



CITY OF GIDDINGS

Joel Lopez, Mayor
Alan Casey, Mayor Pro-Tem
Linda Pruitt
Jacob Janda
Mark D. Muniz
Kevin Rinn
Heather Garner, Interim City Manager

GIDDINGS CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, JULY 14, 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, Kevin Rinn. Not Present Mark Muniz.

Staff Present: City Manager Interim Heather Garner, Director of Public Services Kenny Ray, City Secretary Andrea Ray, Code Enforcement Officer Eric Cupit, City Police Chief Bill Weems, Municipal Court Judge Robert Lee, Municipal Court Clerk Rachel Grube, Director of Library Jessie Akins.

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

3) INVOCATION AND WELCOME: Pastor Josh Hahn from the Immanuel Lutheran Church gave the invocation and Mayor Joel Lopez, welcomed all in attendance.

4) ANNOUNCEMENTS: No announcements.

5) PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS: Proclamation was presented to the Shorter Chapel AME Church for the 150th Church Anniversary.

6) CITIZENS COMMENTS: Director of the Giddings Economic Development asked City Council to observe the Hotel Occupancy Tax Application and make changes.

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, May 12, 2025.

b. Approval of the City Council Special Meeting Minutes held on Monday, June 30, 2025.

A motion was made by City Council Member Jacob Janda and seconded by City Council Member Linda Pruitt to approve the City Council Regular Minutes held on Monday, May 12, 2025 and City Council Special Meeting Minutes held on Monday, June 30, 2025.



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Motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nays: None.

8) NEW BUSINESS:

a. Discuss and take possible action to approve the Special Event “Public” Application from Kala Green to close W. Washington St. from N. Caldwell St. to N. Waco St. for a private event for a family day on Saturday, July 19, 2025 from 6:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. City Manager Interim Heather Garner presented this agenda item to Mayor and City Council.

City Manager Interim Heather Garner presented this agenda item to Mayor and City Council. Mrs. Green is requesting to block off the streets listed for safety reasons while they have a family day. Police Chief Bill Weems and Director of Public Services Kenny Ray are able to answer any questions. The Family Green members stated they were here to speak on behalf of Kala Green. Michele Manigault stated this would be a family day and there will be lot of games and family members and are asking to close Washington Street for this event from 6:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. The neighbors have been asked and they are good with the street closure.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Alan Casey and seconded by City Council Member Jacob Janda to approve the Special Event “Public” application from Kala Green to close W. Washington St. from N. Caldwell St. to N. Waco St. for a private event for a family day on Saturday, July 19, 2025 from 6:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nays: Muniz

b. Discuss and take possible action to approve the Special Event “Public” Application from the G.I.S.D for the annual Homecoming Parade to held in Veterans Park on Wednesday, October 15, 2025 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

City Manager Interim Heather Garner presented this agenda item to Mayor and City Council.

Giddings ISD would like to use the Veteran’s Park for the Homecoming Parade again this year. A map of their parade route is in your packet and has been approved by the Police Chief and the Director of Public Service. This has been a successful event, with a fun community pep rally after. Mrs. Fromme is able to answer any questions. Mrs. Fromme reminded everyone this parade will be October this year.



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A motion was made by City Council Member Linda Pruitt and seconded by City Council Member Kevin Rinn to approve the special Event “Public” Application from the G.I.S.D for the annual Homecoming Parade to held in Veterans Park on Wednesday, October 15, 2025 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nays: None.

c. Discuss and take possible action to approve the Special Event “Public” Application for a Small Business Saturday held at Dime Box Distillery on Saturday, November 29, 2025 from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

City Manager Interim Heather Garner presented this agenda item to Mayor and City Council.

Anna Talley with Sixth Streets Spirits is requesting use of the City restrooms behind the distillery while they have a “Small Business Saturday” vendor event with live music on their patio.

Anna Talley stated that the last of November is the Small Business Saturday we would like have small Business from the surrounding area come and patriciate. We use the parking area between the Hwy 290 Building and Dime Box Distillery Building to have some booths set up.

A motion was made by City Council Member Jacob Janda and seconded by City Council Member Kevin Rinn to approve the Special Event “Public” Application for a Small Business Saturday held at Dime Box Distillery on Saturday, November 29, 2025 from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nays: None.

d. Discussion only from Municipal Judge Robert Lee on Ordinance No. 820 Junked Motor Vehicles.

City Manager Interim Heather Garner presented this agenda item to Mayor and City Council.

Judge Lee is here to discuss our ordinance regarding junked motor vehicles and the processes the city must follow. This is at the request from Mayor Pro-Tem Alan Casey to better educate the City Council on Ordinance No. 820 Junked Motor Vehicles.

Municipal Court Judge Robert Lee presented the Ordinance No 820 Junked Motor Vehicles to Mayor and City Council for a better understanding of junked motor vehicles. Over the years he has been here the junked motor vehicles may have come to Municipal Court a total of 4 or 5 times. The process has waiting periods and the Code Enforcement Officers are handling everything by the book.



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e. Discuss and take possible action to appoint a new member for the Beautification Committee.

City Manager Interim Heather Garner presented this agenda item to Mayor and City Council. In your packet is an application from Joyce Yarling for the Beautification Committee at the recommendation of Mayor Pro Tem Alan Casey.

A motion was made by City Council Member Jacob Janda and seconded by City Council Member Kevin Rinn to appoint a new member Joyce Tarling to the Beautification Committee.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nays: None.

f. Discuss and take possible action to appoint a new member for the Hotel Occupancy Tax Board.

City Manager Interim Heather Garner presented this agenda item to Mayor and City Council. In your packet is an application from Kristin Schuman for the Hotel Occupancy Tax Board at the recommendation of Councilmember Jacob Janda.

A motion was made Mayor Pro-Tem Alan Casey and seconded by City Council Member Kevin Rinn to appoint a new member Kristin Schuman for the Hotel Occupancy Tax Board.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nays: None.

PUBLIC HEARING: The City Council will hold a Public Hearing regarding to institute annexation proceedings to enlarge the boundary limits of the City of Giddings to include the following described territory, to-wit: 8.849 acres out of the Jesse Barker Survey, Abstract No 32, Lee County, Texas.

Mayor Joel Lopez opened the Public Hearing at 7:45 p.m.

City Manager Interim Heather Garner presented this agenda item to Mayor and City Council. We have received an annexation petition from Escalante-Orocio Ventures LLC requesting we extend the present city limits to include the property described. This property is contiguous and adjacent to the current city limits of the City of Giddings. This public hearing is where any interested parties may appear and be heard.



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Alan Oroico stated he is the representative for Escalante-Orocio Ventures LLC we started on this project 5 years ago working towards this and finally have to come to the step to ask for annexation petition from the City of Giddings. The plan we have for it is on this map for the housing development and was passed around to City Council. and it is located at the end of Sunrise Street. We have 25 to 30 lots; we are at a stand still for the pumpstation and need the approval for the annexation to continue the process. We have to up grade the City of Giddings infrastructure so we can accommodate for the housing development. These will be single family homes. The lots do meet all the city's requirements to build on. We are planning to build this with a construction company. The Escalante-Orocio Ventures LLC are just selling the lots; we will not build the housing going into this development. We will development the land only. We build the roads, infrastructure, the water will come from City of Giddings. The electricity will come from Bluebonnet. Lot size will be 5000-6000. HOA can be discussed, but we can do deed restricts. Mayor stated the electricity is out of our ETJ and City Council Member Jacob Janda asked if, we could talk to Bluebonnet about moving the electricity to the City of Giddings.

No other citizens asked speak at the public hearing Mayor Joel Lopez closed the public hearing 7:53 p.m.

g. Discuss and take possible to adopt Resolution No. 574-2025 to authorize the Mayor to execute on behalf of the City a Municipal Services Agreement.

City Manager Interim Heather Garner presented this agenda item to Mayor and City Council. In order to annex the property, a municipal services agreement must be in place. The MSA explains the services to be provided by the City, such as fire and police services, planning, zoning, building and code enforcement, water and wastewater, and solid waste service. Any development on the property will be funded and constructed by the landowners in accordance with the City's policies.

A motion was made Mayor Pro-Tem Alan Casey and seconded by City Council Member Kevin Rinn to adopt Resolution No. 574-2025 to authorize the Mayor to execute on behalf of the City a Municipal Services Agreement.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nays: None.

h. Discuss and take possible action to adopt Ordinance No. 907 annexing 8.849 Acres of land situated in the Jesse Barker Survey Abstract No. 32, Lee County, Texas

City Manager Interim Heather Garner presented this agenda item to Mayor and City Council. This ordinance will grant the petition for the annexation of Excondido Oaks for Escalante-Orocio Ventures LLC.



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A motion was made Mayor Pro-Tem Alan Casey and seconded by City Council Member Lind Pruitt to adopt Ordinance No. 907 annexing 8.849 Acres of land situated in the Jesse Barker Survey Abstract No. 32, Lee County, Texas

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nays: None.

i. Discuss and take possible action to adopt Resolution No. 575-2025 to make repairs necessary for the safe and effective operation of Water Well 12 with a 12-inch raw water line.

City Manager Interim Heather Garner presented this agenda item to Mayor and City Council. We are needing to upgrade the water line from the new water well to the water storage tank from an 8-inch line to a 12-inch line so that Well 12 can perform at the capacity it was intended to. This comes at a high consumption time where the more pumping capacity we have, the better off our customers will be, especially in case of emergency.

A motion was made City Council Member Jacob Janda and seconded by City Council Member Linda Pruitt to adopt Resolution No. 575-2025 to make repairs necessary for the safe and effective operation of Water Well 12 with a 12-inch raw water line.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nays: None.

j. Discuss and take possible action to adopt Resolution No. 576-2025 to authorize the Mayor to execute an Interlocal Agreement and corresponding Bill of Sale with Thackerville Volunteer Fire Department for the sale of a 1998 International firefighting apparatus.

City Manager Interim Heather Garner presented this agenda item to Mayor and City Council. This sell on the 1998 International firefighting apparatus was discussed before we purchased the first Ferrara for GVFD. Since they now have two newer trucks in their fleet, they are able to sell this one to another volunteer fire department that has a higher need for the piece of equipment.

A motion was made City Council Member Jacob Janda and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Alan Casey to to adopt Resolution No. 576-2025 to authorize the Mayor to execute an Interlocal Agreement and corresponding Bill of Sale with Thackerville Volunteer Fire Department for the sale of a 1998 International firefighting apparatus.



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Motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nays: None.

k. Discuss and take possible action to adopt Resolution No. 577-2025 adopting a Purchasing and Procurement Policy.

City Manager Interim Heather Garner presented this agenda item to Mayor and City Council. During the process of applying for a generator grant from TDEM, they have requested documented policies the City follows for procurement. While they were only requesting policies for federal funds, now is a good time to have a policy in place to cover everything. Tyler provides us with the document in your packet. Andrea, Angie and I have reviewed it to be sure it follows what we currently do.

A motion was made Mayor Pro-Tem Alan Casey and seconded by City Council Member Kevin Rinn to adopt Resolution No. 577-2025 adopting a Purchasing and Procurement Policy.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nays: None.

l. Receive and review the Quarterly Investment Report from Finance Director Heather Garner.

City Manager Interim /Finance Director Heather Garner presented this agenda item to Mayor and City Council.

06/30/2025

Quarterly Investment Report

The City of Giddings holds NO Investments at this time.

The City of Giddings has its funds in First National Bank, according to the Depository Contract. The rate on Bank Funds was 4.00%. The TexPool rate for June 30, 2025 was 4.352%. TexPool is an investment service for Public Funds. It is a Managed Pool that is managed by Federated Investors, for the State of Texas.



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- m. Receive and review the 2025-2026 first draft proposed budget for the City of Giddings.

City Manager Interim/Finance Director Heather Garner presented the 2025-2026 first draft proposed budget Mayor and City Council. This part of the proposed budget does have requests from the Department Supervisors. The proposed tax rate is also in the proposed budget which is 0.6750. Revenue and Property tax is \$20 million. Utility Sales and Services \$11 million.

Capital Expenditures as follows:

Administration-Carport \$29,000.00

Gidding Police Department- is requesting specialty pay

Parks & Pool Lighting-Little League \$15,612.50, Cemetery Building Carport Concrete \$15,000.00

Street Department-John Deere 5075E \$50,000.00

Golf Course-John Deere Gator \$13,000.00

Electric Department Bucket Truck \$30,000.00 Skid Steer \$48,000.00 (Part 1 of 2 payments)

Sewer Department -Sewer Machine \$95,000.00

Director of Public Services Kenny Ray, stated that next year the street sweeper will need to be replaced and lease purchase would be the ideal way to go.

9) CITY MANAGER'S REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Before I begin, I want to take a moment to thank the City Council for trusting me in this role, and to extend my appreciation to our city staff. The last few weeks have been full of learning and adjusting, and your support has meant the world. I'm grateful to be a part of this team.

1. City Employment Updates

- We've filled the full-time position at the Golf Course. This employee will also help with mowing at the airport and assisting in parks and cemetery maintenance.
 - Two part-time positions at the Clubhouse have been filled. Both employees are expected to start within the week.
 - We'll be posting an open full-time position at the Cemetery to the public on July 16th. With this opening, and another part time employee out with COVID, the cemetery is short staffed.
 - Our newest police cadet begins the academy on Monday, July 21st. Graduation is scheduled for December 5th.



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2. Pool & Splashpad Season

- Total pool attendance from June 2nd to July 10th was 1,511.
- The pool will remain open until July 27th. The last day to book a pool party is July 20th.
- The splashpad will stay open through Labor Day.

3. Golf Course Update

- We can now run 32 sprinklers with both pumps operating.
- We will wait to increase member pricing until the new fiscal year to give time for kinks to be ironed out, and notices to be sent.

4. RED Grant Construction

- Most demo work is complete and curb and gutter is expected to wrap up within a week.
- The section near Combined Community Action and the Senior Citizens Center will be removed and replaced in one day to minimize traffic disruptions.

5. SCAM

- We have received two calls about a scam text message falsely claiming water contamination and offering legal compensation. Please avoid interacting with the message in any way. For information about any potential contamination, please see our water quality report, or contact city hall directly. Other cities have reported the same scam.

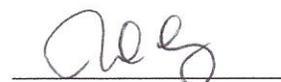
10) ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Joel Lopez adjourned the meeting at 8:27 p.m. Monday, July 14, 2025.

ATTEST:


Andrea Ray, City Secretary




Joel Lopez, Mayor