

City Manager
Darrell Pullin

City Secretary
D'Ann Lane

Finance Director
Shirley Holm

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 4/23/2026

- I.** Call Meeting to Order-**Mayor Garza called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.**
- II.** Roll Call-**Nathan Stroleny was not present for the meeting.**
- 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
NONE

VII. Announcements and Correspondence

- a) Little Olympics will be held on May 7, 2026.
- b) George West High School Graduation will be held on May 29, 2026.
- c) The Chamber of Commerce will have its annual July 4th event.
- d) Red River will be shown at the Dobie West Theatre on July 3, 2026.
- e) Bulky Pickup will be on May 28, 2026.
- f) City of George West Auction will be on May 30, 2026.
- g) Mayor Andrew Garza signed a Drought Declaration.
- h) Mayor Andrew Garza signed a Municipal Clerks Week Proclamation.
- i) Area Go-Texan June 27, 2026, at 101 Bar Ranch.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. Consideration and Action** to change the time of the May 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 March 19, 2026.**
 - b) **Special Session City Council Meeting Minutes April 9, 2026.**
- 3. Consideration and Action** to approve Accounts Payable for March 2026.

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.

HOT FUND PRESENTATIONS: Not to exceed 3 minutes.

Dobie West Theatre - Glynis Strause-Glynis Strause showed the council a way to add things to the Live Oak County Website calendar. This would help all organizations not overlap their events. The theatre hired Caroline Davis to handle their social media accounts. The theatre is asking for \$40,000.00 this year. Last year 3,300 people used the theatre, a difference of 300 from the previous year. They are working on getting a mural painted of J. Frank Dobie and George West. They will have a play in May, following a summer full of events.

George West Chamber of Commerce - Rena McWilliams-Rena McWilliams presented the council with her excel spreadsheet which shows an in dept look at all the spending the Chamber has done. They are members of the Texas Hotel & Motel Association, where they advertise our local hotels. They plan on spending \$6,000.00 less this year on the July 4th event, due to Live Oak County covering more of the costs. The repairs on the Chamber of Commerce Buck West House are coming along. The Chamber is requesting \$42,650.00 this year.

Dobie Dichos - Mary Margaret Campbell-Mary Margaret Campbell this year marks Number 16 of having this event. Included in her application was a list of zip codes from the attendees to include a few from out of state. Dobie Dichos tries to keep everything local, hiring local light and sound technicians. Every month she provides City Hall with the bank statement from Dobie Dichos to show their spending. Dobie Dichos is requesting \$7,000.00 this year.

Grace Armantrout Museum-Leslie Walker-Leslie Walker has had a busy year at the museum with the new addition. The museum belongs to the city of George West, having been donated by Grace Armantrout. Mrs. Walker provided the council with a layout of how the museum is broken down chronologically now. The museum features certain things from all over Live Oak County. They are going to work this TxDot to get a new sign. The museum is asking for \$40,000.00 this year.

BUSINESS:

4. Consideration and Action to disburse Hotel Occupancy Tax for calendar year. 2026.

Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by David Ainsworth. Open for discussion. Financial Director Shirley Holm provided the council with a spreadsheet breakdown from the year 2025 and what the different organizations were requesting in 2026. Mayor Garza entertained a motion to amend by (at the end inserting as follows Dobie West Theatre 31%, George West Chamber of Commerce 32%, Dobie Dichos 6%, and Grace Armantrout Museum 31% with a cap of \$130,000.) Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by David Ainsworth. Mayor Garza called for a vote. John Walker Abstained from voting.

Amendment carried with 2/3 vote.

Amended Agenda Item #4 Consideration and Action to disburse Hotel Occupancy Tax for calendar year 2026 as follows Dobie West Theatre 31%, George West Chamber of Commerce 32%, Dobie Dichos 6%, and Grace Armantrout Museum 31% with a cap of \$130,000. Move as read by John Walker. Seconded by Jearl Rannefeld. Mayor Garza called for a vote. John Walker abstained from voting. Motion carried with 2/3 vote.

- 5. Discussion on the Grace Armantrout Museum submitting an application to TxDot for a new road sign.**

Leslie Walker is going to work with Rena McWilliams from the Chamber of Commerce to to get this approved from TxDot.

Mayor Garza entertained a motion to recess. Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded David Ainsworth. All in favor. The council recessed at 5:49 p.m.

Mayor Garza entertained a motion to reconvene. Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by David Ainsworth. All in favor. The council reconvened at 6:12 p.m.

Mayor Garza entertained a motion to suspend the rules. Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by David Ainsworth. All in favor. The rules were suspended, and the council moved to agenda item #7.

- 6. Discussion on Code Enforcement.**

Bob Crank has been in Chief Nathaniel Valverde and Darrell Pullin's office for the last few weeks getting everything in order. The house on Burleson does have the necessary permits for the work that is being done. Currently, there are no permits needed for painting and siding work on houses as long as they are not changing the dimensions of the house. The food trailer on Burleson was brought up, because the traffic gets backed up. If the traffic did not block the road, they would be okay, but the food trailer would have to be through their house. The council stressed to Bob Crank to utilize Municipal Court and issue citations to enforce the code regulations.

The council went to briefings.

- 7. Consideration and Action to approve the Building Standards Board Recommendation to demolish the following structures:**

- 1200 Catholic Cemetery Rd.**
- 104 Cabrero St.**
- 108 Menchaca St.**

- 607 E. Houston St.
- 708 West Ave.
- 300 Austin St.

Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by David Ainsworth. All in favor. Motion carried.

8. Discussion on SB 785 regarding HUD-Code Manufactured homes.

Code Enforcement Officer Bob Crank informed the council that according to Senate Bill 785 new HUD-Code Manufactured homes do not have to have permission from the city to be brought in. This changes the previous Ordinances that say the new owners must get an appraisal matching/above neighboring homes within 500 feet. According the SB 785 this only pertains to new model homes. Any older mobile homes will have to go through the proper channels, such as planning and zoning, and two council readings.

The council moved to agenda item #6

- 9. Consideration and Action to rescind agenda item # 13 from the February 26, 2026, City Council Meeting Consideration and Action to approve (2) George West Police Officers to attend the Police K9 Handlers Course 2026-B from April 6-17, 2026, in the amount of \$11,000.00, with \$8,000.00 procured through the Drug Forfeiture Fund and \$3,000.00 procured through the General Fund. (Motion made by Jearl Rannefeld)**

Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by David Ainsworth. All in favor. Motion carried.

- 10. Consideration and Action to ratify the approval of (2) George West Police Officers to attend the Police K9 Handlers Course 2026-B from April 6-17, 2026, in the amount of \$11,000.00, utilizing the Operation Lone Star Grant No. 4578504.**

Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by David Ainsworth. All in favor. Motion carried.

- 11. Consideration and Action to rescind agenda item # 15 from the January 22, 2026, City Council Meeting Consideration and Action to approve the purchase of (8) APX8500 ALL BAND MP MOBILE RADIOS and accessories from Motorola Solutions in the amount of \$106,481.60, utilizing the LONESTAR GRANT No. 4578504. (Motion made by Jearl Rannefeld)**

Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by David Ainsworth. All in favor. Motion carried.

- 12. Consideration and Action** to ratify the approval of the purchase of (8) APX8500 ALL BAND MP MOBILE RADIOS and accessories from Motorola Solutions in the amount of \$107,427.68 utilizing the LONESTAR GRANT No. 4578504.

Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by David Ainsworth. All in favor. Motion carried.

- 13. Consideration and Action** to open the Municipal Swimming Pool from June 1, 2026, to July 31, 2026.

Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by John Walker. The council directed the City Manager to handle this. All in favor. Motion carried.

- 14. Consideration and Action** to approve a rate increase for George West Police Officer Joel Guzman, for completing the FTO Program in the amount of \$.75 per hour.

Move as read by David Ainsworth. Seconded by Jearl Rannefeld. All in favor. Motion carried.

- 15. Consideration and Action** to approve the Mayor's appointments of Lloyd Molina and Joe Feist to the Economic Development Commission.

Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by David Ainsworth. Lloyd Molina was an alternate but was moved to the EDC replacing Denise Garza. Joe Fiest was appointed to take Michael Salazar's place. All in favor. Motion carried.

The council moved to agenda item #19.

- 16. Discussion** on new members for the Building Standards Board.

The council will send any new member recommendations to City Secretary, D'Ann Lane.

The council went back up to agenda item #8.

- 17. Consideration and Action** to approve sponsoring the City of George West Night at the Hooks game in Corpus Christi, Texas.

Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by David Ainsworth. Stephany Valverde looked into getting prices for an event like this. The council directed City Manager Darrell Pullin to look into the prices for a weekend game, with a cap of \$1,600.00. Mayor Garza entertained a motion to amend by at the end inserting (with tickets not to exceed \$1,600.00) Move as read by Jearl Rannfeld. Seconded by John Walker. All in favor. Amendment carried.

Amended agenda item #17 Consideration and Action to approve sponsoring the City of George West Night at the Hooks game in Corpus Christi, Texas with tickets not to exceed \$1,600.00. All in favor. Motion carried.

18. Consideration and Action to surplus equipment and supplies as described in Exhibit 2026-01.

Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by David Ainsworth. All in favor. Motion carried.

The council moved to agenda item #17.

19. Consideration and Action to approve a contract between the City of George West and John Sisk Auctioneers, Inc. for the City of George West Surplus Auction on May 30, 2026.

Move as read by Jearl Rannfeld. Seconded by John Walker. All in favor. Motion carried.

The council went back up to agenda item #18.

20. Consideration and Action to surplus (1) 2017 Ford Interceptor VIN No. 1FM5K8AR9HGB47377 to include the radio, lights, and siren from the George West Police Department.

Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by David Ainsworth. Open for discussion. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

21. Consideration and Action to approve the sale of (1) 2017 Ford Interceptor VIN No. 1FM5K8AR9HGB47377 to include the radio, lights, and siren from the George West Police Department in the amount of \$5.00 to the Live Oak Volunteer Medical Response Team 1.

Move ad read by Jearl Rannfeld. Seconded by David Ainsworth. Open for discussion. The city needs a Bill of Sale, so they have to sell it to the LOVMRT1. Financial Director Shirley Holm asked if they had approached the city and asked for a vehicle themselves. Mayor Andrew Garza said yes, they had approached and asked for a vehicle. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE:

22. Consideration and Action to approve Ordinance No. 938 approving the George West Police Department K-9 Policy.

Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by David Ainsworth. Mayor Andrew Garza looked over the policy and made the necessary changes. City Attorney Epi Ysassi stated the policy looked good, but he would like to see a K-9 retirement section added. What happens to the K-9 when they are retired. The council decided that they would add a section that states the K-9 handler will have the 1st option to buy the dog from the city in the amount of \$5.00. Mayor Garza called for a vote to pass the Ordinance with the added changes. All in favor. Motion carried.

The council moved to agenda item #16.

BRIEFINGS:

23. City Manager and Financial Director Reports:

- a) Revenue and Expense Report for March 2026.
- b) City and Project Updates

24. Questions or Briefings:

- a) City Council
- b) Code Enforcement
- c) Municipal Court Report
- d) Public Works
- e) Police Chief Report
- f) Animal Control
- g) Live Oak County Volunteer Medical Response Team 1

Darrell Pullin informed the well monitors are staying around 93' but drop to around 150' when running. Darrell spoke to Jimmy Pawlik who informed him that it was not too bad and sounded normal. Well #3 pump #2 was sent out for a seal repair. Shop is saying there is shaft damage and quoted \$8,500.00 for the necessary repairs. Darrell is currently working with different pump companies to see if he can find a new one at a better price. He received one quote back and it was \$20,271.00. Public Works continues their cleanups of brush along fences, low trees, drainage ditches, and patching. The generator arrived at the wastewater treatment plant on March 13, 2026.

Shirley Holm gave the financial reports for March 2026. The General Fund is 14% above budget plan for Revenue, and the Expenditures are 3% over budget plan. The Utility Fund is 2% over budget plan for Revenue and the Expenditures are 8% below budget plan. These are acceptable. The General Fund and Utility Funds combined are at a positive amount of \$479,820. The bank balances are \$2,271,974. Interest earned on investments is \$ 4,929 for year to date.

25. 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) Council Appointed Positions.
- b) Discussion on City of George West employee COLA.

Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by John Walker. All in favor. The council entered Executive Session at 8:05 p.m.

26. RECONVENE

ZOOM ID: 862 7851 0829

ZOOM PW: 627174

Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by John Walker. All in favor. The council reconvened at 8:41 p.m.

27. Consideration and action to approve a supplemental COLA Disbursement.

Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by David Ainsworth. Open for discussion. Mayor Garza entertained a motion to amend by after a inserting (2% and at the end insert for full-time employees) Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by David Ainsworth. Mayor Garza called for a vote. All in favor. Amendment carried.

Amended agenda item #27 Consideration and action to approve a 2% supplemental COLA Disbursement for full-time employees. All in favor. Motion carried.

28. 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) 1 year performance evaluation for Chief of Police, Nathaniel Valverde.

Move as read by John Walker. Seconded by Jearl Rannefeld. All in favor. The council entered Executive Session at 8:44 p.m.

29. RECONVENE

ZOOM ID: 882 6106 3206

ZOOM PW: 995493

Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by John Walker. All in favor. Motion

carried at 9:06 p.m.

30.Consideration and Action to approve a salary increase for Chief of Police,
Nathaniel Valverde.

Mayor Garza entertained a motion for NO ACTION on agenda item #30. Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by David Ainsworth. All in favor. There was no action on agenda item #30.

31. Consideration and Action to convene into EXECUTIVE SESSION. In accordance
with Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code (Consultation with Attorney), the
City Council may go into executive session to discuss the following:

a) Oakwood Addition, LLC.

Mayor Garza entertained a motion for NO ACTION on agenda item #31. Move as read by Jearl Rannefeld. Seconded by David Ainsworth. All in favor. There was no action on agenda item #31.

32. RECONVENE

ZOOM ID: 886 7450 5507

ZOOM PW: 686413

33. Adjournment.

The council meeting was adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

ATTEST: _____
D'Ann Lane, City Secretary

SIGNED: _____
Andrew Garza, Mayor