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

**Special Meeting**

**September 7, 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 **Special Meeting** at 7:00 P.M. on **Tuesday, September 7, 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 Pro Tem Richard Salinas, Councilwoman Sandra Quinones, Councilman Israel Gonzales, Councilwoman Mary Martinez Olivarez, and Councilman David Garcia.

Absent: Mayor Ciri Villarreal

City Staff Present: City Manager Michael Barrera, City Secretary Mary Gonzales, Admin. Asst. Monique Alvarado, Finance Director Caron Vela, and Police Chief Marshall Roush. Other City Staff were not required to attend.

Guests: Melissa Velasco. Jame Velasco, Daniel Mendoza, Rudy Garcia, Marsha McNorton, Calvin Cosby

2. Call to order.

**With a quorum of the Council Members present, the Regular Meeting was called to order by Mayor Pro Tem Richard Salinas 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 August 24, 2021, Regular Meeting.

**MOTION: Councilwoman Mary Martinez Olivarez motioned to approve the minutes for August 24, 2021, Regular Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Israel Gonzales and the motion carried 5-0.**

4. Citizens to be heard.

*There were no comments or presentations.*

5. Open Public Hearing

*Melissa Velasco informed that there has been a traffic issue on Texas Street as vehicles have been speeding at all hours of the day and night. Mrs. Velasco shared that this issue has been brought to the Public Works Director before when she requested speed bumps or kids at play signs be placed but has not received a call back. Mrs. Velasco stated that she wants to prevent an accident where a driver losses control of their vehicle while speeding and crashes into somebody's house.*

6. Conduct a Public Hearing offering the general public the opportunity to make comments and ask questions concerning the Proposed Tax Rate of \$1.098086 per \$100 Valuation for tax year 2021.

*Mr. Barrera informed that the proposed tax rate is the same as last year at \$1.098086 per \$100 valuation. Mr. Barrera shared that the property valuations have increased by approximately \$17 million which increases tax revenue to approximately \$226,000. The proposed Debt rate is \$0.319664 and the proposed M&O rate is \$0.778422. Mr. Barrera informed that the public hearing notice was posted in the San Patricio Newspaper. In response to the council requesting a comparison to our rates and surrounding area rates, Mr. Barrera shared that next to our notice placed in the newspaper was the City of Gregory as well. Mr. Barrera shared that Gregory's tax rate is 35 cents lower, and that their average homestead value is \$90,000 while ours is \$60,000 yet both Gregory and Mathis are paying approximately the same taxes. With no further discussion or public comments, Mayor Pro Tem Salinas moved to end the public hearing.*

7. Close Public Hearing

*The public hearing closed at 7:08 p.m.*

8. Motion approving the Second reading of Ordinance No. O-21-08-10 accepting the General Tax Roll of the City of Mathis, Texas for the Year 2021 and authorizing the Mayor to execute the certificate of approval and acceptance by affixing his signature and seal of the city of Mathis thereto.

*Mr. Barrera informed that this second reading will formalize the acceptance of the general tax roll which is approximately \$139,394,126 and has been certified by the county appraisal district. Councilman Garcia asked how the general tax roll will be affected by individuals who challenge their appraisals. Mr. Barrera shared that he took that into consideration and asked the appraiser how to calculate an accurate value. With the appraiser's instruction, Mr. Barrera was able to come to the general tax roll value which would be the minimum amount the city would receive.*

**MOTION: Councilman David Garcia motioned to approve the Second reading of Ordinance No. O-21-08-10 accepting the General Tax Roll of the City of Mathis, Texas for the Year 2021 and authorizing the Mayor to execute the certificate of approval and acceptance by affixing his signature and seal of the city of Mathis thereto. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sandra Quinones and the motion carried 5-0.**

9. Motion approving the Second reading of Ordinance No. O-21-08-11 adopting the budget for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2021 and ending September 30, 2022, providing for the intra and inter department and fund transfers and declaring an effective date.

*Mr. Barrera informed that this was the second reading to adopt the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 budget.*

**MOTION: Councilman Israel Gonzales motioned to approve the Second reading of Ordinance No. O-21-08-11 adopting the budget for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2021 and ending September 30, 2022, providing for the intra and inter department and fund transfers and declaring an effective date. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sandra Quinones and the motion carried 5-0.**

10. Motion approving the First reading of Ordinance No. O-21-09-12 adopting the Tax Rate of \$1.098086 per \$100 Valuation for fiscal year 2021-2022.

*Mr. Barrera informed that they have now conducted the public hearing and placed notice in the newspaper to adopt the tax rate of \$1.098086; M&O rate of \$0.778422; I&S rate of \$0.319664.*

**MOTION:** Councilman Israel Gonzales motioned to approve the First reading of Ordinance No. O-21-09-12 adopting the Tax Rate of \$1.098086 per \$100 Valuation for fiscal year 2021-2022. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sandra Quinones and the motion carried 5-0.

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

Marshal Roush, Police Chief

• *Police department performance report*

*Chief Roush reported that the dispatchers will be going through a training program that will help them better respond to medical related calls and will receive their EMD certifications once completed. The CID division has had an influx of theft, burglaries, assaults, and criminal mischief cases which are all being investigated. Chief Roush reported that the Patrol division has hired a new patrol officer and is currently in the hiring process for another patrol officer. Chief Roush reported that the code enforcement officer Mrs. Barrios has been addressing several code violations throughout the city. Chief Roush reported on the Animal Control stats involving dogs held, picked up, returned, adopted, rescued, and passed away. Councilman Garcia shared that the focus needs to be on decreasing the dog population. Councilman Gonzales asked how the residents are able to contact code enforcement. Chief Roush informed that residents have to call the Police Department unless they have made other arrangements with Mrs. Barrios. Councilwoman Olivarez stated that she has made several calls to the Police Department and Mrs. Barrios has responded and commended her for doing a good job. Mayor Pro Tem Salinas requested for the speeding on Texas Street to be looked into and to see what can be placed out there to deter speeding and also requested for some safety measure to be placed at the corner of Freeman Street and Frio Street. Councilman Garcia noted that the residents are going around the speed bumps on Lamar Street and it is slowly ruining the road.*

Caron Vela, Finance Director

• *General Fund & Utility Fund Variance Report*

*Mrs. Vela reported on Revenues for the ten month report as of July 31, 2021. The General fund has a property tax of \$953,951; sales tax is \$880,240; sanitation fee is \$409,286; EMS fee is \$320,340; other fees are \$490,975; the total revenue is \$3,054,791. Mrs. Vela then reported on the expenses per department with administration having \$676,496; code enforcement had \$25,430; parks had \$120,211; fire department had \$46,300; EMS had \$573,775; animal control had \$54,913; police department had \$799,688; municipal court had \$49,378; street department had \$343,126; sanitation had \$348,096; the total expenses were \$3,037,413. General fund had a total revenue of \$3,054,791 with expenses of \$3,037,413; leaving revenues over expenses at \$17,378. Mrs. Vela then reported on the utility fund revenues; water fee was \$794,618; customer service was \$27,673; wastewater fee was \$423,153; the total revenue is \$1,245,444. The expenses of water were \$817,374 and wastewater was \$409,933. The utility fund had a total revenue of \$1,245,444 with expenses of \$1,227,307; leaving the revenues over expenses at \$18,137.*

• *Certificate of Obligation*

*Mrs. Vela reported on the Certificate of Obligations as of July 31, 2021. Mrs. Vela reported that the total purchases are \$891,634; interest earned is \$11,093; and pending purchases is \$3,143,535. Councilman Garcia asked about the status of the audit. Mrs. Vela shared that the audit has been placed on hold due to Incode which goes live on September 20, 2021. Councilman Garcia stated that he is concerned since the city has fallen behind on the audit before. Mrs. Vela stated that the next audit will be quicker because all of the bank reconciliations will be completed, so the city is further ahead for the 2021 audit because of Incode.*

12. City Council requests for future Agenda Items.

*Councilman Israel Gonzales requested speed bumps and child at play signs at Texas Street and a report on returning calls to citizens.*

*Councilwoman Mary Martinez Olivarez stated that she had already informed Mr. Paredes about the issue on Texas Street as well as on South Perez Street, Freeman Street, and Fulton Street.*

*Councilman Garcia requested a resolution for the damage being done on Lamar Street because of the speed bumps; he also requested a report on dispatch and a presentation on the water pump failure.*

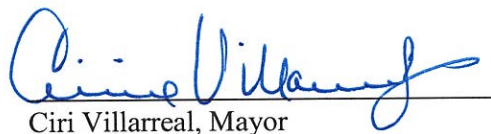
13. Adjourn

*With no further items to discuss, Mayor Pro Tem Richard Salinas requested a motion to adjourn the Council meeting at 7:48 p.m.*

**MOTION: Councilwoman Sandra Quinones motioned to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Mary Martinez Olivarez and the motion carried 5-0.**

PASSED AND APPROVED ON THIS THE 13<sup>th</sup> DAY OF September, 2021  
UPON THE MOTION OF Councilman Israel Gonzales  
SECONDED BY Councilwoman Mary Olivarez AND ADOPTED  
BY A VOTE OF 4 TO 0.

ATTEST:

  
Ciri Villarreal, Mayor

  
Mary Acosta Gonzales, City Secretary