



# **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, MARCH 24, 2025 AT 7:00 P.M.**

**CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 118 E. RICHMOND 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, City Council Members: Linda Pruitt, Jacob Janda, Mark Muniz, Kevin Rinn.

Staff Present: City Manager Spencer Schneider, Director of Public Services Kenny Ray, City Secretary Andrea Ray, Finance Director Heather Garner, Code Compliance Official Eric Cupit, City Police Chief Bill Weems, Municipal Court Clerk Rachel Grube, Director of Library Jessie Akins.

**2) PLEDGE TO THE AMERICAN AND TEXAS FLAG: Were said.**

**3) INVOCATION AND WELCOME:** Bill Ellis from the New Hope Baptist Church gave the invocation and Mayor Joel Lopez welcomed all in attendance

**4) ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**5) PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS: None:**

**6) CITIZENS COMMENTS: None:**

**7) CONSENT AGENDA:** The following items are considered to be self-explanatory by this City Council and will be enacted with one motion. There will be no separate discussion of this item unless a City Council Member so requests.

**a. Approval of the City Council Regular Meeting Minutes held on Monday, March 10, 2025.**

A motion was made by City Council Member Jacob Janda and seconded by City Council Member Linda Pruitt to approve the City Council Minutes held on Monday, March 10, 2025.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nays: None.



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- 8) **PUBLIC HEARING:** City Council will hold a Public Hearing regarding a recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission application filed by Ramiro Reyna Cardenas for a Conditional Use Permit to locate a new manufactured home for a residential homestead located at 170 West LaGrange Street in Giddings, Texas.

Code Compliance Official Eric Cupit presented this to Planning and Zoning Commission Board. Eric stated an application was filed by Ramiro Reyna Cardenas for a Conditional Use Permit to locate a new manufactured home for a residential homestead located at 170 West LaGrange Street. At this time, there has been one letter submitted by Natividad Campos to object to the proposed Conditional Use Permit at 170 LaGrange Street.

### **OPENED PUBLIC HEARING AT 7:09 P.M.**

Armando Reyna translated for his Dad, Ramiro Cardenas and stated he was trying to place a new mobile home on the property. The family of five does live in a travel trailer in a trailer park. Ramiro stated he is trying to make a better life for his family.

Frank Campos stated no problem with these folks here they seem to be good people. Frank Campos stated we bring one trailer in then we bring another trailer later, then another again. The property values are not the highest in that area. We are supposed to be improving the city, nothing against mobile homes either. I did not know we were still bringing mobile homes into city limits. Mayor Joel Lopez stated this is way the city has this process for new manufactured homes. We do look that area see what kind of homes that are in the area. We have to respects the people that have bought the property as well. Mayor Joel stated there are mobile homes in that area. Fank Campos stated those homes have been there since the nineties. Frank Campos I am trying to improve this area. There are more and more mobile homes being brought into the area. I am just trying to improve the area.

### **CLOSED PUBLIC HEARING AT 7:20 P.M.**

- 9) **NEW BUSINESS:**

a. Discuss and take possible action regarding a recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission to approve an application, filed by the property owner, Ramiro Reyna Cardenas for a conditional use permit in accordance with Section 14.02.054 of the City of Giddings Code of Ordinances, for the purpose of allowing a new manufactured home on the property located at 170 West LaGrange Street Giddings, Texas.

City Council Member Mark Muniz asked do need to take a step back and look at the placement of the mobile home. Mark stated he understand what Frank Campos is saying about to many mobile homes in the city. City Manager Spencer Schneider stated if you go back and look at the record of mobile homes we had to change our Zoning Ordinance, because we were discriminated against manufactured



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homes in the city limits. This is why the city had to change this process. City Manager Spencer Schneider stated the Planning and Zoning Commission met last week and they approved the recommendation. Mayor Pro-Tem stated I respect the Campos Family we would like for our neighborhoods to stay as healthy as possible. Mayor Pro-Tem stated I do have mobile homes in my neighborhood that have been there for some time. Mayor Pro-Tem stated I respect the Cardenas family and understand that not everyone can build a stick home.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Alan Casey and seconded by City Council Member Jacob Janda to approve a recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission for the application, filed by the property owner, Ramiro Reyna Cardenas for a conditional use permit in accordance with Section 14.02.054 of the City of Giddings Code of Ordinances, for the purpose of allowing a new manufactured home on the property located at 170 West LaGrange Street Giddings, Texas.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: City Council Members: Casey, Pruitt, Janda

Nays: Muniz, Rinn

b. Discuss and take possible action to approve the Special Event “Public” application for the Lee County Fair Parade to be held on Saturday, May 10, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

City Manager Spencer Schneider presented this to Mayor and City Council. Chief Weems and Kenny Ray approved the new parade route for the Fair Parade. Fair Board members are here to answer any questions or concerns you may have. Fair Board Member Susan Poulsen stated the new location for the Lee County Fair Parade will start at E. Independence St and N. Manse traveling south to Raymond St. and ending in the City Veteran Park. Mayor Joel Lopez stated this route can be done and asked about the barriers and they would maintain where needed. Susan stated yes, the Fair Board could do this. Mayor asked Chief Bill Weems do see any problems with this route he stated I am all for this route. City Manager Spencer Schneider stated there will be City Employees to help with the parade.

A motion was made by City Council Member Mark Muniz and seconded by City Council Member Kevin Rinn approve the Special Event “Public” application for the Lee County Fair Parade to be held on Saturday, May 10, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nays:

c. Discuss and take possible action regarding to set the purchase price of the 20’x150’ alley located on Blk 182 Lots 8,9,10, reference address is 476 W. Bellville Street, Giddings, Texas.



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**Spencer Schneider, City Manager**

City Manager Spencer Schneider presented this to Mayor and City Council. The certified appraisal and survey are in your packet. The appraised price for the alley is \$1,000.00.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Alan Casey and seconded by City Council Member Kevin Rinn to approve the set purchase price of \$1000.00 for the 20'x150' alley located on Blk 182 Lots 8,9,10, reference address is 476 W. Bellville Street, Giddings, Texas.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nays: None.

c. Discuss and take possible action to set the purchase price of the 20' X 250' alley located at 544 W. Independence Street, Giddings, Texas.

City Manager Spencer Schneider presented this to Mayor and City Council. You have the certified appraisal and survey in your packet. The appraised price of the purchase of the alley is \$1,000.00. City Secretary Andrea Ray stated there were no letters sent out since Ryan Noack owns both adjacent parts of the land.

A motion was made by City Council Member Jacob Janda and seconded by City Council Member Linda Pruitt to approve the set amount of \$1000.00 for Ryan Noack to purchase the alley located at 544 W. Independence Street, Giddings, Texas.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nays: None.

d. Receive and discuss updates on projects and donations from Lee County Law Enforcement Support Organization for 2024. (LCLESO)

City Manager Spencer Schneider presented this to Mayor and City Council. LCLESO representatives is here to present this item.

Lisa Teinert Director & Secretary stated we are here in the fourth year since this program started.

Since the start we have followed our mission to support the Lee County Law Enforcement.

We would like to thank our community and the support we have received. We have not had any

changes since the we started four years ago. We have the advisory board we meet every two

to three weeks. 100% of our funds stay here in for the Lee County Law Enforcement. We do not get

a kick back at all. The items donated to the Lee County Law Enforcement entities are items that

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City Council or County Commissioners could do without raising taxes.

Brian Evans Director & Programs stated-2022 year we focused on front line officers and deputies. This helps them to be safe. 2023 year we moved to bigger equipment like UTV's, thermal drone and Harvey. 2024 year we did 27 bullet -proof windshields, 17 sets Stop Stix, 3 AXON 7 tasers with reloads & training, 3 up to \$1000.00 initial gear for Cadets & LE Hires, added tactical modifications to Harvey the RV. Jim Jaeger Director & Fundraising- as a group we identify a need and the Citizens of our community did the rest with generous donations. Since 12-14-2021 we have received total donations \$360,000.00 (cash and equipment). The best fundraiser is the Annual Gala that will be January 26, 2026. Last year's gala we raised \$80,000.00 dollars and we also do Law Officer of the Year. Giddings Polie Officer Adam Moore was the recipient for Annual Gala 2025 and won the traveling trophy. Lawn mower raffle and we give that away at National Night at the Veterans Park. Next year we will rotate and do the giveaway in Lexington or Dime Box. When items are bought, we buy locally, because we do not forget where we came are from. Lisa Teinert stated this year will be the launch for our scholarship program. This program will help the young adults who would like to go into law enforcement after graduating.

### **NO ACTION TAKEN**

e. Discuss and take possible action to approve the purchase Fire Apparatus for the Giddings VFD.

Giddings Volunteer Fire Department Fire Chief Charlie Brown presented this agenda item to the Mayor and City Council. Fire Chief would like to share a plan on what is coming up with a new purchase of a Fire Apparatus. If, everything goes as plan, with the City of Giddings help, then by the end of the year the GVFD will have 3 modern trucks. This will help to serve our community better and do our jobs better and safely with no cost to the tax payers. If, we awarded the CDBG grant we are working with we are working with several manufacturers and are ready to go at the same time as grant funds are available. We could have a new engine in shortly after the grant funds. Tonight, we are here asking for a new truck, we are in a 2006 Rescue Truck is overloaded and to light this truck is a danger on the Hwy, and a danger for our Fireman. We have located a Rescue Truck it is the same size as the fire engine. It is called a heavy rescue truck and it used, we would like to buy this truck, the purchase price is \$2075,000.00. The GVFD would like to use the \$200,000.00 dollars left over from the bond, and the GVFD will pay overage \$75,000.00 to purchase this New Rescue Truck. Fire Chief Charlie Brown sated The GVFD will match the \$75,000.00 for CBDG Grant as well. Through the GVFD efforts will cover the extend costs with what it may be. The GVFD is putting \$200,000.00 into this and I am asking for the approval of the purchase of the New Rescue Truck, we will have a Interlocal Agreement.



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A motion was made by City Council Member Mark Muniz and seconded by City Council Member Kevin Rinn to approve the purchase Fire Apparatus for the Giddings VFD.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nays: None.

f. Discuss and take possible action to wave the Notice of Lien of \$2,469.50 for O. T. Giddings Survey, Block 161, Lot 8 at 650 N. Waco Street. Giddings, Texas.

City Manager Spencer Schneider presented this Mayor and City Council. The lien in question was created in 2009 on this property because the city demolished the structure and cleaned up the property. The property owners at that time did not pay the city for the work. The city then had a lien issued with the county clerk's office \$2,469.50. with interest is now \$11,130.15 Carolyn Wright with AWOW International Girls Leadership Initiative is here to answer any questions or concerns you may have.

Carolyn Wright introduce herself and stated she is the Director of the Arch Work of Wellness Inc., to the Mayor and City Council. Mrs. Wright stated the mission of the program is equipping young women with resources, mentorship and practical skills necessary to achieve self sufficiency and confidence igniting meaningful change in their lives and communities. Programs and Services or Life Skills Training, Mentorship Opportunities and Community Engagement. Carolyn stated this would have an impact here and be an investment in the future of the City of Giddings. Carolyn stated she the current situation and request she is asking from Mayor and City Council is to please wavier the accumulated interest and back taxes: the lien staring balance was \$2,469.50 accruing 10% with that the total amount is over \$11,130.15. The land was deeded to the AWOW International Girls Leadership Initiative and Carolyn presented a Certificate of Secretary that the House of Prayer for All People transferred and donated the property to a charitable educational, religious or tother similar organization. Carolyn Wright stated with help of the City Manager Spencer; he advised her what may be built on the property. In works Ms. Carylon stated a 3 bedroom and 1 1/2 bath home could be used for the programs needs. With the house being built this would allow 5 people to stay in the home included the house parent. During the day programs and services would be provided, and night it would be used for the young women who have no place to stay. Ms. Carolyn stated we are working with the local Texas Workforce Commission to help us employee local citizens for the house parents needed. Mrs.

City Council Member Linda Pruitt asked what is time line. Ms. Carolyn stated we hope to be finished by the next 18-months.

City Council Member Jacob Janda asked since the property was given to your organization are able to sell the property or does go to another non-profit? Ms. Carolyn stated in order of the articles and charter there were no stipulations to go about that. Ms. Carolyn stated we have been around since 2008 and do not plan too anywhere, and there is a need for the programs.



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City Council Member Kevin Rinn asked will there be some staying the night. Ms. Carolyn stated during the day from 8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. there will be 8 young ladies, and at night there can only be 5 to stay the night.

Mayor Joel Lopez stated we can put a stipulation in the agreement to wave the lien, if Arch Work of Wellness Inc., doesn't keep this property for 5 years then the lien would have to be paid back. Ms. Carolyn agreed to this stipulation, she stated this would protect your interest in the property.

A motion was made City Council Member Mark Muniz and seconded by City Council Member Kevin Rinn to wave the Notice of Lien of \$2,469.50 for Arch Work of Wellness Inc., for the said Property O. T. for the Giddings Survey, Block 161, Lot 8 at 650 N. Waco Street. Giddings, Texas, with the Stipulation that under the condition if the property is sold or transferred within 5 years from the date of Condition Release the amount secures by the lien shall be due and payable in full at the time of sale or transfer.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nays: None.

### **9) CITY MANAGER'S REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

1. TX DOT has contracted Lonestar Contractors to perform pavement repairs and a TOM overlay project for this 2.2-million-dollar project on U.S. 290 Eastbound and Westbound in Giddings. The project will start at West Austin Street and Navarro Street. They are going to perform pavement repairs and over lay to C.R. 226 on East Austin Street. Night time closures will be from 8:00 P.M. to 6:00 A.M. **Sunday through Thursday**. Work will begin on April 06, 2025 and continue through mid-May pending weather conditions.
2. The Board of Appeals and Adjustments will hold a meeting tomorrow at lunch. You are welcome to come and listen to find out how the appeals system works.
3. The Parks Board will hold a meeting on April 29, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. They will be appointing a new chairman and discussing the future goals for the Giddings Parks System.
4. The \$5,000,000.00 from the first C/O Bond Package is scheduled to be deposited into First National Bank on Thursday of this week.
5. Mayor Lopez, Heather (Finance Director), Kenny (Director of Public Services), Mike (Water Superintendent), William and Molly from Strand Engineering, and myself had a meeting last week to discuss the replacement of water and sewer lines that need to be addressed prior the reconstruction of some of our city streets. I will also be having a meeting in a few weeks with the proper departments to discuss the reconstruction of city streets.



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6. The new irrigation system project at the golf course is nearly completed. They are waiting on the new pump house with pumps and some saw cuts across some of the cart paths to be completed.

## 10) ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Joel Lopez adjourned the meeting at 8:09 p.m. Monday, March 24, 2025.

ATTEST:

  
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Andrea Ray, City Secretary



  
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Joel Lopez, Mayor