



CITY OF GREGORY

P.O. Box 297 – 206 W. Fourth St.
Gregory, Texas 78359

Fax: (361) 643-1335 Phone: (361) 643-6562
Email: norma.garcia@gregorytx.com

In accordance with the requirements of the Texas Government Code Section 551.127, a member of the Governing body will participate in this meeting from a remote location. A quorum of the Governing body as well as the Presiding Officer shall be physically present at the above posted location, which shall be open to the public. Those participating remotely shall be visible and audible to the public for all open portions of the meeting.

Mask or other facial covering, social distancing and compliance with all COVID-19 protocols are required for any persons attending this meeting in person.

The public is strongly encouraged to attend meeting by videoconference or teleconference.

The public was permitted to offer public comments Videoconference as provided by the agenda and as permitted by the presiding officer during the meeting. Written questions or comments may be submitted to City Secretary norma.garcia@gregorytx.com up to two hours before the meeting. There was none. A recording of the Videoconference meeting will be made and will be available to the public in accordance with the Texas Public Information Act upon written request.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87840030864?pwd=YjZWZDFKOEINdHBoQUNHaWNZc1RvZz09>

Meeting ID: 878 4003 0864

Passcode: 169206

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,87840030864#,,,,*169206# US (Houston)

Dial by your location

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 878 4003 0864

Passcode: 169206

Find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/u/keDokRe8rG>

The Regular Meeting was held on September 20, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Room of the Gregory Housing Authority located at 103 Granajo Street.



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Meeting was called to order by Mayor Jeronimo B. Garcia at 6:30 p.m. with the following members present:

Alderman Pablo Martinez - Zoom
Alderman Christopher Flores - Zoom
Alderman George Hernandez

Alderman Alvaro Lopez, Jr. - Zoom
Mayor Pro-Tem Odilia Reyes

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Mr. Gilbert Cortinas thanked council members for allowing the city to host the Patriotic Parade. There were some minor hiccups but overall it was a great success. He complimented Chief of Police Tony Cano and honored him with a framed picture of him with the fireworks display in the background.

Mrs. Ophelia Avila thanked Mr. Cortinas and Chief Cano for the parade that was a success. She complimented the cleanliness of the park but would like to see a crossing guard at that location. There is a crosswalk there and needs traffic control because it's a bus stop for students. "I'm worried about the children there."

CONSENT AGENDA – Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Reyes to approve minutes of September 7, 2021 and minutes of Special Called meeting of September 13, 2021.

PRESENTATIONS

a) **Update of the Municipal Complex by Mrs. Brannyn McDougal** – Mrs. McDougal was not available due to prior commitments.

b) **Update presentation by SplashPads USA** – Alderman Martinez advised representative from the Company was not available to make their presentation.

ACTION ITEMS

a) **Consideration to approve First Amendment to Water Line Easement and Right of Way between City of Gregory and San Patricio Municipal Water Dist. Presentation by Mr. Brian Williams** – Ms. Mallory Lightsey representing the water district explained that they needed to install fiber optic for their system communications. We are not needing additional land, just an amendment to the existing easement for the installation of the lines. This will be from La Quinta to Martin Marietta and US 181. Alderman Martinez asked if there would be any affect to business and was told no. Mayor Pro-Tem Reyes made the motion to approve the amendment and was seconded by Alderman Martinez. Motion carried with all ayes and 0 nays

b) **Consideration to Approve Ordinance 2021-09-04 An Ordinance amending the garbage and Trash Ordinance No. 2020-01-02 of the City of Gregory, Texas Contract ending September 30, 2025, increasing the Base Residential Contract Rate; providing penalties for violations of this Ordinance, Savings Severability Clause; providing a Repealer; and Effective Date.** – Motion was made by Alderman Martinez to approve the new rates of \$32.23 for one receptacle and \$42.51 for two



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receptacles. He stated “we will be discussing this further for a fixed rate”. Motion was seconded by Alderman Lopez and it carried with all ayes and 0 nays. Increase to customers will take effect November 1, 2021.

c) Consideration approve Resolution 2021-09-05 a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Gregory, Texas (“CITY”) joining with the State of Texas and political subdivision of the State as a party in the Texas Opioid Settlement agreements secured by the Office of the Attorney General; authorizing the {Mayor/City Manager} to execute settlement participation forms; and establishing an Effective Date (Special Counsel) – Special Counsel Cynthia Trevino explained the Resolution to members. The City is entitled to \$4,697. This is money being distributed to entities from opioid companies filing bankruptcy and there is no lawful purpose or restrictions. Motion was made by Alderman Martinez to approve Resolution 2021-09-05 and seconded by Alderman Lopez. It carried with all ayes and 0 nays.

d) Consideration to approve Resolution 2021-09-06 a Resolution by the City Council of the City of Gregory, Texas implementing the requirements of HB2073 and Chapter 180, Local Government Code establishing a paid Quarantine Leave Policy for City of Gregory Fire Fighters, Peace Officers, and Emergency Medical Technicians; providing a severability Clause and establishing an Effective Date (Special Counsel) – Ms. Trevino said new legislation has already taken effect for first responders. There will be sick leave pay for communicable diseases such as COVID and it must not be deducted from their sick leave or vacation. They may apply to worker’s comp for this. This will apply only to first responders. CARES does not make it allowable but it is in place so you may apply. Mayor Pro-Tem Reyes made the motion to approve “Paid Quarantine Leave” and was seconded by Alderman Lopez. Motion carried with all ayes and 0 nays.

e) Consideration to approve Resolution 2021-09-07 a Resolution by the City Council of the City of Gregory, Texas amending Section 24 of the City’s Personnel Policy – Leave Time – to implement the requirements of SB 1359 and amendments section 614.015, Local Government Code, establishing a mental health leave policy for City of Gregory Police Officers; Providing a Severability Clause and establish an Effective Date. (Special Counsel) – Ms. Trevino explained that this will allow for an officer who experiences a traumatic event while on duty some paid leave. It will permit an officer three (3) twelve (12) hour shifts for a total of 36 hours for self-care or mental health care. This must have proper documentation to account for the paid leave. Motion was made by Alderman Flores and Seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Reyes to approve Resolution 2021-09-07. It carried with all ayes and 0 nays.



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OLD BUSINESS – None

REPORTS

City Secretary – gave brief update of activities within the city. Report was emailed to members.

FIRE DEPT. – Update was given by Chief Jimenez about the department. Vehicles and equipment are working except Brush 2 is needing 3 nozzles to be replaced. Working on our membership to recruit and enforce the attendance. Will be getting a quote for the servicing of air tanks to bring to code. We will be at the Halloween Truck or Treat.

Mayor – he commented it was the consensus of the citizens to change to one-day trash pickup.

Councilmember Martinez said he would like to hold a workshop to discuss incentives for the Volunteer Fire Dept. members. Alderman Flores said he is working on the pay adjustments and it will take some time to clear it up.

Mayor Pro-Tem Reyes was looking forward to the Mini Jalisco Grand Opening; will be attending State of the District along with Mayor Garcia at the school with Dr. Cavazos. On Sept. 23 will be attending the Flood Plain meeting.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEM – none

ADJOURNMENT – Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Reyes at 7:33 p.m. to adjourn and seconded by Alderman Hernandez and motion carried with all ayes and 0 nays.

CITY OF GREGORY, TEXAS

ATTEST:

Jeronimo B. Garcia, Mayor

Norma S. Garcia, City Secretary