposition. The Public Hearing was closed at 5:10 p.m.

5. **Consideration and Action to approve the Second Reading of Ordinance No. 932, ADOPTING THE CITY OF GEORGE WEST OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2024, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2025; TO BE FILED WITH THE COUNTY CLERK; APPROPRIATING MONIES AS PROVIDED IN THE BUDGET; AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERANCE.**

Move as read by David Ainsworth. Seconded by Nathan Stroleny. This was a roll call vote as follows:

Mayor Andrew Garza-AYE
Council Place 1 Nathan Stroleny-AYE
Council Place 2/Mayor Pro-Tem-AYE
Council Place 3 David Ainsworth, Jr.-AYE
Council Place 4 John Walker-AYE

BUSINESS:

6. **Consideration and Action to approve Armstrong, Vaughn & Associates, PC to perform The George West City audit of the financial statements of the governmental activities for fiscal year ending September 30, 2024.**

Move as read by Nathan Stroleny. Seconded by David Ainsworth. Open for discussion. Mayor Garza asked if we had a price. We do not yet have a price, but we do not see it exceeding \$25,000. Mayor Garza entertained a motion to amend by at the end inserting not to exceed \$25,000. Move as read by Nathan Stroleny. Seconded by David Ainsworth. All in favor. Amendment carried.

Amended Agenda Item #6 Consideration and Action to approve Armstrong, Vaughn & Associates, PC to perform The George West City audit of the financial statements of the governmental activities for fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, not to exceed \$25,000.

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

7. **Consideration and Action** to ratify the purchase of a Paco Split Case NSF61 Pump for Water Well #3 from Hydroprime Equipment in the amount of \$ 16,335.00 utilizing the American Rescue Funds SLFRF-TX7292.

Move as read by Nathan Stroleny. Seconded by David Ainsworth. All in favor. Motion carried.

8. **Consideration and Action** to ratify the purchase of a LandPride 74" Hopper Broom with Poly Bristles, Gutter Broom, and Dust Suppression Kit in the amount of \$ 10,630.00 utilizing the American Rescue Funds SLFRF – TX7292.

Move as read by Nathan Stroleny. Seconded by John Walker. Ms. Holm informed the council this was the broom sweeper we had talked about on the September 9, 2024, meeting. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

9. **Applicant(s) for City Manager will be interviewed by the City Council in a question-and-answer format conducted in Open Session. Each applicant will end their interview by briefly addressing the citizens of George West. (There will be NO PUBLIC PARTICIPATION)**

- Lara, Albert G.
- Mayfield, Stephen
- Lane, D'Ann

Mayor Garza entertained a motion for a 10-minute recess. Move as read by Nathan Stroleny. Seconded by John Walker. The council entered recess at 5:59 p.m.

Reconvene- Mayor Garza entertained a motion to reconvene. Move as read by Nathan Stroleny. Seconded by John Walker. The council reconvened at 6:13 p.m.

Applicants were all interviewed with the same questions.

The first applicant was Albert Lara. Mr. Lara comes from San Antonio and has years of experience in the water department and grant writing. Mr. Lara loves a challenge and would use this position as a learning experience.

The second applicant was Stephen Mayfield. Mr. Mayfield is currently the Public Works Director for the City of Mathis. He has over 20 years of experience in Water and Wastewater. He is familiar with TCEQ and their requirements. He has applied for and received grants to upgrade existing infrastructure.

The last applicant was D'Ann Lane. Ms. Lane is a lifelong resident of the City of George West, and does not plan on leaving the city. She is currently employed as the City

Secretary, and has been with the city for 6 years. Ms. Lane loves her community and wants to see it grow at a sustainable rate.

10. Consideration and Action to convene into EXECUTIVE SESSION. In accordance with Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code (Personnel Matters), the City Council may go into executive session to discuss the following:

- a) Discussion on City Manager Applications.

Mayor Garza entertained a motion to enter into executive session. Move as read by Nathan Stroleny. Seconded by David Ainsworth. All in favor. The council entered into executive session at 6:58 p.m.

11. Reconvene

Mayor Garza entertained a motion to reconvene. Move as read by Nathan Stroleny. Seconded by David Ainsworth. All in favor. The council reconvened at 8:15 p.m.

BRIEFINGS:

12. Interim City Manager's Report:

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

Ms. Holm gave the Revenue and Expense Report for the period ending August 2024. The General Fund is 99.5% of the budget for revenue and 94% of the budget for expenditures. In the Utility Fund, we are 85% of budget for revenue and 80% of budget for expenditures. Both Funds are well within the budget currently and reflect a net positive balance of combined balance of \$238,468. The bank balance total is \$ 2,319,346. The City is financially sound at this time with budget expenditures below the reasonable 92% level and revenue on target with the exception of water sales, which is slightly below level.

13. 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

14. Adjournment.

The council meeting was adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

ATTEST: _____
D'Ann Lane, City Secretary

SIGNED: _____
Andrew Garza, Mayor