

3/3/25 Garwin City Council Minutes

Called to order at 6pm. Present: Deam, Zoffka, Brave Heart, Simcox, Raymond, McCubbin

Others present: R. Collins, C. Smith, R. Daniel, Q. Schneider, S. Parks

Raymond motioned, Brave Heart seconded the approval of Feb bills and minutes. Approved with all ayes.

Mayor Deam reported he attended the Library Board meeting to go over goals and responsibilities. He met with Fire and Ambulance along with Clerk to review budgets.

Under old business, the City received an application for the rural Library Board opening from Karen Jackson.

Simcox motioned and McCubbin seconded to approve. Passed with all ayes.

Q. Schneider from CGA presented detailed plans for the new Fire/Amb building including steel, concrete and overhead doors. This project will be let for bids in a couple of weeks. Raymond questioned where the hydrant will be located.

Under new business, Brave Heart motioned for the Proposed Property Tax Hearing to be held on Tuesday, April 1 at 6pm. Simcox seconded, passed with all ayes.

The City is interested in investing some money to earn more interest. Currently the funds in the Main Checking account earn .2%. There is enough in the account to allow some of the funds to be invested in a CD to earn approximately 4.0%. A resolution (2025-02) was drafted to adopt an Investment Policy for the City of Garwin. Simcox asked that the line "Investment transactions by Clerk shall only occur at the direction of the Council" be added. Simcox motioned to approve the Resolution as corrected, Zoffka seconded. Passed with all ayes.

Upon the passing and adoption of the Investment Policy, a separate resolution (2025-03) is not needed.

Simcox motioned to invest \$50k from Main Checking account into a CD for 6 months. McCubbin seconded and it was passed with all ayes.

Raymond reported 2 fire calls in Feb. A check engine light is on in the pumper truck.

Parks reported the Ambulance dept will be doing the Easter Egg hunt again on April 19. She requested reimbursement of \$150 for candy and \$200 in quarters for the event. Volunteers for the egg hunt would be greatly appreciated. Raymond made a motion to revise Bills to Approve to add reimbursement to Parks for the candy. Zoffka seconded and passed with all ayes. Brave Heart motioned for Clerk to get the quarters from the bank. McCubbin seconded and passed. Bike helmets will be purchased again for the 3rd graders. Clerk is to call QuickMeds to see where the ambulance payments are at and also look into the Offset program for unpaid ambulance bills.

Water Superintendent, R. Daniel, reported resident Justin Nelson is interested in the water/sewer position after Daniel retires. Daniel mentioned that contracting for this is getting more difficult and the insurance is costly. He went over the training needed and ongoing training to remain certified. The job requires a basic 7-10 hours/week with extra hours occasionally. He recommended the position change to a part-time city employee in the future. Clerk is to look into costs and insurance. Zoffka mentioned the applicant pay for their course training up front and City could reimburse after. She would like to see if a local town would be interested in a 28E agreement to provide this service. There was talk of combining the positions of City Maintenance and Water/Sewer Operator in the future. Simcox said a job description will need to be drafted and the position posted when the time comes.

Simcox reported 320 minutes of Sheriff time last month and a couple traffic stops.

McCubbin reported she attended the Library Board meeting. The local 4H group is interested in making valances for the Community Bldg windows as a project.

Simcox requested the 3% cost of living raise be added to the budget for the City's 3 main employees. He reviewed bank balances and debit card charges.

Zoffka asked Clerk to send some nuisance letters.

Raymond reported it's time to contact LL Pelling to go over which streets to work on this year.

Vaverka reported taking vacation on April 10 and 11.

Simcox motioned, McCubbin seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:05pm. The next regular meeting will be Tuesday 4/1/25 at 6:15.