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

**Regular Meeting**

**August 9, 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, August 9, 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.

**Mayor Ciri Villarreal 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 Sandra Quinones, and Councilman David Garcia.

Absent: Councilwoman Mary Martinez Olivarez

City Staff Present: City Manager Michael Barrera, City Secretary Mary Gonzales, Admin. Asst. Monique Alvarado, Finance Director Caron Vela, Fire Chief Adrian Ramirez, Police Chief Marshall Roush, Public Works Director Gary Paredes, and EMS Director Paul Pulley. Other City Staff were not required to attend.

Guests: Ricardo Garza, Minerva Ramirez, Daniel Mendoza, Lamar Zamora, and Jason Reynolds

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 July 26, 2021, Regular Meeting.

*Mayor Villarreal stated that the motion on item number 6 needs to be corrected to include GrantWorks as the contractor awarded.*

**MOTION: Mayor Pro Tem Richard Salinas motioned to approve the minutes for July 26, 2021, Regular Meeting with the correction suggested. The motion was seconded by Councilman Israel Gonzales and the motion carried 3-0.**

4. Motion approving to change the second regular meeting from Monday, August 23, 2021 to Tuesday, August 24, 2021.

**MOTION: Mayor Pro Tem Richard Salinas motioned to approve changing the second regular meeting from Monday, August 23, 2021 to Tuesday, August 24, 2021. The motion was seconded by Councilman Israel Gonzales and the motion carried 3-0.**

5. Citizens to be heard.

*There were no comments or presentations.*

6. Open Public Hearing.

*The public hearing opened at 7:05 p.m.*

7. Conduct a public hearing to discuss the proposed Budget for the 2021-2022 Fiscal year. This budget will raise more revenue from property taxes than last year's budget by an amount of \$116,787, which is an 8.9% increase from last year's budget. The property tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year is \$9,891.59.

*Mr. Barrera explained the changes made to the proposed budget which include property valuations increase, M&O and I&S rates changes, updated tax rates determined by the Tax Assessor-Collector, Police Operations budget change, health insurance increase, and Fire Department budget increase. The remaining funds available to go to fund balance or any other propriety that council determines is \$41,357. Other changes include the Water Department Administration cost increase, the elimination of \$30,825 from the Water Department infrastructure budget, Wastewater Administration cost decrease, the addition of the vacuum truck to the Wastewater budget, the elimination of the infrastructure budget in Wastewater, and the increase of the Debt Service Fund to allow for the purchase of the Police building. Mr. Barrera stated that he has added the appendix to the budget which is the 2021 Tax Rate Calculations as certified by the Tax Assessor-Collector. Mr. Barrera informed that staff received an email from the street sweeping contractor indicating that they would not be submitting a cost estimate to do the work and cited a heavy workload as the reason for their decision. Mr. Barrera added that he had received preliminary quotes for used and new equipment that range from \$25,000 for a small sweeper to \$100,000 for a large sweeper that is equipped with a debris hopper that must be unloaded at the landfill. Councilman Garcia suggested adding the ambulance to the budget using the remaining funds, Councilman Gonzales and Mayor Pro Tem Salinas agreed. Mayor Pro Tem Salinas recommended the remaining funds after the purchase of the ambulance to be put towards the City Hall renovations. Councilman Garcia suggested considering using the remaining fund to purchase the backhoe. Mr. Barrera explained that the issue would be getting that equipment financed since it is a used piece of equipment.*

8. Close Public Hearing.

*The public hearing closed at 7:26 p.m.*

9. Update discussion and direction from Council regarding the PILOT obligation owed to the City by the Housing Authority of Mathis.

*Mr. Barrera informed that he and Mrs. Gonzales had a virtual meeting with members from the regional HUD office and the Executive Director of the Mathis Housing Authority. The HUD officer informed that they don't have control over the Housing Authority in regards to the PILOT. Mr. Barrera shared that the HUD officer believes that the other taxing entities are involved in the PILOT because they are mentioned in the agreement. Mr. Barrera informed that he requested a letter from the HUD office to show their position on the matter but was denied. After some discussion, council agreed that the proposed amount of approximately \$47,000 should be accepted by the Housing Authority and to update the agreement with the assistance of the City Attorney.*

**\*\*Councilwoman Sandra Quinones arrived at 7:47 p.m. during this item of discussion.**

10. Discussion and motion authorizing the City Manager to execute contracts with Roland Barrera Insurance of Corpus Christi, Texas for Health, Vision, Dental and Life Insurance in accordance with the City's RFP for Health Benefits Insurance based on best value for an estimated annual cost to the City of \$249,089.

*Mr. Barrera informed that a request for proposal was issued and Roland Barrera Insurance Company had the lowest cost proposal. Mr. Barrera shared that premiums are increasing because large claims are recorded for the City have gone up. Mr. Barrera stated that although there are some things that staff doesn't like about the insurance, this is the best the City can afford.*

**MOTION: Councilman Israel Gonzales motioned to approve authorizing the City Manager to execute contracts with Roland Barrera Insurance of Corpus Christi, Texas for Health, Vision, Dental and Life Insurance in accordance with the City's RFP for Health Benefits Insurance based on best value for an estimated annual cost to the City of \$249,089. Also, to request a 12 month contract with the option to extend for up to 3 additional 12 month periods. The motion was seconded by Councilman David Garcia and the motion carried 4-0.**

11. Motion setting the Public Hearing on the Proposed tax rate for August 24, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

*Mr. Barrera informed that the new tax law requires the City Council to have a public hearing on the proposed tax rate and vote on the tax rate within the allotted amount of days. The Tax Assessor-Collector will place a notice in the paper.*

**MOTION: Councilwoman Sandra Quinones motioned to approve setting the Public Hearing on the Proposed tax rate for August 24, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Councilman Israel Gonzales and the motion carried 4-0.**

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

Paul Pulley, EMS/Parks Director

• *Emergency Medical Services performance report*

*Mr. Pulley presented awards to Daniel Mendoza, Ryan Taylor, Jason Reynolds, Landry Hill and Monica Garza for their actions and success in saving a life during a call. Mr. Pulley reported that for the month of June dispatch had 116 calls; 75 transports; 96 calls from Mathis and 20 mutual aid calls. The average response time was 6 minutes and 7 seconds. For June the revenue total received was \$33,028.41; the fees were \$3,172.46; and the net to the city was \$29,854.95. Mr. Pulley reported that for the month of July dispatch had 172 calls; 79 transports; 132 calls from Mathis and 40 mutual aid calls. The average response time was 6 minutes and 21 seconds. Mr. Pulley then reported that he and Mrs. Coronado attended the County Emergency Management Meeting. Daniel Mendoza was promoted to EMS lieutenant and Ryan Taylor was promoted to EMS Field Training Officer.*

• *Parks performance report*

*Mr. Pulley reported that on June 10<sup>th</sup> and July 22<sup>nd</sup> both EMS and Parks assisted with the Food Distribution at Gonzalo Paiz Park. Mr. Pulley shared that Jeff Colon has notified him that there has been a delay for the Under the Lights Flag Football League and that the league will now be from January 2022 to February 2022.*

Caron Vela, Finance Director

• *Special Revenue Funds Variance Report*

*Mrs. Vela reported on Revenues for the ten month report as of July 31, 2021. The Debt Service fund had a total revenue of \$379,708 with total expenses of \$376,044; leaving the revenues over expenses at \$3,664. The Utility Fund Bond Debt service fund had a total revenue of \$45,491 with total expenses of \$53,523; leaving the revenues under expenses at \$8,032. The Street improvement fund had a total revenue of \$60,987 with total expenses of \$10,000; leaving the revenues over expenses at \$50,987. The Hotel/Motel fund had a total revenue of \$57,170 with total expenses of \$78,683; leaving the revenues under expenses at \$21,513. The Festivals and Events fund had a total revenue of \$93,599 with total expenses of \$90,535; leaving the revenues over expenses at \$3,064.*

Mary A. Gonzales, City Secretary

- *Quarterly Calendar*

*Projected agenda items for the upcoming meetings were reported.*

13. City Council requests for future Agenda Items.

*Councilman Israel Gonzales requested an update on the awards program.*

*Mayor Pro Tem Richard Salinas requested an investigation on why it takes so long to do things such as, the sidewalks on 359, manhole on Stone Street, a hole left open from a water leak on Harding and Live Oak, and the Evergreen project. He also requested a presumed investigation on how to put some no parking signs behind T.O's bar.*

*Mayor Ciri Villarreal requested a list of standard operating procedures for dispatch.*

14. Adjourn

*With no further items to discuss, Mayor Ciri Villarreal requested a motion to adjourn the Council meeting at 8:13 p.m.*

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

PASSED AND APPROVED ON THIS THE 24<sup>th</sup> DAY OF August, 2021

UPON THE MOTION OF Councilwoman Sandra Quinones

SECONDED BY Councilwoman Mary Olivarez AND ADOPTED

BY A VOTE OF 5 TO 0.

ATTEST:

  
Ciri Villarreal, Mayor

  
Mary Acosta Gonzales, City Secretary