

**GIDDINGS CITY COUNCIL-REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY JANUARY 11, 2021 AT 7:00 P.M
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 118 E RICHMOND, GIDDINGS, TEXAS**

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

Members Present: Mayor John Dowell, Mayor Pro-Tem Joel Lopez, Council Members Alan Casey, Jake Horne, Linda Pruitt, Frank Castro.

Staff Present: City Secretary Andrea Ray, Director of Public Works Spencer Schneider, Police Captain Steve Spencer, Code Enforcement Eric Culpit, Municipal Court Clerk Rachel Grube.
Not Present City Manager Ricky Jorgensen, Giddings Chief Haril Walpole.

2. PLEDGES TO THE US AND TEXAS FLAGS- Pledges were said.

3. INVOCATION AND WELCOME- Mayor Pro-Tem Joel Lopez gave the invocation and Mayor John Dowell welcomed all in attendance

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS-No Announcements.

5. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS- Present plaque for years of service to City Employees.

The years of service plaques were presented by the City of Giddings Mayor John Dowell and Director of Public Works Spencer Schneider.

Julia Kieschnick -5 years Giddings Police Dept.
Angela Stanfield-5 years Human Resources
Dennis Green Sr.-5 years Street Dept.
Maximino Luna -5 years Cemetery Dept.
Rosa Tovar -15 years Giddings Library
Rodney Kessel-15 years Parks Dept.
Javier Carmona-15 years Custodian Dept.

6. CITIZENS' COMMENTS-No Citizens' Comments.

7. CONSENT AGENDA – All of the following items are considered to be self-explanatory by the Council and will be enacted with one motion. There will be no discussion of these items unless a Council Member so requests.

a. Consider approval of Minutes for Regular Meeting held on, December 14, 2020.

City Secretary will amend the December 14, 2020 minutes to read City Council Member Frank Castro was present. Agenda Item b. Discuss and take possible action on a housing study the Giddings Economic Development Corporation is wanting to add to their overall project and Vote to read nays Castro.

A motion was made by City Council Member Frank Castro and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Joel Lopez for approval of the consent agenda for the Minutes for the Meeting held on December 14, 2020.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: City Council Members Casey, Horne, Pruitt, Lopez, Castro

Nays: None

8. NEW BUSINESS

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING AT 7:08 P.M.

- a. **Public Hearing regarding the possible Zoning Change Application filed by Carlos De La Rosa requesting that block 275, Lots 1-2 located at 801 S. Williamson Street be rezoned from (R-1) Residential to (GC) General Commercial and (R-2) Residential to build an addition to existing residence for a (Duplex). Recommendation from the Giddings Planning and Zoning Commission.**

Gary Proctor spoke at the Public Hearing to request that the zoning change be denied. Mr. Proctor gave history about the property he and his wife bought on 979 S. Caldwell St. In 2019 they relocated from Galveston to the current address. They chose to purchase a dilapidated property with the express intent of revitalizing it as our final home. Mr. Proctor stated they have invested time, effort and money to improving our property.

With his opinion a multi-family rental structure or commercial property in this area will have an adverse impact on property values. The proposed change to zoning of the property in question would likely entice other investors/people to request the similar zoning change to properties nearby.

Michelle Manigault spoke at the Public Hearing; she expressed her strong opposition to the Zoning change. Once concern was the taxes they are going up due to multi-family structure. The traffic would increase in the neighborhood. Building on the lot would be an impact on the wildlife habitat. Michelle and her husband bought this property 828 S. Caldwell St. in their early twenties and lived there for twenty plus years. They do not want a zoning change to let multi family structure in this neighborhood.

Carlos De La Rosa, spoke at this time to defend the request for the zoning change to his address at this time. Carlos and his wife Andrea, presented a plat of the build they wish to turn the house at 801 S Williamson into a duplex. They would live on one side and rent other part to a family. Carlos stated he spoke to Lee County Appraisal Office and the taxes would not go up in the neighborhood. The house on the property would be remodeled.

CLOSED PUBLIC HEARING AT 7:20 P.M.

- b. **Discussion and take possible action to allow Carlos De La Rosa requesting that block 275, Lots 1-2 located at 801 S. Williamson Street, be rezoned from (R-1) Residential to (GC) General Commercial and (R-2) Residential to build an addition to existing residence for a (Duplex). Recommendation from the Giddings Planning and Zoning Commission.**

Code Enforcement Eric Culpit stated that Carlos De La Rosa came in and filed for a Zoning Change Application. At that time, we followed all steps as sending out 57 letters to surrounding area of 500 feet. With two letters that opposed the Zoning Change of 801 S. Williamson.

This Application went in front of the Planning and Zoning Commission Board on December 29, 2020 meeting. The recommendation from Planning and Zoning to Giddings City Council was denied for the Zoning Change application filed by Carlos De La Rosa.

Mayor Pro Tem Joel Lopez stated with all due respect we have the boards and ordinances in place for a decision to be made. I see 57 letters were sent out, we have only two that opposed to the Zoning Change. I live in Hickory Creek Sub-division, there are apartments, duplex in this subdivision, I can understand your concerned on the taxes and traffic coming through the neighborhood, but each apartment the land owner does not live there. In my subdivision it is pretty quiet with all the different rental property, I had not an issue with it. The plat in which I have in my hand looks to be a nice build. I respect what the De La Rosa's are trying to do with this property and with them living there would be a plus.

A motion was made by City Council Member Alan Casey and seconded by City Council Member Jake Horne to follow the recommendation of Planning and Zoning Commission to deny Carlos De La Rosa request that block 275, Lots 1-2 located at 801 S. Williamson Street, be rezoned from (R-1) Residential to (GC) General Commercial and (R-2) Residential to build an addition to existing residence for a (Duplex).

Motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: City Council Members Casey, Horne, Pruitt,

Nays: Lopez, Castro

c. Discuss and take possible action of Resolution No. 462-2021 adopting the City's 2021 Investment Policy.

Director of Public Works Spencer Schneider presented this agenda item to City Council stated this is done every year at the first of the year. It is a resolution to adopt the 2021 Investment Policy for the City of Giddings.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Joel Lopez and seconded City Council Member Frank Castro to approve Resolution No. 462-2021 adopting the City's 2021 Investment Policy.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: City Council Members Casey, Horne, Pruitt, Lopez, Castro

Nays: None

d. Discuss and take possible action to authorize Ordinance No. 854 ordering the May 1, 2021 General Election for City Officials and Giddings Independent School District Trustees.

Director of Public Works Spencer Schneider presented this agenda item to City Council stated this is done every year for the City of Giddings General Election. There could be a change of date if Governor Greg Abbott calls to move it to a later date. City Secretary Andrea Ray stated to file for an application for a place on the ballot is January 13, 2021- February 12, 2021 8:00 a.m.to 5:00 p.m. The application will be turned into the City Secretary's office. The City Council Members are up for re-election are Alan Casey, Frank Castro, Jake Horne. This ordinance is Ordering the General Election for May 1,2021. This is a Joint Election with Giddings Independent Scholl District trustees. The re-elect are Vice-President Pat Jackson Trustee Martin Rangel.

A motion was made by City Council Member Linda Pruitt and seconded Mayor Pro Tem Joel Lopez to approve to authorize Ordinance No. 854 ordering the May 1, 2021 General Election for City Officials and Giddings Independent School District Trustees.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: City Council Members Casey, Horne, Pruitt, Lopez, Castro

Nays: None

e. Discuss and take possible action to authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with the Lee County Elections Administrator for services related to the upcoming May 1, 2021 election.

A motion was made by City Council Member Frank Castro and seconded Mayor Pro Tem Joel Lopez to approve to authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with the Lee County Elections Administrator for services related to the upcoming May 1, 2021 election.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: City Council Members Casey, Horne, Pruitt, Lopez, Castro

Nays: None

f. Discuss and take possible action on allowing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Giddings ISD for the purpose of conducting joint elections.

A motion was made by City Council Member Jake Horne and seconded Frank Castro to allowing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Giddings ISD for the purpose of conducting joint elections.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: City Council Members Casey, Horne, Pruitt, Lopez, Castro

Nays: None

g. Discuss and take possible action on approval for a \$1500.00 signage grant for the Venue on Main, the grant was approved by the GEDC.

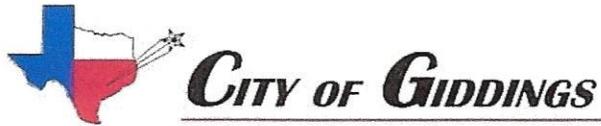
At this time City Council Member Linda Pruitt sustained herself from discussion and vote due conflict of interest.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Joel Lopez and seconded Frank Castro to approval for a \$1500.00 signage grant for the Venue on Main, the grant was approved by the GEDC.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: City Council Members Casey, Horne, Lopez, Castro

Nays: None



h. Discussion update for Giddings Economic Development Corporation downtown development and status infrastructure grant.

NO ACTION OR DISCUSSION ON THIS AGENDA ITEM DUE THE INFORMATION WAS READY.

i. Present the 2021 Candidate Packet City Council General Election.

City Secretary Andrea Ray presented the 2021 Candidate Packet to City Council. Andrea stated what is needed and for the packet, how to file, where to file. There are certain forms that have to be in the General Election mandated by the State Secretary and Texas Code of Ethics. Every form has been updated.

NO ACTION ON THIS AGENDA ITEM

9. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

- 1.) Board of Adjustment meeting January 12, 2021 at 12:00 p.m.
- 2.) Meeting with the Contactor for CR 226.
- 3.) Still Dealing COVID and employees being out.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at Monday, January 11, 2021 at 8:04 p.m. by Mayor John Dowell.

ATTEST:


Andrea Ray, City Secretary


John Dowell, Mayor

