



# CITY OF GIDDINGS

Joel Lopez, Mayor  
Alan Casey, Mayor Pro Tem  
Linda Pruitt  
Jacob Janda  
Mark D. Muniz  
Kevin Rinn  
Spencer Schneider, City Manager

GIDDINGS CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
**MONDAY, JUNE 12, 2023 AT 7:00 P.M.**  
GIDDINGS PUBLIC LIBRARY AND CULTURAL CENTER  
276 N. ORANGE ST. GIDDINGS, TEXAS 78942

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

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

Members Present: Mayor Joel Lopez, Mayor Pro-Tem Alan Casey, Council Members: Mark Muniz, Linda Pruitt, Kevin Rinn. Not Present Jacob Janda.

Staff Present: City Manager Spencer Schneider, City Secretary Andrea Ray, Director of Public Services Kenny Ray, Library Director Jessie Akins, Police Chief William Weems, Finance Director Heather Garner, Municipal Court Clerk Rachel Grube, Electric Supervisor Bruce Prellop.

**2. PLEDGES TO THE U.S. AND TEXAS FLAG** - Pledges were said.

**3. INVOCATION AND WELCOME** – City Manager Spencer Schneider gave the invocation and Mayor Joel Lopez welcomed all in attendance.

**4. ANNOUNCEMENTS** –None

**5. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS** – City Manager Spencer Schneider introduced the new Electric Supervisor Bruce Prellop to Mayor and City Council.

**6. CITIZENS' COMMENTS** – None

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

- a) Consider the approval of minutes from the City Council Regular Meeting held on Monday, May 8, 2023.
- b) Consider the approval of minutes from the City Council Special Meeting held on Tuesday, May 9, 2023.
- c) Consider the approval of minutes from the City Council Special Meeting held on Friday, June 9, 2023.

A motion was made by City Council Member Linda Pruitt and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Alan Casey for approval of Minutes.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: City Council Members: Casey, Pruitt, Muniz, Rinn

Nays: None



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## 8. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Discuss and take possible action regarding the acceptance of the 2021–2022-year end audit. Presentation by Donald Allman, CPA.

Donald Allman, CPA gave an overview of the financial position of the City of Giddings and presented their audit opinion to Mayor and Council.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro -Tem Alan Casey and seconded by City Council Member Linda Pruitt to approve the acceptance of the 2021–2022-year end audit.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: City Council Members: Casey, Pruitt, Muniz, Rinn

Nays: None

- b. Receive investment report from Finance Director Heather Garner.

Finance Director Heather Garner presented the quarterly investment report. Interest rates were reviewed and council was informed the City of Giddings holds no investments at this time.

### NO ACTION TAKEN

- c. Discuss and take possible action regarding the approval 2024 Lee County Appraisal District proposed budget.

James Orr RPA, Chief Appraiser with Lee Central Appraisal District presented the agenda item to Mayor and City Council. James explained that proposed budget with these totals. James stated the amounts for the employee's insurance has gone up. 2024 Proposed Budget Totals: Personnel Services: \$669,418, Supplies & Administrative Expense: \$116,526, Contractual Expenses: \$332,141, Capital Expense: \$14,500 Interest & Misc. Income 2023 **(\$9,700)**, Total Operating Budget: \$1,122,885.

A motion was made by City Council Member Kevin Rinn and seconded by City Council Member Mark Muniz to approve the 2024 Lee County Appraisal District proposed budget.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: City Council Members: Casey, Pruitt, Muniz, Rinn

Nays: None



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- d. Receive review from Giddings Library Director Jessi Akins on the process of newspaper digitization.

The Giddings Library Director Jessi Akins presented this agenda item to Mayor and City Council. The \$41,350 grant from the Tocker Foundation will allow the Giddings Public Library's entire collection of microfilmed newspapers to be accessible online. The grant fully funds the yearlong project to make newspapers available on The Portal to Texas History website. The University of North Texas manages the website and the entire digitization process.

## NO ACTION TAKEN

- e. Discuss and take possible action regarding the Special Event "Public" application for the Street Market Days on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of every month starting in July and ending on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in November, 2023 from 9:00 a.m.-1:00p.m.

Darla Hilmo presented this agenda item to Mayor and City Council. This Street Market Days will bring vendors from different cultures to sell products. The Street Market will also have homemade items and farm market products. Darla would like to bring the community together and hopefully catch some travelers off of Hwy 290. Darla asked City Council when approving this application to blanket the event from July to November.

A motion was made by City Council Member Mark Muniz and seconded by City Council Member Kevin Rinn to approve the Special Event "Public" application for the Street Market Days on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of every month starting in July and ending on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in November, 2023 from 9:00 a.m.-1:00p.m.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: City Council Members: Casey, Pruitt, Muniz, Rinn

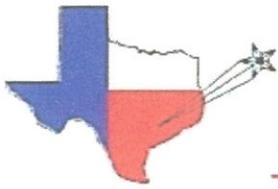
Nays: None

- f. Discuss and take possible action regarding the Special Event "Public" application for the Giddings Lions Club 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Lions Chili Bowl located in the downtown area.

City Manager Spencer Schneider presented this agenda item to Mayor and City Council. The Lions Club would like to move this event from the Lions Den on FM 141 to the downtown area. This event will be held on January 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> 2024. City Council Member Linda Pruitt asked with this event they like to bring RV's and Traveler Trailor's where they members of Lions Club park? At this time no represented was present to answers questions and the map for area was not provided to the City.

No Action taken on this agenda item; City Secretary will reach out to the represented and ask for a map. Mayor Joel Lopez asked that this agenda item be postponed and brought back to Mayor and City Council For the next meeting with all information.

- g. Discuss and take possible action regarding the appointment of new EDC Board Members.



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The Mayor Joel Lopez presented this agenda item to City Council. The GEDC Board had three members resign from the GEDC Board and three new members where needed to be elected. The GEDC Board provided a list of candidates from who they would like to see serve. The City Secretary also received GEDC Board applications from the other candidates who would like to serve and be considered for the GEDC Board. Mayor requested all candidates to present the desire to serve on the board to and give a little background.

Mayor Joel Lopez stated, City Council Member Jacob Janda expressed that he would like to serve on the GEDC Board. Mayor Lopez, stated the GEDC Board can have up to three City Council Members to serve on the GEDC Board.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Alan Casey and seconded by Linda Pruitt to approve Jacob Janda to serve on the GEDC Board.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: City Council Members: Casey, Pruitt, Muniz, Rinn

Nays: None

Mayor presented the list of candidates and stated the list is in alphabetical order.

The list of candidates is as follows: City Council Member Jacob Janda, Jennifer Ashley, Hesston Christiansen, Deena Muniz, Amanda Parks, Gina Reat, Kayla Schell, Karen Walpole.

Mayor Joel Lopez presented City Council with ballots and asked for City Council to vote for two candidates to serve on the GEDC Board the two with most votes will serve. The Ballots were counted by City Secretary Andrea Ray. The two candidates with the most votes were: Deena Muniz and Kayla Schell.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Alan Casey and seconded by Mark Muniz to approve Deena Muniz and Kayla Schnell to serve on the GEDC Board.

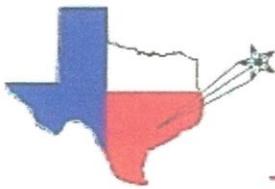
Motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: City Council Members: Casey, Pruitt, Muniz, Rinn

Nays: None

- h. Discuss the role of City Manager Spencer Schneider regarding the Giddings Economic Development Corporation Board and discuss the status of the EDC Board.

Mayor Pro-Tem Alan Casey presented this agenda item to Mayor and City Council. Alan stated he has spoke to City Manager Spencer Schneider, the GEDC Board, and City Council members about Spencer advising The GEDC Board. Alan stated he appreciates that Spencer stepped up and helped the GEDC Board. The appointment of new members to the GEDC board will help the to get rolling again on much needed projects.



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The City Council would like to work together and help to be an advisory board not take over the GEDC Board. City Manager Spencer Schneider can stay as an advisory to the GEDC Board. GEDC Board member Megan Kirk asked to speak at this time. Megan commented on the wonderful job Amanda Casey has done as an Administrative Assistant to the GEDC. Megan has worked with Amanda every day and stated she knows the job. Megan stated that Amanda can handle the day-to-day business of the GEDC at this time.

**NO ACTION TAKEN**

- i. Discuss and take possible action regarding the Giddings Economic Development Corporation Board Meetings Schedule and Joint Meetings.

Mayor Pro-Tem Alan Casey presented this agenda item to Mayor and City Council. Alan asked for the meetings to be moved back to second Monday at 5:30 p.m. before City Council Meetings second and if needed the fourth Monday of the month. Alan said this will help for City Council to make more meetings and Joint meetings will be scheduled to help advise the GEDC Board as well. The meetings of the GEDC will be moved to the second and fourth Mondays (if, needed to have a meeting) before City Council meetings. The GEDC Board will have the discussion as well.

**NO ACTION TAKEN**

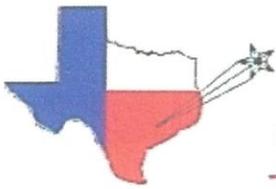
- j. Discuss and take possible action on the Chicken Processing Plant located at the 448 Business Park.

City Manager Spencer Schneider presented this agenda item to Mayor and City Council. The Chicken processing plant has purchased the property at the 448 Business Park. Spencer stated with regards to the amount of water to be used the South Sewer Plant does not have the capabilities to withstand the use of water. The Chicken Processing Plant located at the 448 Business Park will not be coming to Giddings, Texas for a location of business. The owners are still planning to use or sell the property at the 448 Business Park for future projects.

**NO ACTION TAKEN**

## 9. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1) We had our first US 290 Giddings Mobility Study task force meeting last week here at city hall. There were over 20 people and numerous staff from TX DOT at the meeting. It was a very good first meeting. The next task force meeting will be on August 15, 2023 here at city hall
- 2) The city pool opened today. The pool will be every day from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Because of the number of guards, we will be able to have pool parties after the pool closes each evening. We have 12 guards and one employee who will be working in admissions and the concession stand.



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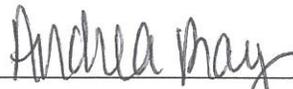
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- 3) Veteran’s Park is busy with more citizens using the new amenities (cornhole boards, pickleball and especially the splashpad). The splash pad is a big hit. There were a few problems with some of the external parts at the splashpad, but Craftsman is on top of the problem.
- 4) I talked to Wesley Traylor this morning, and he states we are still in the hunt for both generator grants. He is expecting both grants to be approved. This is all in FEMA’s hands
- 5) All departments are busy with mowing, weed eating, spraying for weeds, fixing water leaks, and changing out rotten poles.
- 6) We have two outside employee openings: 1- Cemetery and 1- Golf Course
- 7) We had the pre-construction meeting with Elliott Construction. They are in town now. They are going to use the water /wastewater yard on E Austin Street for equipment and material. You should see them working by the end of the month. This is projected to be a 6-month project.
- 8) Juneteenth Parade will be this coming Saturday the 17<sup>th</sup>. If you are to patriciate, please be at city hall at 8:30 a.m.
- 9) Beautification Committee meeting will be here at city hall on June 14, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.
- 10) Giddings Downtown Plaza

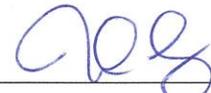
## 10. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned on Monday, June 12, 2023 at 7:55 P.M. by Mayor Joel Lopez.

ATTEST:

  
Andrea Ray, City Secretary



  
Joel Lopez, Mayor