



411 E San Patricio Ave. Mathis TX 78368  
Tel 361-547-3343 Fax 361-547-3838

**The State of Texas  
The County of San Patricio  
The City of Mathis**

**Regular Meeting**

**May 24, 2021**

In accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551.041 of the Texas Government Code, the City Council of the City of Mathis held a **Regular Meeting** at **7:00 P.M.** on **Monday, May 24, 2021**, at City Hall Annex, 401 E. San Patricio Avenue. **Public Notice** was hereby given that the City Council may elect to go into closed session at any time during the meeting in order to discuss matters listed on the agenda concerning personnel, consultation with the city attorney, real estate acquisition, or other purposes authorized under the "Open Meetings Act". In the event the City Council elects to go into closed session regarding an agenda item; the purpose of the closed session and the section of the Open Meetings Act authorizing the session will be publicly announced by the presiding officer.

**Councilman David Garcia led the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.**

1. Roll call to determine presence of a quorum.

Mayor Ciri Villarreal, Mayor Pro Tem Richard Salinas, Councilman Israel Gonzales, Councilwoman Mary Martinez Olivarez, and Councilman David Garcia.

Absent: Councilwoman Sandra Quinones

City Staff Present: City Manager Michael Barrera, Admin. Asst. Monique Alvarado, Finance Director Caron Vela, Fire Chief Adrian Ramirez, Public Works director Gary Paredez, and EMS Director Paul Pulley. Other City Staff were not required to attend.

City Staff Present via GoTo Meeting: Municipal Court Judge Frank Gonzales

Guests: Isabel Rivera, Tommy Patterson, Felicia Florez

Guests via GoTo Meeting: Jeff Conlon

2. Call to order.

**With a quorum of the Council Members present, the Regular Meeting was called to order by Mayor Ciri Villarreal at 7:01 p.m.**

The City Council of the City of Mathis will discuss and act on the following:

3. Consider approval of minutes for May 10, 2021, Regular Meeting.

**MOTION: Mayor Pro Tem Richard Salinas motioned to approve the minutes for May 10, 2021, Regular Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Mary Martinez Olivarez and the motion carried 4-0.**

4. Citizens to be heard.

*Felicia Florez informed that she has made several reports to the Mathis Police Department and has not received any follow ups since January 2021. Mrs. Florez shared that she was assaulted and had her vehicle damaged. Mrs. Florez stated that she believes her case has not been investigated properly even though she has provided video evidence. Mrs. Florez urged the council to look into her case and other cases that could have been overlooked.*

*Mr. Barrera informed that Mathis was approved for \$22.8 million dollar grant that the city applied for through the General Land Office for infrastructure work. Some of the work consists of repairs to the raw water pier, a new generator for the raw water plant and replacement of the 6 inch service lines that are in the city. Mr. Barrera added that Mathis was the only city in San Patricio County to be awarded.*

5. Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget Discussion and all matters pertaining thereto.

*Mr. Barrera explained that the annual budget is developed by reviewing the revenue streams of the city including the General Fund. Mr. Barrera explained that the General Fund has five revenue groups which are property tax, sales tax, sanitation fees, EMS fees, and other fees. Mr. Barrera gave a summary of the history of revenues in the past year and gave an estimate of what next year's revenues will be. Mr. Barrera shared that council will have to decide on what route to go with EMS since it is always in the red. He explained that if the city privatizes the EMS department then the city will lose less money but the service level will decrease. Councilman Garcia asked if the city can start offering transports again to help with the cost. Mr. Pulley stated that he can look into that but that it wouldn't be possible with just one ambulance crew. Councilman Garcia asked about the previous conversations on contacting the county for an allowance increase and reaching out to surrounding communities to help with funding. Mr. Pulley shared that the county did increase their funding but that he has not reached out to the surrounding communities for payment. Mayor Villarreal shared that EMS is never going to make money or break even, they will always be in the hole because of the type of service it is. Councilman Garcia asked if the EMS department is obligated to go to calls outside of the city limits. Mr. Pulley shared that he does believe that they are obligated to respond to the calls that are outside of the city limits. Mr. Pulley also shared that the call volume from outside the city limit is approximately 40% and that a good amount of revenue comes from those calls since those outside the city limits tend to have insurance so Mr. Pulley believes it might not be in the best interest to have an Emergency Service District. Councilman Garcia stated that a committee of citizens should be formed to help improve EMS services. Mr. Barrera shared that Mathis is receiving \$500,000 from the American Rescue Plan and will be used for infrastructure improvements. Mr. Barrera recommended using the funds for one-time expenditures such as replacing water meters.*

**No action taken.**

6. Discuss and consider motion approving a request by Jeff Conlon to initiate a Flag Football League in the City of Mathis.

*Mr. Pulley informed that the Under the Lights Flag Football League is a national youth flag football league for children from 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Mr. Pulley stated the rules and operations for the Under the Lights Flag Football League. Mr. Pulley shared that the League is requesting the use of the Gonzalo-Paiz Park multi-use fields on Saturdays from October to November and from April to June. They are also requesting permission for food vendors for the games. Councilman Garcia asked if the games will require lights since there are none available at the Gonzalo-Paiz Park Fields. Mr. Conlon stated that the games will be in the afternoon so there will be no need for lights. Councilwoman Olivarez asked if Mr. Conlon will be paying for the insurance for the kids. Mr. Conlon informed that he will be paying the liability insurance for every player that will be playing in the league. Mr. Conlon shared that the registration fee will be approximately \$130 and will include uniform shirts, uniform bottoms, and flags; the rest of the fee will be distributed to Under Armor and Mr. Conlon. Mayor Villarreal asked if there is currently a soccer league that this may conflict with. Mr. Pulley informed that there is a teacher trying to bring soccer back to the area but they play and practice out of town. Councilman Garcia asked if this league*

*will conflict with the Mathis Youth Football League, Mr. Pulley shared that he met with their president and that he was in support of the league and that it will not conflict with their league. Mayor Pro Tem Salinas asked if other towns will be making teams to compete in this league. Mr. Conlon stated that the registration will be open for kids from other towns to come play in Mathis. Councilman Garcia stated that the food vendors not only should have a food handler's permit but also a peddler's permit from the city. Mr. Barrera stated that they will be looking into creating a contract similar to the one with the Mathis Little League that covers such topics.*

**MOTION:** Mayor Pro Tem Richard Salinas motioned to approve the request by Jeff Conlon to initiate a Flag Football League in the City of Mathis. The motion was seconded by Councilman Israel Gonzales and the motion carried 4-0.

7. Discuss and consider motion approving Resolution No. R-21-05-28 supporting a Study of Water Resources and the Future Water Needs of San Patricio and Aransas Counties.

*Mr. Barrera informed council that this resolution will allow the city to participate in a study identifying future water strategies such as current and potential water resources for San Patricio County and Aransas County. Mayor Pro Tem Salinas asked how much the study would cost. Mr. Barrera shared that he has not received any estimate on the price but believes that Mathis's portion would be approximately 20% of whatever the total cost is.*

**MOTION:** Mayor Pro Tem Richard Salinas motioned to approve approving Resolution No. R-21-05-28 supporting a Study of Water Resources and the Future Water Needs of San Patricio and Aransas Counties. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Mary Martinez Olivarez and the motion carried 4-0.

8. Consider Resolution No. R-21-05-26 accepting an offer of \$36,200.00 by Delfina Alaniz Trujillo for the purchase of a tax sale property more fully described as Lots 15 & 16, Block 7, Stone Addition, an addition to the City of Mathis, San Patricio County, Texas. (location: S. King St.)

*Mrs. Gonzales informed that the property is currently valued as \$9,390.00 and failed to sale at tax sale. The total taxes due to all entities is \$78,846.54 of which \$26,493.47 is the delinquent tax portion due to the City and if the sale is approved the City will receive \$11,589.76.*

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Mary Martinez Olivarez motioned to approve Resolution No. R-21-05-26 accepting an offer of \$36,200.00 by Delfina Alaniz Trujillo for the purchase of a tax sale property more fully described as Lots 15 & 16, Block 7, Stone Addition, an addition to the City of Mathis, San Patricio County, Texas. (location: S. King St.) The motion was seconded by Councilman Israel Gonzales and the motion carried 4-0.

9. Consider Resolution No. R-21-05-27 accepting an offer of \$4,100.00 by Jesus & Teresa Barrientez for the purchase of a tax sale property more fully described as Lots 29, J.N. McNabb Subdivision #1, a subdivision to the City of Mathis, San Patricio County, Texas. (location: 1132 Nevada)

*Mrs. Gonzales informed that the property is currently valued as \$6,152.00 and failed to sale at tax sale. The total taxes due to all entities is \$9,608.82 of which \$3,804.67 is the delinquent tax portion due to the City and if the sale is approved the City will receive \$1,101.95.*

**MOTION:** Councilman Israel Gonzales motioned to approve Resolution No. R-21-05-27 accepting an offer of \$4,100.00 by Jesus & Teresa Barrientez for the purchase of a tax sale property more fully described as Lots 29, J.N. McNabb Subdivision #1, a subdivision to the City of Mathis, San Patricio County, Texas. (location: 1132 Nevada) The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Richard Salinas and the motion carried 4-0.

10. City Manager's Report and all matters pertaining thereto:

Frank Gonzales, Municipal Court Judge

- *Municipal Court performance report*

*Judge Gonzales reported the totals for the month of April 2021. Total collection was \$9,003.14; 0 community service hours; 47 transactions; 16 court appearances; 15 notices sent; 22 new cases filed; and 0 new warnings processed.*

Marshal Roush, Police Chief

- *Police Department performance report*

*Mr. Barrera shared that Chief Roush fell ill and therefore was unable to make it to the meeting to give the report and asked for his report to be rescheduled. Mayor Pro Tem Salinas stated that he noticed an increase in police presence on Sunday which he appreciated.*

Caron S. Vela, Finance Director

- *General Fund & Utility Fund variance financial report*

*Mrs. Vela reported on Revenues for the seven month report as of April 30, 2021. The General fund has a property tax of \$866,663; sales tax is \$571,599; sanitation fee is \$317,644; EMS fee is \$218,176; other fees are \$312,239; the total revenue is \$2,286,321. Mrs. Vela then reported on the expenses per department with administration having \$465,831; code enforcement had \$14,390; parks had \$75,107; fire department had \$26,428; EMS had \$382,309; animal control had \$33,922; police department had \$586,156; municipal court had \$32,991; street department had \$224,896; sanitation had \$243,792; the total expenses were \$2,085,822. General fund had a total revenue of \$2,286,321 with expenses of \$2,085,822; leaving revenues over expenses at \$200,499. Mrs. Vela then reported on the utility fund revenues; water fee was \$551,241; customer service was \$16,445; wastewater fee was \$297,381; the total revenue is \$865,067. The expenses of water were \$502,470 and wastewater was \$254,063. The utility fund had a total revenue of \$865,067 with expenses of \$756,533; leaving the revenues over expenses at \$108,534.*

- *Special Revenue Funds Variance Report*

*Mrs. Vela reported on Revenues for the six month report as of April 30, 2021. The Debt Service fund had a total revenue of \$285,486 with total expenses of \$205,008; leaving the revenues over expenses at \$80,478. The Street improvement fund had a total revenue of \$42,399 with total expenses of \$0; leaving the revenues over expenses at \$42,399. The Hotel/Motel fund had a total revenue of \$29,928 with total expenses of \$19,683; leaving the revenues over expenses at \$10,245. The Festivals and Events fund had a total revenue of \$21,943 with total expenses of \$42,506; leaving the revenues under expenses at \$20,563.*

- *Certificate of Obligation variance financial report*

*Mrs. Vela reported on the Certificate of Obligations as of April 30, 2021. Mrs. Vela reported that the total purchases are \$759,009; interest earned is \$10,942; and pending purchases is \$3,276,008. Mayor Villarreal asked when construction was going to start. Mr. Barrera stated that he will give council a timeline of the project to show the actions taken on the project and when the projected start time will be. Mayor Pro Tem Salinas asked how many meters are still on radio read. Mrs. Vela shared that approximately one third of the meters are on radio read. Mr. Barrera shared that if Mathis gets the American Rescue award then he would recommend using the money on the meters since it is a one-time purchase. Councilman Gonzales asked about the police department budget and if they are on track for staying in the green. Mr. Barrera stated that he noticed the jump in their department and shared that he will look into the matter and report back to council.*

10. City Council requests for future Agenda Items.

*Mayor Pro Tem Richard Salinas requested an update for the CDBG Grant, commended the Police department for their visual presence with patrolling around town, requested information on the Lamar Street vehicle accident, requested information on the incident on Flores Street.*

*Councilman Israel Gonzales requested information on a possible plan to resolve the flooding on Magnolia and Live Oak, requested action on fixing the potholes on S. Nueces and E. St. Mary's, requested a report on the new code enforcement officer, and proposed a key to the city program for outstanding citizens.*

*Councilwoman Mary Martinez Olivarez requested action regarding the concerns brought to the council during the public forum.*

*Councilman David Garcia requested information on the Lamar Street incident, requested an agenda item regarding Lamar Street traffic control, requested information on solutions to the speeding concerns, requested information on the process for filing a police report, requested a report from the EDC, requested an update for the Tynan Water Supply.  
Mayor Ciri Villarreal requested an update on the Bond 2020 Project, requested getting signage for projects saying 'your tax dollars at work' or something similar.*

11. Adjourn

*With no further items to discuss, Mayor Ciri Villarreal requested a motion to adjourn the Council meeting at 8:36 p.m.*

**MOTION: Councilman Israel Gonzales motioned to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Mary Martinez Olivarez and the motion carried 4-0.**

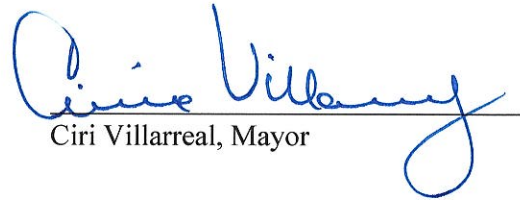
PASSED AND APPROVED ON THIS THE 14 DAY OF June, 2021

UPON THE MOTION OF Councilman David Garcia

SECONDED BY Councilwoman Mary Olivarez AND ADOPTED

BY A VOTE OF 3 TO 0.

ATTEST:

  
Ciri Villarreal, Mayor

  
Mary Acosta Gonzales, City Secretary

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