

Giddings City Council –Meeting Minutes
May 15, 2017
Workshop at 6:00 p.m. and Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Workshop Minutes

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Dowell at 6:07 p.m. with the following present:

Members Present: Mayor John Dowell; Mayor Pro Tem Fred Jones; Council Members Joel Lopez and Alan Casey; and Council Member-Elect Frank Castro

Members Absent: Council Members Doug Gaeke and Linda Pruitt

Staff Present: City Manager Ricky Jorgensen, City Attorney Brian Knowles, City Secretary Lola Hazel, and Police Chief Haril Walpole

2. Pledges to the U.S. and Texas Flags

Pledges were said.

3. Invocation and Welcome

Mayor Pro Tem Fred Jones gave the invocation and Mayor Dowell welcomed all in attendance.

4. Workshop Agenda

a. Discussion regarding regulating the use of riding mowers on public roadways.

City Manager Ricky Jorgensen gave an overview of the documents in Council's packet which were:

- Ordinance No. 816 which limits places where "motorized conveyances" are allowed
 - "Motorized conveyance" is defined as smaller motorized vehicles that may not be registered with the state for operation on a public highway, including go-carts, golf carts, riding lawn mowers, mini-racers, swamp buggies, or similar devices, while in transport under own power.
- Council minutes from March 27, 2017 showing inclusions requested by Council
- Memo from Chief Haril Walpole detailing suggested considerations and a directive issued to officers regarding handling of citizens using riding mowers as transportation

Council Member Joel Lopez mentioned he received suggestions from citizens wanting golf carts allowed as mode of transportation. Lopez presented documented research provided to him by citizens.

Council then discussed the following points:

- Regulating golf carts and streets upon which they are allowed
- Charging a permit fee to ensure citizens using golf carts register with the city
- Regulating riding mowers in the same manner and charging a permit fee as well
- Requiring appropriate equipment for golf cart/riding mower usage at night

With nothing further to discuss on this topic, Council moved to the next agenda item.

b. Discussion regarding imposing limitations on the number of fowl and rabbits allowed on residential lots.

City Manager Ricky Jorgensen gave an overview of the documents in Council's packet which were:

- Regulations from other cities
- Memo from Chief Haril Walpole showing a survey of residents potentially affected by limiting the number of fowl and rabbits
- Ordinance previously presented which limits aggregate number of fowl and rabbits to ten but excepts FFA/4-H projects from this limitation

Council then discussed changing the limitation to ten of each animal instead of an aggregate of ten, and imposing a distance requirement of 25 feet for proximity of animals to neighboring habitable structures.

With nothing further to discuss on this topic, Council moved to adjournment.

5. Adjournment

Mayor Dowell adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Regular Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Dowell at 7:00 p.m. with the following present:

Members Present: Mayor John Dowell; Mayor Pro Tem Fred Jones; Council Members Joel Lopez and Alan Casey; and Council Member-Elect Frank Castro

Council Member Doug Gaeke joined the meeting at 7:06 p.m.

Members Absent: Council Member Linda Pruitt

Staff Present: City Manager Ricky Jorgensen, City Attorney Brian Knowles, City Secretary Lola Hazel, Police Chief Haril Walpole, and Public Works Director Spencer Schneider

2. Announcements

There were no announcements.

3. Presentations and Proclamations

a. Recognition of the You Got Our Attention recipients for the month March.

Recipient could not attend.

4. Citizens' Comments

There were no citizen comments.

5. Consent Agenda

a. Consider approval of Minutes for Regular Meeting held on April 24, 2017.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Fred Jones and seconded by Council Member Joel Lopez to approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Council Members Jones, Lopez, and Casey

Nays: None

Absent: Council Members Linda Pruitt and Doug Gaeke

6. New Business

a. Consider approval of Ordinance No. 823, canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the City's Special Election held on May 6, 2017 for 13 Charter propositions.

City Manager Ricky Jorgensen gave an overview of this item. Jorgensen explained all 13 Charter propositions passed with 22 voters voting in the election.

A motion was made by Council Member Joel Lopez and seconded by Council Member Alan Casey to approve Ordinance No. 823, canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the City's Special Election held on May 6, 2017 for 13 Charter propositions.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Council Members Jones, Lopez, and Casey

Nays: None

Absent: Council Members Linda Pruitt and Doug Gaeke

b. Presentation of appreciation plaque to outgoing Council Member Doug Gaeke.

At this time, Council Member Doug Gaeke joined the meeting at 7:06 p.m.

Mayor Dowell presented the appreciation plaque to Council Member Doug Gaeke for four years of service.

c. Administer Oaths of Office and issue Certificates of Election to Elected Officials.

City Secretary Lola Hazel administered the Oath of Office and issued Certificates of Election to Council Members Alan Casey, Fred Jones, and Frank Castro.

New Council Member, Frank Castro, then took his place on the dais.

d. Discussion and possible action on appointing a Mayor Pro Tem for a one-year term.

A motion was made by Council Member Alan Casey and seconded by Council Member Joel Lopez to reappoint Fred Jones as Mayor Pro Tem for a one-year term.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Council Members Jones, Lopez, Casey, and Castro

Nays: None

Absent: Council Member Linda Pruitt

e. Consider accepting a 30-foot wide Public Utility Easement over property located at the 1400 block of FM 141, granted by Fu-Shin Liu and Ming-Hsui Huang (Lucy Liu).

Public Works Director Spencer Schneider gave an overview of this item. Schneider explained this easement is for a water and sewer tap for a residence. Schneider explained the basic direction of the water line is from north to south.

City Manager Ricky Jorgensen informed Council this is for a house Fischer-Langham is building on the property.

A motion was made by Council Member Alan Casey and seconded by Council Member Joel Lopez to accept a 30-foot wide Public Utility Easement over property located at the 1400 block of FM 141, granted by Fu-Shin Liu and Ming-Hsui Huang (Lucy Liu).

Motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Council Members Jones, Lopez, Casey, and Castro

Nays: None

Absent: Council Member Linda Pruitt

f. Discussion and possible action on appointing a new member to the Giddings Library Board.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Fred Jones and seconded by Council Member Alan Casey to appoint Sandra Lopez to the Giddings Library Board.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Council Members Jones, Lopez, Casey, and Castro

Nays: None

Absent: Council Member Linda Pruitt

7. City Manager's Report, And Announcements

1. Sales tax for month is \$165,490.00
2. House Bill 424 regarding annexation
3. Spring Clean Up on April 29, 2017
4. Budget calendar coming soon
5. Addition/replacement of cameras in parks, City Hall, and police department
6. Parade is Saturday, May 20, 2017

Mayor Pro Tem Fred Jones commended City Manager Ricky Jorgensen on promoting Code Official Spencer Schneider as Public Works Director.

8. Adjournment

Mayor Dowell adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

ATTEST:

Lola Hazel, City Secretary

John Dowell, Mayor