

City Manager
Darrell Pullin

City Secretary
D'Ann Lane

Financial Director
Shirley Holm

City Attorney
Epi Ysassi

City of George West



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

Mayor
Andrew J. Garza

Mayor Pro-Tem
Jearl Rannefeld

Council
Nathan Stroleny
David Ainsworth, Jr.
John Walker

REGULAR SESSION CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 9/25/2025

- I. Call Meeting to Order-**Mayor Garza called the meeting to order at 5:09 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 Flag 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
NONE

- VII. Announcements and Correspondence
 - a) National Night Out October 2, 2025, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
 - b) Trunk-R-Treat October 31, 2025, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
 - c) Mariachi Band will Preform at the Dobie West Theatre 9/27/2025.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. **Consideration and Action** to change the time of the October City Council Regular Session Meeting to 5:30 p.m.
2. **Consideration and Action** to approve the following minutes:
 - a) **Budget Workshop/Special Session City Council Meeting Minutes 8/7/2025.**
 - b) **Regular Session City Council Meeting Minutes 8/21/2025.**
 - c) **Special Session City Council Meeting Minutes 9/10/2025.**
 - d) **Emergency Session City Council Meeting Minutes 9/16/2025.**
3. **Consideration and Action** to approve Accounts Payable for August 2025.
4. **Consideration and Action** to approve the 2025-2026 annual contract renewal between ARDURRA and the City of George West for professional services not to exceed \$49,000.00.

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.

BUSINESS:

5. Discussion on dependent 50% insurance premiums for grand-fathered employee(s).

The City of George West currently has (1) employee that receives this benefit. The city pays approximately \$5,700.00 a year for this benefit. Starting October 1, 2025, the City of George West will start their new insurance plan. The new insurance plan is more affordable, and if we stop paying 50% of employee dependents the employee would still be paying less than before. The council agreed that if it was cheaper for the employee they would like to stop paying that benefit. From now on the city will not pay any part of dependent medical insurance.

6. Discussion on city fee schedule for city permits.

D'Ann Lane oversees City Permits, and she brought up that our current inspector has increased his fees from \$80.00 to \$100.00 per inspection. Our current fee schedule is outdated, and we need to decide how we should increase our rates to be competitive with other cities. The council delegated the employees to get the permit fee schedule from surrounding areas to compare prices.

7. Discussion on Leona Street access for Bullfrogs and Butterflies Daycare.

Darrell Pullin informed the council that the owner of Bull Frogs and Butterflies is concerned about the heavy traffic that comes through. They are interested in possibly buying or leasing Leona Street to keep traffic from coming through at certain times. Mayor Garza brought up that the owner continues to bring up this issue with every new City Manager we have.

8. Discussion on the Grace Armantrout House.

City Manager Darrell Pullin wanted to bring this up because the house is not in the very best condition. As the building stands right now it is a liability for the city. If someone were to break into the building the city would be liable for their injuries. At one point John Walker wanted to talk to the Historical Commission, but Grace Wilson stated that house was too far gone to restore it. The building would have to be demolished, and we could possibly expand and make more kennels in that area.

9. Consideration and Action to select an auditing firm to perform the FY 2024-2025 audit for the City of George West.

Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by Nathan Stroleny. Open for discussion. Financial Director Shirley Holm, reached out to different firms. Ms. Holm only received one letter of interest from Armstrong, Vaughan & Associates, P.C. The city has budgeted

\$28,000.00 for our annual audit. Armstrong, Vaughan & Associates, P.C. will charge \$28,500.00 to perform the audit. Mayor Garza entertained a motion to amend by (inserting after select Armstrong, Vaughan & Associates, P.C. as the and strike the word an). Move as read by David Ainsworth. Seconded by Jearl Rannefeld. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor. Amendment carried.

Amended Agenda Item #9 Consideration and Action to select Armstrong, Vaughan & Associates, P.C. as the auditing firm to perform the FY 2024-2025 audit for the City of George West. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

10. **Consideration and Action** to approve the purchase of (4) Self-Contained Breathing Apparatuses in the amount of \$19,428.44 from 24 HR SAFETY for the George West Volunteer Fire Department.

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

11. **Consideration and Action** to approve a new contract between Old Marbach School Water Supply and the City of George West.

Move as read by Nathan Stroleny. Seconded by David Ainsworth. Mayor Garza entertained a motion to postpone agenda item #11. Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by Nathan Stroleny. All in favor. Agenda item #11 is postponed.

ORDINANCE:

Public Hearing

CITY OF GEORGE WEST, TEXAS
PUBLIC HEARING
FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 PROPOSED PROPERTY
TAX RATE
CITY HALL
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2025
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., Thursday, September 25, 2025 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 2025-2026 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.

Mayor Garza and the City Council opened the Public Hearing at 5:58 p.m.
There was no one present, no letters mailed in opposition, so the hearing was closed at 6:06 p.m.

12. Consideration and Action to approve the Second Reading of Ordinance No. 936, LEVYING AD VALOREM TAXES FOR THE USE AND SUPPORT OF THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OF THE CITY OF GEORGE WEST, TEXAS FOR THE 2025-2026 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 is a roll call vote.
Roll Call Vote as follows:

Mayor Andrew Garza-AYE
Mayor Pro-Tem Jearl Rannefeld-AYE
Councilman Place 1 Nathan Stroleny-AYE
Councilman Place 3 David Ainsworth-AYE
Councilman Place 4 John Walker-AYE

The Second Reading for Ordinance No. 936 was passed unanimously.

ORDINANCE:

Public Hearing

**CITY OF GEORGE WEST, TEXAS
PUBLIC HEARING
2025-2026 PROPOSED BUDGET
CITY HALL
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2025
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., Thursday, September 25, 2025, 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, 2025, to September 30, 2026, for use of municipal funds to support the City of George West Budget.

Mayor Garza and the City Council opened the Public Hearing at 6:07 p.m. There was no one present, no letters mailed in opposition, so the hearing was closed at 6:08 p.m.

13. Consideration and Action to approve the Second Reading of Ordinance No. 937, ADOPTING THE CITY OF GEORGE WEST OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE

FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2025, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2026; 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 is a roll call vote. Roll Call Vote as follows:

**Mayor Andrew Garza-AYE
Mayor Pro-Tem Jearl Rannefeld-AYE
Councilman Place 1 Nathan Stroleny-AYE
Councilman Place 3 David Ainsworth-AYE
Councilman Place 4 John Walker-AYE**

The Second Reading for Ordinance No. 937 was passed unanimously.

BRIEFINGS:

14. City Manager and Financial Director Reports:

- a) Revenue and Expense Report for August 2025.
- b) City and Project Updates

15. 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
- f) Live Oak County Volunteer Medical Response Team 1

Financial Director Shirley Holm gave the Financial Report for August 2025. She reported that the General Fund is 103% of the budget for revenue and 97% of the budget for expenditures. The Utility Fund is 85% of the budget for revenue and 88% of budget for expenditures. General Fund is within the planned budget of 88%, however, the Utility Fund is 15% under planned budget for revenue collections. The general and utility funds have a combined net positive balance of \$ 78,818. The bank balance total is \$ 1,976,406. The City of George West is financially sound; however, will see a slight loss by year end due to lower revenue. She also noted that the debt payments will be reduced significantly for the next 7 years.

City Manager Darrell Pullin gave his briefings. He praised the new Public Works Administrative Assistant Stephany Valverde for how well she is doing out there. She has really stepped up since our previous Public Works Manager stepped down from his position. We had new ceiling tiles put in at City Hall and the Police Department due to water damage. The street projects have all been completed. The city had a huge water main break; some contractors hit a line that was not marked. Darrell Pullin has been

looking into the possibility of having a bond election in the future, it is needed for city infrastructure.

16. Adjournment.

Mayor Garza entertained a motion to adjourn. Move as read by Nathan Stroleny. Seconded by Jearl Rannefeld. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

ATTEST: _____
D'Ann Lane, City Secretary

SIGNED: _____
Andrew Garza, Mayor

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