

**CITY OF GONZALES, TEXAS  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES –MARCH 9, 2023**

The regular meeting of the City Council was held on **March 9, 2023**, at 6:00 p.m. at the Gonzales Municipal Building, 820 St. Joseph Street. This was an OPEN MEETING, open to the public, subject to the open meeting laws of the State of Texas and, as required by law, was duly posted, at the Gonzales Municipal Building, giving notice of time, date, place, and agenda thereof. The meeting notice, agenda and agenda packet were posted online at [www.gonzales.texas.gov](http://www.gonzales.texas.gov).

**CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE**

Mayor Sucher called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and a quorum was certified.

<b>Attendee Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Status</b>
Steve Sucher	Mayor	Present
Joseph Kridler	Council Member, District 1	Present
Sherri Koeppe	Council Member, District 2, Mayor Pro Tem	Present
Bobby O’Neal	Council Member, District 3	Present
Ronda Miller	Council Member, District 4	Present

**STAFF PARTICIPATING:**

Kristina Vega-City Secretary, Jennifer Kolbe-Economic Development Director, Laura Zella-Finance Director, Erica Leopold-Administrative Assistant, Marland Mercer-Wastewater Department Director, Todd Remschel-Street Director, Tiffany Hutchinson-Padilla, Wade Zella-Fire Chief & Gayle Autry-Interim Police Chief.

**CITY EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Announcements of upcoming City Events- Summer Youth Program, Morgan Farrar Scholarship Run on April 22<sup>nd</sup>
- Announcements and recognitions by the City Manager-none
- Announcements and recognitions by the Mayor- Mayor Sucher acknowledged volunteer Members of the community for jobs well done.
- Recognitions of actions by community volunteers-None

**HEARING OF RESIDENTS**

Christopher Shoopman and Tabatha Shoopman spoke regarding the game room ordinance and asked the City Council to review and consider changes to the ordinance.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

The Mayor opened the Public Hearing at 6:15 p.m. to take Public Comment on the closeout of Grant #20-065-075-C203 from the General Land Office (GLO) in the amount of \$852,300 for the infrastructure improvements to wastewater lines damaged as a result of Hurricane Harvey

City Secretary, Kristina Vega provided a summary of the closeout of the grant activities as required the grant and City of Gonzales Citizen Participation Plan.

No other comments were made.

The Mayor closed the Public Hearing at 6:20 p.m.

### **CONSENT AGENDA ITEM**

The Consent Agenda is considered self-explanatory and will be enacted by the Council with one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these Item unless they are removed from the Consent Agenda upon the request of the Mayor or a Councilmember.

- 1.1 **Minutes** - Approval of the minutes for the January 19, 2023 Regular Meeting-Amended and February 9, 2023 Regular Meeting
- 1.2 Certification of Unopposed Candidate and Order of Cancellation:  
Council District 4-Ronda Miller
- 1.3 Discuss, Consider & Possible Action on **Resolution #2023-33** Declaring Certain City Property Surplus and Authorizing the Sale of Said Property in the manner most advantageous to the City of Gonzales
- 1.4 Discuss, Consider & Possible Action on **Resolution #2023-34** Authorizing the use of the Parking Lot at the 400 Block of St. Paul Street, and designated street closures for the Gonzales Main Street City-Wide Yard Sale on April 15, 2023
- 1.5 Discuss, Consider & Possible Action on **Resolution #2023-35** Authorizing Gonzales Main Street's Use of Texas Heroes Square including the Parking Lot, Designated Street Closures, and Sale and Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages for the Cinco de Mayo & Trade Days Event on May 6, 2023
- 1.6 Discuss, Consider & Possible Action on **Resolution #2023-36** Authorizing Gonzales Main Street's Use of Independence Square including the Parking Lot and Designated Street Closures and Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages for the Juneteenth Celebration Event on June 17, 2023
- 1.7 Discuss, Consider & Possible Action on **Resolution #2023-37** Authorizing Gonzales Main Street's Use of the Brickyard Area of Independence Park, Independence Square including the Parking Lot, Designated Street Closures, and Sale and Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages for the Star-Spangled Spectacular Event on July 4, 2023
- 1.8 Discuss, Consider & Possible Action on **Resolution #2023-38** Authorizing Gonzales Main Street's Use of Independence Square including the Parking Lot, Designated Street Closures, and Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages for the Back to School Bash Event on August 5, 2023
- 1.9 Discuss, Consider & Possible Action on **Resolution #2023-39** Joining with the State Of Texas and Political Subdivisions of the State as a Party in the Texas Opioid Settlement

Agreements Secured by the Office of the Attorney General; Authorizing the City Manager to Execute Settlement Participation Forms

- 1.10 Discuss, Consider & Possible Action on **Resolution #2023-40** Accepting and Approving the Change Order to the 2021 Utility Projects with Qro Mex Construction in amount of \$73,633.78 for the replacement of the Waterline in the 400 Block of St. Andrew Street

**ACTION: Items 1.1 through 1.10**

**APPROVED**

Council Member Koepp moved to approve the consent agenda Item 1.1 through 1.10. Council Member O’Neal seconded the motion. Mayor Sucher called for a roll call vote. For: Unanimous. The motion passed 5 to 0.

**RESOLUTIONS**

- 2.5 Discuss, Consider & Possible Action on **Resolution #2023-45** Authorizing the City Manager to negotiate and enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Edwards Association for the placement of a monument at Independence Square commemorating the post-Civil-War rise and progress of the African-American people in Gonzales County

**ACTION: Item 2.5**

**APPROVED**

Council Member O’Neal moved to approve **Resolution #2023-45** Authorizing the City Manager to negotiate and enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Edwards Association for the placement of a monument at Independence Square commemorating the post-Civil-War rise and progress of the African-American people in Gonzales County. Council Member Koepp seconded the motion. Mayor Sucher called for a roll call vote. For: Unanimous. The motion passed 5 to 0.

- 2.1 Discuss, Consider & Possible Action on **Resolution #2023-41** Suspending the April 10, 2023 Effective Date of the proposal by Texas Gas Service Company, A Division of One Gas, Inc. – Central-Gulf Service Area, to implement Interim Grip Rate Adjustments for Gas Utility Investment In 2022

**ACTION: Item 2.1**

**APPROVED**

Council Member Kridler moved to approve **Resolution #2023-41** Suspending the April 10, 2023 Effective Date of the proposal by Texas Gas Service Company, A Division of One Gas, Inc. – Central-Gulf Service Area, to implement Interim Grip Rate Adjustments for Gas Utility Investment In 2022. Council Member Miller seconded the motion. Mayor Sucher called for a roll call vote. For: Unanimous. The motion passed 5 to 0.

- 2.2 Discuss, Consider & Possible Action on **Resolution #2023-42** Authorizing the Appointments to the Gonzales Convention & Visitors Bureau and Main Street Advisory Board

**ACTION: Item 2.2**

**APPROVED**

Council Member Miller moved to approve **Resolution #2023-42** Authorizing the Appointment of Debbie Marshall to the Gonzales Convention & Visitors Bureau and DeDe DeStefano to the Main Street Advisory Board. Council Member Koepp seconded

the motion. Mayor Sucher called for a roll call vote. For: Miller, Koepp, O'Neal and Kridler. Against: Sucher. The motion passed 4 to 1.

- 2.3 Discuss, Consider & Possible Action on **Resolution #2023-43** Rejecting the Proposals received for the 2022 Street Improvement Projects

**ACTION: Item 2.3**

**APPROVED**

Council Member O'Neal moved to approve **Resolution #2023-43** Rejecting the Proposals received for the 2022 Street Improvement Projects. Council Member Koepp seconded the motion. Mayor Sucher called for a roll call vote. For: Unanimous. The motion passed 5 to 0.

- 2.4 Discuss, Consider & Possible Action on **Resolution #2023-44** Approving the Amendments and updates to the Bylaws of the Gonzales Volunteer Fire Department

**ACTION: Item 2.4**

**APPROVED**

Council Member Kridler moved to approve **Resolution #2023-44** Approving the Amendments and updates to the Bylaws of the Gonzales Volunteer Fire Department. Council Member O'Neal seconded the motion. Mayor Sucher called for a roll call vote. For: Unanimous. The motion passed 5 to 0.

- 2.6 Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action on **Resolution #2023-46** Appointing the Municipal Court Judge for Judicial Services for the City of Gonzales

**ACTION: Item 2.6**

**APPROVED**

Council Member Miller moved to approve **Resolution #2023-46** Appointing Judge Deidra Voigt as the Municipal Court Judge for Judicial Services for the City of Gonzales. Council Member O'Neal seconded the motion. Mayor Sucher called for a roll call vote. For: Unanimous. The motion passed 5 to 0.

- 2.7 Discuss, Consider and Possible Action on **Resolution #2023-47** Approving an Amended and Restated Performance Agreement by and Between the Gonzales Economic Development Corporation and Main Street, Inc

**ACTION: Item 2.7**

**APPROVED**

Council Member Kridler moved to approve **Resolution #2023-47** Approving an Amended and Restated Performance Agreement by and Between the Gonzales Economic Development Corporation and Main Street, Inc. Council Member Miller seconded the motion. Mayor Sucher called for a roll call vote. For: Unanimous. The motion passed 5 to 0.

**ORDINANCE**

- 3.1 Discuss, Consider & Possible Action on **Ordinance #2023-5** Approving a Budget Amendment to the Operating Budget for the Fiscal Year October 1, 2022 and Ending September 30, 2023

**ACTION: Item 3.1**

**APPROVED**

Council Member Kridler moved to approve **Ordinance #2023-5** Approving a Budget Amendment to the Operating Budget for the Fiscal Year October 1, 2022 and Ending September 30, 2023. Council Member Miller seconded the motion. Mayor Sucher called for a roll call vote. For: Unanimous. The motion passed 5 to 0.

- 3.2 Discuss, Consider & Possible Action on **Ordinance #2023-6** Amending Chapter 12 Traffic and Vehicles of the City of Gonzales Code of Ordinances Adding Article 12.2000 Utility Vehicles; All-Terrain Vehicles of Golf Carts on Public Street, Parking Area and/or Traffic Way

**ACTION: Item 3.2**

**APPROVED**

Council Member Kridler moved to approve **Ordinance #2023-6** Amending Chapter 12 Traffic and Vehicles of the City of Gonzales Code of Ordinances Adding Article 12.2000 Utility Vehicles; All-Terrain Vehicles of Golf Carts on Public Street, Parking Area and/or Traffic Way. Council Member Koepp seconded the motion. Mayor Sucher called for a roll call vote. For: Unanimous. The motion passed 5 to 0.

**STAFF/BOARD REPORTS**

- 4.1 Finance Director Zella provided the Financial Reports for funds as of February 28, 2023

No questions were asked regarding the report.

**CONVENE INTO CLOSED SESSION:**

The Council convened into closed session at 7:10 p.m.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Pursuant to Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code, the City of Gonzales will consult in closed session with its attorney to receive legal advice regarding pending or contemplated litigation, a settlement offer, or matter in which the duty of the attorney to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with this chapter”, to include the following matters:

- A) Discussions regarding Articles 9.400 Rules of Procedure Decorum and Ethics and 9.500 Code of Ethics and Conduct for City Officials and Employees of the City of Gonzales Code of Ordinances

**RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

The Council convened into open session at 7:26 p.m.

**ORDINANCES**

- 3.3 Discuss, Consider & Possible Action on **Ordinance #2023-7** Adding Section 9.309 Beautification Committee and amending Articles 9.400 Rules of Procedure Decorum and

Ethics and 9.500 Code of Ethics and Conduct for City Officials and Employees of the City of Gonzales Code of Ordinances

**ACTION: Item 3.3**

**APPROVED**

Council Member O'Neal moved to approve **Ordinance #2023-7** Adding Section 9.309 Beautification Committee. Council Member Koepp seconded the motion. Mayor Sucher called for a roll call vote. For: Unanimous. The motion passed 5 to 0. The Mayor asked for a motion on Article 9.400 Rules of Procedure Decorum and Ethics. Council Member Koepp moved to approve Articles 9.400 Code of Ethics and Conduct for City Officials and Employees without amendments. Council Member O'Neal seconded the motion. Mayor Sucher called for a roll call vote. For: Unanimous. The motion passed 5 to 0. The Mayor asked for a motion on Articles 9.500 Code of Ethics and Conduct for City Officials and Employees. Council Member Kridler moved to approve Articles 9.500 Code of Ethics and Conduct for City Officials and Employees without amendments. Council Member Koepp seconded the motion. Mayor Sucher called for a roll call vote. For: Unanimous. The motion passed 5 to 0.

**CITY COUNCIL REQUESTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Requests by Mayor and Council Members for Item on a future City Council agenda
- Announcements by Mayor and Council Members
- City and community events attended and to be attended
- Continuing education events attended and to be attended

No requests or announcements were made.

**ADJOURN**

On a motion by Council Member O'Neal and second by Council Member Kridler, the meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Approved this 13<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2023.



Kristina Vega, City Secretary



Mayor, S.H. Sucher