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

Regular Meeting

August 11, 2025

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 11, 2025**, 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 David Garcia, Councilman Israel Gonzales, and Councilman Richard Salinas.

Absent: Councilwoman Sandra Quinones and Councilwoman Isabel Monsibaiz Rivera.

City Staff Present: City Manager Cedric W. Davis, Sr.; City Secretary, Mary Gonzales; Administrative Assistant, Allison Martinez; H.R. Supervisor, Roxanne Ramirez; Finance Director, Caron S. Vela; Police Chief, Guillermo Figueroa; Public Works Street Supervisor, Manuel Ortiz; Animal Control Officer, Chief of Fire Department, Adrian Ramirez.

Guests: ITC supervisor, Samuel May, Clay Elliot, Elijah Rodriguez, Rey Martinez, Colin Odon, Isaac Villarreal, and Nickolas Villarreal.

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 28, 2025, Regular Meeting.

MOTION: Councilman Richard Salinas motioned to approve the minutes for July 28, 2025, Regular Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Israel Gonzales and the motion carried 3-0.

4. Citizens to be heard.

No presentations were made at this time.

5. Discussion on updates regarding the Department of Transportation Recreational Trails Program including the Rise and Build grant program. America for Broadband Development Workforce Initiatives.

Mandi Tucker gave a virtual presentation to discuss the rural and tribal assistance pilot program, with the minimum award granted being \$250,000 and the maximum at \$2.5 million. The program supports helping small communities and developmental phase activities for grant applications with a deadline of October 8th, 2025. Mandi explained that the opening to apply starts on September 8th at 2pm EST and emphasized that it is imperative to submit an application as soon as possible due to the award being on a first come first serve basis. The first application is to include 13.65 miles of streets while the second application includes 13.54 miles of streets. Mandi did note that the two applications did not account for all of the streets within Mathis but future grant applications can be applied for. Mandi discussed that the total estimated final design and construction range for Application 1 would be from \$15,689,232.06 to \$80,515,484.46 and the total estimated final design and construction range for application 2 would be from \$15,562,798.69 to \$79,866,641.73. Mayor Pro Tem, David Garcia asked if the city needs any letters of support upon application submission, in which, Mandi responded that no letters are needed because the Rural and Tribal Assistance Pilot Program does not accept letters of support.

6. Discussion and direction regarding proposals by ITC Corporation and VC3 for Information Technology (IT) Services.

Two proposals were presented before the council, one from ITC and the second from VC in regards to Cyber Security Services. Mr. Davis explained that the individual representing VC3 was not able to attend the meeting but Samuel May did appear before the council to discuss ITC's service proposal. Mr. May discussed the current services we have through the ITC corporation while also listing future upgrades he recommends if the City of Mathis does upgrade the cybersecurity services with them. Recommended upgrades would be a Network Box which includes Firewall, Intrusion Prevention Systems, DDoS Protection, Application Identification, VPN, DHCP Server, Quality of Service, Link Monitoring and Automatic Switching, and Customizable Log Portal and Reporting Modules. Mr. May also discussed the possibility of providing training on Cybersecurity for employees. The council concluded that they will support upgrading services through ITC, being that the corporation is familiar with the City of Mathis' systems.

Motion: Councilman Richard Salinas motioned to approve the proposal as presented by ITC Corporation for Information Technology Services. The motion was seconded by Councilman Israel Gonzales and the motion carried 3-0.

7. Discuss and consider approval of the Interlocal Agreement between the Coastal Bend Council of Governments (CBCOG) a Regional Planning Commission (RPC) and the City of Mathis for 9-1-1 Public Safety Answering Point Services.

The Coastal Bend Council of Governments is required to carry out a contract on state emergency communication services in Texas every two years. The COG must certify interlocal agreements with 17 local governments in order to receive startup funds beginning September 1st, as well as additional funding for the 911 program. The contract for 911 Services between the Commission and the RPC requires the RPC to execute the agreement relating to the planning, development, operation, and provision of 911 service, the use of wireline and wireless 911 fees and equalization surcharge appropriated to the commission and granted to the RPC and adherence to Applicable law. With the interlocal agreement the following changes were made from the CSCC's general council; classifications, simplifications or requirements due to changes to current or newly created law, grammar, language, and/or formatting edits throughout. These changes include, Section 2.1, discussion of applicable law simplified; section 3.4.2, added a security requirement, section 3.6, added cybersecurity training; section 5.3, added a requirement related to a certification require for bids or proposals related to certain foreign governments; and section 15.2, requirements to notify the regional planning commission clarified and narrowed.

Motion: Councilman Richard Salinas motioned to approve the Interlocal Agreement between the Coastal Bend Council of Governments (CBCOG) a Regional Planning Commission (RPC) and the City of Mathis for 9-1-1 Public Safety Answering Point Services. The motion was seconded by Councilman Israel Gonzales and the motion carried 3-0.

8. Discussion and presentation of fiscal year 2025-2026 preliminary operating budget and all matters pertaining thereto.

Caron Vela, Finance Director, discussed the proposed budget for the fiscal year of 2025-2026. Caron provided an overview of some of the changes that have been made to the budget including a new debt of \$7 million dollars for a 15-year note, a city wide 4% cost of living allowance for all employees, city wide health insurance increase at an estimated but not definite 12%. Caron discussed changes to some line items, that were not previously separated, which were the police department hand held radios and radio maintenance that both come to a total of \$14,150. Caron discussed that she also included municipal court changes to the budget that will include an online payment system and the ability for the municipal court clerk to take payments herself. Caron mentioned an inclusion of heavy equipment for both the street department and water department increasing the budget by \$25,000 for each department. Caron also discussed what the property tax rate would be with a new bond applied. Caron explained that if a no new revenue tax rate is decided then the city will accumulate the same amount of revenue as the previous year. She explained that if the city goes over the voter approval tax rate, then the City of Mathis would have to call an election before August 18th. The route Caron, Finance Director, recommends is to decide on a tax rate just under the voter approval tax rate which would then generate a revenue of \$200,000 in the budget. Caron discussed that this approved budget will be included in the tax rate with the intention of applying for the bond in the first quarter of the next fiscal year. Caron discussed that the Financial Advisor suggested four different tax rate choice decisions with two at \$10 million and two at \$7 million. The \$7 million Bond with a 15-year note, suggested, has a payback total per year of approximately \$506,000 to \$645,000. Councilman Richard Salinas requested a list of the proposed projects that will be funded by the suggested Bond. Mr. Davis listed a few preferred projects such as cybersecurity upgrades, fleet leasing units, streets improvement, and parks improvements. Caron explained that if there is no new Debt then the rate will go from 1.09 to 1.06 creating a loss of \$300,000. Caron mentioned that the funds to support this bond will be solely from the tax rate increase other than the previous bond that was supported through utility fund.

Volunteer Fire Chief, Adrian Ramirez, discussed their budget increases and wish list items for his department. The wish list items include, firefighting foam with a total of \$1,185; attack hoses with a total of \$1,800; attack hose nozzles with a total of \$1,800; 15 sets of structural gear with a total of \$59,360; 3 new radios with a total of \$7,741.

9. City Business updates and all matters pertaining thereto.

Mr. Davis reported on visiting with staff to hear any concerns. He received street equipment attachments, completed and submitted TPWD local park grant. Mr. Davis worked on Department of Homeland Cyber Security Grant for local governments infrastructure. He also attended a Tele-conference with the City Attorney, Ardurra's Head Engineer, Corpus Christi's water department and attorney, and Texas Parks and Wildlife in regards to the lease agreement for the water well project. Mr. Davis attended a Zoom meeting with VC3 and consulted with Tim May, ITC employee, in order to propose improving city infrastructure Cyber Security and IT Services. Mr. Davis and the Water Department Staff attended the Grand Opening of the City of Alice Desalination Plant. Mr. Davis also attended a Regional Water Planning Group Meeting in Alice, Tx. He attended another Tele-conference meeting with the chief of Staff, Sen. Hinajosa to support the expediting of the Mathis Water Well Project. Correspondence about the pier project for pre-construction took place between LJA Engineering and Mr. Davis. Mr. Davis met with Mr. Sabas, Vryan Johnson, and Robert of Ardurra regarding Redwood Housing Development. Mr. Davis also discussed with Mr. Sabas and Frank on signed Covenants and request for annexation into in Mathis Extraterritorial Jurisdiction. Mr. Davis had a Tele-Conference with TxDot about Highway lights being turned back on. Mary, City Secretary, and Mr. Davis attended a Teams meeting with Enterprise Fleet Leasing. Mr. Davis conducted correspondence with National Fitness Campaign regard lack of funding to complete \$170,000 fitness pad and equipment. Mr. Davis discussed that the TDA 2025 TxDot Mobility Grant project did not fund in the final round but will be included in the Rise & Build Grant.

10. City Council requests for future Agenda Items.

Mayor Pro Tem David Garcia discussed assigning the police or code enforcement to drive and look out for any street signs that may have any structural damage to them. Mayor Pro Tem David Garcia also suggested the council schedule and organize a meeting solely for the purpose of discussing the fiscal year

2025-2026 preliminary operating budget, proposed tax rates, bond related topics, and future project plans to be funded by the bond.

Councilman Richard Salinas discussed the need to fix the railroad crossing due to bumps on the McNally Road. Councilman Salinas also discussed the need for a new school zone sign on highway 359.

Councilman Israel Gonzales suggested that the barricades left by TXDot be moved by the city instead of remaining on the ground.

11. Adjourn

With no further items to discuss, Mayor Ciri Villarreal requested a motion to adjourn the council meeting at 8:50pm.

MOTION: Councilman Israel Gonzales motioned to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem David Garcia and the motion carried 3-0.

PASSED AND APPROVED ON THIS THE 25 DAY OF August, 2025

UPON THE MOTION OF Councilwoman Sandra Quinanes

SECONDED BY Mayor Pro Tem David Garcia AND ADOPTED

BY A VOTE OF 3 TO 0.

ATTEST:


Mary Acosta Gonzales, City Secretary


Ciri Villarreal, Mayor