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

Regular Meeting

July 28, 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, July 28, 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 Pro Tem David Garcia led the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Roll call to determine presence of a quorum.

Mayor Pro Tem David Garcia, Councilwoman Sandra Quinones, Councilman Israel Gonzales, and Councilwoman Isabel Monsibaiz Rivera.

Absent: Mayor Ciri Villarreal and Councilman Richard Salinas

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; Director of Public Works, Robert Tafolla; Public Works Street Supervisor, Manuel Ortiz; Animal Control Officer, Tom Armstrong; Code Enforcement Officer, Dorin Walker.

Guests: Stephanie Newson, Allegiance; Rishheem Muhammad, Retrain America/EDS Tech Training Program; Cecilia Medrano, Mathis Housing Authority Director and Marissa Rosales, Mathis Housing Authority Secretary.

2. Call to order.

With a quorum of the Council Members present, the Regular Meeting was called to order by Mayor Pro Tem David Garcia 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 14, 2025, Regular Meeting and July 19, 2025, Workshop Meeting.

MOTION: Councilwoman Sandra Quinones motioned to approve the minutes for July 14, 2025, Regular Meeting and July 19, 2025, Workshop Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Israel Gonzales and the motion carried 4-0.

4. Citizens to be heard.

No presentations were made at this time.

5. Discussion to consider a letter of support to collaborate with EDS Tech Training Program and Retrain America for Broadband Development Workforce Initiatives.

Risheem Muhammad discussed that this training includes fiber optics splicing, ariel and ground construction, and EV infrastructure, giving the participants the ability to receive a license as a FAA drone pilot and/or fiber technician. This program would train up to two hundred and fifty citizens over a four-year period including participants from K-12. Mr. Muhammad proposed that the city builds a data center in Mathis which would generate profits. He discussed that the training is at no cost due to the U.S. Department of Agriculture providing funding. Mr. Muhammad is asking for a letter of commitment and an office space from the city to conduct the training to Mathis residents and citizens from surrounding areas. The grant will be due July 31st, 2025.

MOTION: Councilwoman Sandra Quinones motioned to approve a letter of support to collaborate with the EDS Tech Training Program and Retrain America for Broadband Development Workforce Initiatives. The motion was seconded by Councilman Israel Gonzales and the motion carried 4-0.

6. Discuss and consider action on Resolution No. R-25-07-13 authorizing the City Manager eligible to represent the City of Mathis as the City's Executive Officer and Authorized Representative in all matters pertaining to the City's Participation in the Texas Parks and Wildlife Local Park Grant Program and all matters pertaining thereto.

Mr. Davis informed that the Grant Program is a match grant in which the city would apply for funding of seventy-five thousand dollars. He discussed that the funds will prioritize renovations and new amenities for parks in the city and is seeking approval to apply for the grant.

Motion: Councilman Israel Gonzales motioned to approve Resolution No. R-25-07-13 authorizing the City Manager eligible to represent the City of Mathis as the City's Executive Officer and Authorized Representative in all matters pertaining to the City's Participation in the Texas Parks and Wildlife Local Park Grant Program. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Isabel Rivera and the motion carried 4-0.

7. Discuss and review of fiscal year 2025-2026 operating budget by department and all matters pertaining thereto.

Caron S. Vela, Finance Director, discussed the overview of the preliminary fiscal year 2025-2026 operating budget. The overview included the proposed cost-of-living allowance for staff by the percentage rates of 0%, 3%, 3.5%, and 4%. Mayor Pro Tem David Garcia expressed his support of the 4% increase and mentioned the request of a microphone for City Council meetings to project the discussion to the public in attendance. Mrs. Vela also discussed the consolidation of several budgeted line-item accounts for various departments based on clarifying the titles. Mr. Davis discussed funds for equipment to service city roads; funds to fix the pump a fire truck and future grant requests for funding of the roof. Chief Figueroa discussed the Police Department's wish list items such as new radios and an increase in funding for uniform allowance. He further discussed a police department program that allows the department to lease vehicles for 5 years then return the vehicles once the lease is over. For Animal Control, Chief Figueroa discussed a budget increase for animal control euthanizing and the possibility of funding for more kennels. Public Works Director, Robert Tafolla, discussed budget increases pertaining to expenses with chemicals for both the Water and Wastewater departments; Streets Department and Parks Department. Discussions were done regarding planning for purchasing heavy equipment for street improvements. After much discussions among all the departments, the Council was informed that an updated preliminary draft of the budget would be presented at the next Council meeting for further discussion on expenditures and revenues.

As each department discussed the perspective budgets, they went into sharing their monthly department reports to Council at that time.

8. City Business updates and all matters pertaining thereto.

Cedric Manager, Cedric W. Davis

- *Mr. Davis reported on visiting work sites and addressed concerns; ordered additional street equipment such as padded roller drum and grader blade attachments; worked on the TWPD local park grant; participated in a tele-conference with City Attorney and Robert with Ardurra regarding lease agreement with CC and water well project at the MWTP; transported signed water well project document to City Attorney Office; zoom with VC3 on improving city Cyber Security and IT Services; tele-conference with Mark Hall-Hanson regarding RISE & BUILD application; warning siren remote switch installed and operational; staff and CC strategic workshop; attended Coastal Bend COG Board of Directors Meeting; Tele-conference with TxDot- Chandler about light outage 359/459; conference meeting with Corpus Christi Water to discuss customer wholesale water rates increase.*

Emergency Medical Service, Allegiance Mobile Health

- *Stephanie Newsom reported a total number of calls serviced in the city limits of Mathis and the county being at a total combined number of 167; Secondary response at 33; Mutual aid into city, 25; Mutual aid into county, 8.*

Municipal Court Judge, Frank Gonzales

- *Caron Vela, Finance Director, reported for the month of June, \$7,516.20 total collection amount; 140 community service hours; 55 total transactions; 30 court appearances; 196 notices sent; 196 new cases filed (citations); 54 new warnings processed.*

Police Chief, Guillermo Figueroa

- *Chief Figueroa reported 265 traffic stops; 2 arrests from traffic stops; 74 citation warnings; 250 citations issued; 543 calls for service; 17 arrests; 9 cases filed; 1 municipal court; 6 warrants issued; Mathis PD participated in the Freedom Fest event leading to two incidents occurring with one arrest for criminal mischief and 5 citations for disorderly conduct; Mathis OD hired one dispatcher and one kennel attendant; Mathis Pd, along with the Texas Rangers joined an investigation on an incident that occurred in Kingsville, Tx.*
- *Animal Control Officer Tom Armstrong, reported for the month for the month of July, 1 dog held over; 21 picked up; 1 went home; 0 adopted; 14 went to rescue; 0 passed away; 6 euthanized. Notable incidents reported, P.A.A.C city streets are still going on for free spay or neuters. 2 dogs will be fixed for free by the Gulf Coast Humane Society. 60 total calls; 16 looser and roaming; 3 cruelty calls; 2 traps set; 1 lost dog; 15 citations issued.*
- *Code Enforcement Officer, Dorin Walker, reported violation activity of 10 gras/weeds warnings; 14 dangerous grasses; 1 junked vehicle; 4 unsanitary conditions; 2 open burning; 1 power washing (stage 3 restriction) commercial; 1 no pool cover warning; 2 unsecured properties; 3 trashes; 2 putting out during non-pickup times. Meter loop inspections, 3 residential; 1 commercial. 22 unauthorized illegal signs.*

Public Works Director, Robert Tafolla

- *Robert Tafolla reported for the month of July, 12.204 total water production; 6 water leaks; 8 meters replaced; 93 utility account disconnects; 68 utility account reconnects. For the wastewater collection, 7.53 total water treated and 11 sewer stoppage. Street department, 6 blocks of curbs cleaned; 12 caliche requests; 25 blocks of pot holes patched. Permit Department, 14 permits issued and 9-meter loops issued. Parks Department, 1 bench removed from 2t's café storefront; 6 dead trees removed from downtown district; Steps at Perez Park were repaired; Patriotic banner attached to city hall for freedom fest.*

Humam Resource Specialist, Roxanne Ramirez

- *Roxanne Ramirez, HR Specialist, reported resignations, 1 dispatcher; 1 parks technician; 1 water technician. Jobs posted were for dispatcher; patrol officer, water plant operator, water technician, street laborer, parks technician. Attended meetings for ERP PRO 19 with finance director and Operations manager. Assisted with Freedom Fest activities. Attended budget meeting with the Secretary, Finance Director, and City Manager. Conducted interviews for Administrative Assistant to the City Secretary. Communicated with Richard Barrera regarding benefits. Received multiple calls/visits all month from employees needing assistance with benefits, TMRS, short term disability, accruals, etc. DPS secure online training.*

City Secretary, Mary A. Gonzales Finance Director

- *Mary Gonzales, City Secretary, reported the management of Freedom Fest activities; attended multiple virtual conference meetings with VC3 regarding IT support services; participated in the budget review meetings with each of the departments; conducted administrative assistant position interviews; assisted the City Manager on work site visit concerns with Public Works staff; processed transactions for A/P, Payroll, Utility daily collections, and utility account bank drafts; reviewed credit card transactions on the general fund bank statement to verify proper receipts and supportive documents for auditing purposes; compiled key notes discussed at the Councils Strategic Workshop meeting for the City Manager; Managed on-going city communications updates via Facebook.*

Caron S. Vela

- *Caron Vela, Finance Director, reported for the month of July, General Fund Revenue of \$3,217,932 and expenses of \$2,591,424; totaling revenue over expenses of \$626,508. Utility Fund Revenue of \$1,324,279 and expenses of \$1,019,467; totaling revenue over expenses of \$304,812.*

9. City Council requests for future Agenda Items.

- *Councilman Israel Gonzales discussed the need to determine the meanings behind the communications siren glare to advertise to the public.*

10. Adjourn

With no further items to discuss, Mayor Pro Tem David Garcia requested a motion to adjourn the council meeting at 9:08 pm.

MOTION: Councilwoman Sandra Quinones motioned to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Isabel Rivera and the motion carried 4-0.

PASSED AND APPROVED ON THIS THE 11 DAY OF August, 2025

UPON THE MOTION OF Councilman Richard Salinas

SECONDED BY Councilman Israel Gonzales AND ADOPTED

BY A VOTE OF 3 TO 0.

ATTEST:


Ciri Villarreal, Mayor


Mary Acosta Gonzales, City Secretary