

Volume 8, Issue 1 March 2021

## PUBLIC FORUM – BOND ISSUE PRESENTATION

The City of Palm Valley will host a community meeting at the Harlingen Country Club on Monday, March 29th at 6:00 pm to make a presentation about the upcoming bond issue. A detailed report will be given. Mayor Rivera, the City Engineer, the City's Financial Advisors, the City's Bond Counsel, the City Attorney, and City staff will be in attendance either in person or via Zoom to answer questions about the proposed projects.

The Country Club has a capacity for 150 people in the main dining room, terrace room and patio. If capacity is reached, a second presentation will be given on Monday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm.

Social distancing will not be enforced, and masks will be optional. For those that prefer to participate via Zoom, please call City Hall at 956.423.8384 or email <a href="mailto:srtrevino@palmvalleytx.com">srtrevino@palmvalleytx.com</a> to receive a Zoom invite.





Lake #3 Drainage Improvement Update

The Improvements to Lake #3 began in February. Work to date includes installation of silt fencing and the removal of all trees. Currently, the contractor is filling in the eroded bank on the north side of the lake. We anticipate silt removal to begin after Easter.

### **Elections 2021**



This year the City will hold a General Election to elect one (1) Mayor, and two (2) Councilmembers. A Special Election will also be held to vote for or against the bond issue. The date of the election is Saturday, May 1, 2021 and will be conducted at City Hall. Early voting will also be conducted at City Hall on the designated dates and times.

# EARLY VOTING (by personal appearance) SCHEDULE CITY GENERAL & SPECIAL ELECTION MAY 1, 2021

For more information, please call City Hall at (956) 423-8384

Para mas informacion, por favor llame al City Hall (956) 423-8384

Monday	April 19, 2021	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday	April 20, 2021	8:00 a.m.– 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday	April 21, 2021	7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Thursday	April 22, 2021	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Friday	April 23, 2021	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Monday	April 26, 2021	7:00 a.m7:00 p.m.
Tuesday	April 27, 2021	8:00 a.m5:00 p.m.

## CITY OF PALM VALLEY RESIDENTS ONLY MUST BE A REGISTERED VOTER OF PRECINCT 80

Last day to register to vote in this election: April 1, 2021

Applications for a ballot by mail can be obtained from the City Secretary's office. However, the last day to receive an application from a voter delivered in person is April 16, 2021.

Last day to accept an application by mail is

## Governor's Order

City Hall continues to be closed to the general public and, thus, Council meetings are still closed. Council meetings will continue to be held via ZOOM until further notice. City Council agendas are always posted on the NextDoor Blog as well as on the City's website at <a href="www.palmvalleytx.com">www.palmvalleytx.com</a>
If at any time you are interested in attending a meeting via ZOOM, please email a request for an invite to <a href="mailto:srtrevino@palmvalleytx.com">srtrevino@palmvalleytx.com</a>
Once the meeting is set up a ZOOM invite will be emailed to you with all of the necessary information for you to log in.

Source: Texas Municipal League

## What is the status of the suspended Open Meetings Act provisions?

On Tuesday (January 5), the governor's office extended the Open Meetings Act suspensions for another 30 days. Previously, on March 16, the governor granted the office of the attorney general's request for suspension of certain open meeting statutes. The temporary suspension allows, among other things, for telephonic or videoconference meetings of governmental bodies that are accessible to the public in an effort to reduce in-person meetings that assemble large groups of people. The guidance associated with the suspension provides that: "These suspensions are in effect until terminated by the office of the governor, or until the March 13, 2020, disaster declaration is lifted or expires." The March 13 declaration has been extended for successive 30-day periods, including Monday's extension. That means the relevant open meetings laws remain suspended for at least another 30 days (or until affirmatively rescinded).

We still can't be certain, but it is highly likely that the governor will continue to repeatedly extend his declarations. We've heard from his staff that they have no immediate plans to rescind the suspensions, which are sensible and seem to be working well, but that can't be guaranteed.



## **Building Permits**

If you are doing any type of structural changes to your residence, you will have to submit a plan and pull a permit plus the necessary inspections will be required. If there is any change to any electrical or plumbing, this also requires that a permit be pulled followed with an inspection. Fees for all inspections are \$60.00. Permit fees varies on the type of construction. If you are in doubt of whether a permit is required or not, please contact City Hall at 423-8384.

"There shall be no construction or erection of any type of structure or manufacture of any kind, temporary or permanent, without obtaining a building permit from the City. Every person or entity shall make application for a building permit prior to the commencement of any type or kind of construction of any nature within the City and shall pay, therefore, the fees established. A permit shall be obtained if any existing structure is remodeled or rebuilt which involves any structural changes or additions to said structure" (excerpt from the Building Regulations ordinance)

The entire building regulations ordinance is located on the City's website at www.palmvalleytx.com in the Ordinances link at the top of the home page: "View Code" then click on Chapter 150.



## **BACKFLOW PREVENTERS**

Due to the recent freeze, it was brought to the City's attention that some of the backflow preventers throughout the City were damaged or broken. The City adopted Ordinance No. 2018-3 on March 20, 2018 that authorizes the City to do repairs on backflow preventers and add the repair or replacement charge to the water bill. If you have a backflow preventer in need of repair or replacement, due to the freeze the cost runs from \$350.00 - \$500.00 for a replacement and \$150.00 - \$350.00 for a repair fee. Please contact City Hall at 423-8384 and schedule an appointment for an onsite inspection of your damaged or broken device.





#### **Holidays**

April 1, 2021 April Fool's Day
April 2, 2021 Good Friday City Hall Closed
April 4, 2021 Easter Sunday
April 22, 2021 Earth Day



#### THE COUNCIL

Mayor: George Rivera
Mayor Pro-Tem: Michael Galvan
Councilmembers: Lisa Taylor, Jerry Wade, Cynthia
Thompson and Eric Hoff.

City Hall: 423-8384 Municipal Court: 423-8384 Police Dept: 873-1500

Water Services: 423-4040

City's Website: www.palmvalleytx.com

The next regular City Council meeting is scheduled for April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 6:00 p.m via Zoom.



