

**CITY OF GONZALES, TEXAS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES – JANUARY 16, 2025**

The regular meeting of the City Council was held on **January 16, 2025**, 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.

CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION, AND PLEDGES OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Steve Sucher	Mayor	Present
Joseph Kridler	Council Member, District 1	Present
Mariah Jordan	Council Member, District 2	Present
Lorenzo Hernandez	Council Member, District 3	Present
Ronda Miller	Council Member, District 4	Present

STAFF PARTICIPATING:

Tim Crow-City Manager, Kristina Vega-City Secretary, Erica Leopold-Administrative Assistant, Laura Zella-Finance Director, Gayle Autry-Police Chief, Tammy West-Police Lt., Susan Sankey-Economic Development Director, Madelynn Hendershot-Economic Development Coordinator, Tiffany Hutchinson-Padilla-Main Street Director, and Amanda Garza-JB Wells Park Arena Operations Manager

OTHER BUSINESS

2.1 Ceremonial Swearing in of Police Officers: Abad Obregon and Adrian Castillo

Mayor Sucher conducted the Swearing in of City of Gonzales Police Officers: Abad Obregon and Adrian Castillo and thanked all Law Enforcement for their service to the safety of the community.

CITY EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Announcements of upcoming City Event-none
- Announcements and recognitions by the City Manager-Martin Luther King day is Monday.
- Announcements and recognitions by the Mayor-attended: a Hazard Mitigation meeting regarding the retention pond grant that is in the works and a planning meeting for activities for Texas Independence week.
- Recognition of actions by City employees-None
- Recognition of actions by community volunteers-None

HEARING OF RESIDENTS

Rose Ruiz Jones spoke in regards to her experiences with Kingdom Rescue.

Maggie Wills spoke in regards to concerns about compliance of the Gonzales Chamber of Commerce.

STAFF/BOARD REPORTS

1.1 Financials were presented regarding:

- Financial Reports for funds as of December 31, 2024
- Cash & Investment by Fund as of December 31, 2024

No questions were asked regarding the report

1.2 City Manager, Tim Crow updated the City Council on the following:

- Timeline on Capital Improvement and Departmental Projects
 - JB Wells Park Financials
 - Recently Completed Projects
 - Projects Currently in Process
 - Upcoming Projects

No questions were asked regarding the report

OTHER BUSINESS

2.2 Kingdom Rescue will provide an annual report outlining the organization's accomplishments and functions for 2024, and will update the City Council regarding the closeout of its contract with the City of Gonzales

Christina Arias, Tracy Chase, Dominique Lee, Kristy Harkey and Jessica Dersen of Kingdom Rescue provided a presentation regarding the closeout of its contract with the City of Gonzales

2.3 Presentation & Discussion regarding Building Code timelines and adoption of the 2024 Building Codes

Shirley Ellis, Building Official, provided a presentation regarding Building Code timelines and adoption of the 2024 Building Codes

RESOLUTIONS

4.1 Discuss, Consider & Possible Action on **Resolution #2025-9** Authorizing Gonzales Jr. Main Street in Partnership with Gonzales Main Street, Inc the use of Independence Square, including the parking lot and designated street closures for the 2025 Summer Throwdown Event on May 31, 2025

ACTION: Items 4.1

APPROVED

Council Member Kridler moved to approve **Resolution #2025-9** Authorizing Gonzales Jr. Main Street in Partnership with Gonzales Main Street, Inc the use of Independence Square, including the parking lot and designated street closures for the 2025 Summer Throwdown Event on May 31, 2025. Council Member Jordan seconded the motion. Mayor Sucher called for a roll call vote. For: Unanimous. The motion passed 5 to 0.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

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 items unless they are removed from the Consent Agenda upon the request of the Mayor or a Councilmember.

- 3.1 **Minutes** - Approval of the minutes for the Regular Meeting, December 12, 2024, and GEDC Meeting of December 16, 2024
- 3.2 Discuss, Consider & Possible Action on **Resolution #2025-1** Rescheduling the January 9, 2025 Regular Council meeting to January 16, 2025
- 3.3 Discuss, Consider & Possible Action on **Resolution #2025-2** Authorizing the use of City Property for the Jim Price Clean-up on April 26, 2025
- 3.4 Discuss, Consider & Possible Action on **Resolution #2025-3** Authorizing and Approving the Execution of a Special Warranty Deed Conveying 3.0-acres of Land to the City of Gonzales, Texas.
- 3.5 Discuss, Consider & Possible Action on **Resolution #2025-4** Authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Gonzales County Emergency Services District No. 2 Municipal Fire Department Service Provider Agreement
- 3.6 Discuss, Consider & Possible Action on **Resolution #2025-5** Authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement for Election Services with the Election Administrator of Gonzales County for the May 3, 2025, General and Special Election
- 3.7 Discuss, Consider & Possible Action on **Ordinance #2025-1** Ordering a General Municipal Election to be held on May 3, 2025, for the Purpose of Electing an Individual to the Office of Mayor
- 3.8 Discuss, Consider & Possible Action on **Resolution #2025-6** Approving the Amended and Restated Lease Agreement for the office space at 301 St. Joseph Street, Suite A with Gonzales Central Appraisal District and authorizing the City Manager to execute said agreement
- 3.9 Discuss, Consider & Possible Action on **Resolution #2025-7** Authorizing the City Manager to execute a License Agreement with the Gonzales Little League
- 3.10 Discuss, Consider & Possible Action on **Resolution #2025-8** Accepting the contribution from the Gonzales Little League for improvements to the Little League restrooms located at Independence Park and approving the City's Financial Contribution to the project

ACTION: Items 3.1 through 3.10

APPROVED

Council Member Kridler moved to approve the consent agenda Items 3.1 through 3.10. Council Member Hernandez seconded the motion. Mayor Sucher called for a roll call vote. For: Unanimous. The motion passed 5 to 0.

RESOLUTIONS

- 4.2 Discuss, Consider & Possible Action on **Resolution #2025-10** Authorizing the City Manager to solicit Requests for Qualifications for City Attorney/Legal Services for the City of Gonzales, Texas

ACTION: Item 4.2

APPROVED

Council Member Jordan moved to approve **Resolution #2025-10** Authorizing the City Manager to solicit Requests for Qualifications for City Attorney/Legal Services for the City of Gonzales, Texas. Council Member Hernandez seconded the motion. Mayor Sucher called for a roll call vote For: Unanimous. The motion passed 5 to 0.

ORDINANCES

- 5.1 Discuss, Consider & Possible Action on **Ordinance #2025-2** Ordering a Special Election to be held on May 3, 2025, for the purpose of voting on the recall of Council Member District 4

ACTION: Item 5.1

REJECTED

Council Member Jordan moved to discuss **Ordinance #2025-2** Ordering a Special Election to be held on May 3, 2025, for the purpose of voting on the recall of Council Member District 4. Council Member Hernandez seconded the motion. The Council engaged in discussion.

City Council went into a recess at 7:53 p.m. and reconvened at 8:02 p.m.

The Council engaged in further discussion. A final vote was not taken.

CLOSED SESSION

The Council convened into closed session at 8:12 p.m. 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) Agenda item 5.1, **Ordinance #2025-2** Ordering a Special Election to be held on May 3, 2025, for the purpose of voting on the recall of Council Member District 4

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The Council convened into open session at 8:42 p.m.

Mayor Sucher asked for a motion. Council Member Jordan moved to reject **Ordinance #2025-2** Ordering a Special Election to be held on May 3, 2025, for the purpose of voting on the recall of Council Member District 4. Council Member Hernandez seconded the motion. Mayor Sucher called for a roll call vote For: Hernandez and Jordan. Against: Sucher and Kridler. Council Member Miller recused herself from voting. The motion failed 2 to 2.

CONVENE INTO CLOSED SESSION:

The Council convened into closed session at 8:45 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

- 6.1 (1) 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) Discussion regarding the Gonzales Chamber of Commerce Publicity and Tourism Agreement

(2) Pursuant to Section 551.072 of the Texas Government Code, the City of Gonzales will consult in closed session to deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the governmental body in negotiations with a third person:

A) 1814 St. Paul Street

B) St. Paul Street/Cone Street

(3) Pursuant to Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code, the City of Gonzales will consult in closed session to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee.

A) City Manager Evaluation

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The Council convened into open session at 10:23 p.m.

7.1 Discuss, Consider & Possible Action regarding matters discussed in closed session, and/or other actions necessary or recommended related to such discussions in closed session

ACTION: Item 6.1 (2) (B)

APPROVED

Council Member Kridler moved to accept the offer and authorize the City Manager to execute any and all documents associated. Council Member Hernandez seconded the motion. Mayor Sucher called for a roll call vote. For: Unanimous. The motion passed 5 to 0.

ACTION: Item 6.1 (3) (A)

Council Member Hernandez moved to increase the City Manager’s salary by 1.5%. Council Member Kridler 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 Councilmembers for items on a future City Council agenda- Mayor Sucher requested that an item be included on a future agenda to reschedule the April meeting due to a date conflict.
- Announcements by Mayor and Councilmembers- none
- City and community events attended and to be attended- none
- Continuing education events attended and to be attended- none

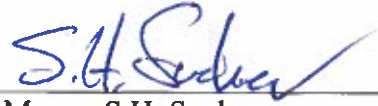
ADJOURN

On a motion by Council Member Kridler and second by Council Member Hernandez, the meeting was adjourned at 10:25 p.m.

Approved this 13th day of February, 2025.



Kristina Vega, City Secretary



Mayor, S.H. Sucher