

**PALM VALLEY CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
May 12, 2021
(Replaced May 18, 2021, meeting)**

The City Council of the City of Palm Valley met in a Regular Meeting on the 12th day of May 2021 at 6:00 p.m. at 1313 N. Stuart Place Road, Palm Valley, Texas. Council members attended in person. (ZOOM videoconferencing was available for the public).

Council members present.
Mayor George Rivera
Councilman Michael Galvan
Councilwoman Cynthia Thompson
Councilman Eric Hoff
Councilman Jerry Wade

Present via ZOOM:
Councilwoman Lisa L. Taylor

Jason Mann, City Attorney (Via Zoom)

City Secretary: Sylvia R. Trevino (in person)

Staff present (all in person):
Chief A. R. Garcia
Rosendo Flores, Director of Public Works
Elsa Guajardo, Support Services Aide

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - The meeting was called to order by Mayor Rivera.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - The Pledge of Allegiance followed led by Mayor Rivera.
3. **LEGISLATIVE PRAYER** - Mayor Rivera offered a prayer submitted to him by Senator John Cornyn.
4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** – None
5. **OFFICIAL CANVASS OF ELECTION RESULTS FROM THE MAY 1, 2021, GENERAL ELECTION TO ELECT ONE (1) MAYOR AND (2) COUNCILMEMBERS.**

Mayor Rivera appointed Councilmembers Galvan and Wade to serve as the canvassing committee. The City Secretary presented the original tally sheets reflecting the results and the totals were confirmed by the Canvassing Committee.

6. RESOLUTION ADOPTED CANVASSING THE RETURNS AND DECLARING THE RESULTS OF THE CITY'S GENERAL ELECTION FOR ONE (1) MAYOR AND TWO (2) COUNCILMEMBERS

The results/totals canvassed are as follows:

George Rivera	Early Voting 111	Election Day 54	Total: 165
Lisa L. Taylor	Early Voting 115	Election Day 51	Total: 166
Eric Hoff	Early Voting 96	Election Day 38	Total: 134

Councilwoman Thompson made a motion to approve the resolution canvassing the results of the election.

Councilman Galvan seconded the motion.

Mayor Rivera took the votes and the motion carried unanimously by those present.

7. OATHS OF OFFICE ADMINISTERED AND STATEMENTS OF ELECTED OFFICIALS ISSUED

Justice of the Peace Eloy Cano administered the Oath of Office to all three incumbents/candidates.

8. OFFICIAL CANVASS OF ELECTION RESULTS FROM THE MAY 1, 2021, SPECIAL ELECTION TO VOTE FOR OR AGAINST PROPOSITION A:" THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$22,000,000 OF CITY OF PALM VALLEY, TEXAS GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS FOR WATERWORKS AND SEWER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS AND THE LEVYING OF A TAX IN PAYMENT THEREOF"

The Canvassing Committee confirmed the following votes:

For: 77
Against: 257

9. RESOLUTION ADOPTED CANVASSING THE RETURNS AND DECLARING THE RESULTS OF THE BOND ELECTION AND OTHER MATTERS IN CONNECTION THERE: PROPOSITION 'A'.

Councilwoman Taylor made a motion to approve the resolution.

Councilman Wade seconded the motion.

Mayor Rivera took the votes and the motion carried unanimously by those present.

10. APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR PRO TEM FOR 2021-22

Councilwoman Taylor made a motion to continue to keep Councilman Galvan as Mayor Pro Tem.

Councilman Hoff seconded the motion.

Mayor Rivera took the votes and the motion carried unanimously by those present.

- 11. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL – REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 16, 2021**
With no corrections to be made, Councilman Wade made a motion to approve the minutes as presented.

Councilwoman Thompson seconded the motion.

Mayor Rivera took the votes and the motion carried unanimously by those present.

(At approximately 6:16 p.m. Councilwoman Taylor exited from the meeting via ZOOM)

- 12. PERSONNEL POLICY REGARDING ACCRUED VACATION AMENDED**

Mayor Rivera commented that the policy has always been in place, however, it was not being enforced and the language submitted by the City Attorney will just further clarify the policy.

Councilwoman Thompson made a motion to approve the amended language to the policy as recommended by the City Attorney.

Councilman Wade seconded the motion.

Mayor Rivera took the votes and the motion carried unanimously by those present.

- 13. ACTION TAKEN REGARDING EMPLOYEES' ACCRUED VACATION FOR TWO WATER DEPT. EMPLOYEES**

Mayor Rivera commented that although the City does not have to pay these accruals, it is the right thing to do. In the Directors' defense he stated that he is always contacting the Directors even while they are on vacation, they are still on duty. He added that he has spoken to each Director, and they understand that this issue of accrued vacation will not occur again. Action still needs to be taken from this point on for any carryovers.

R. Flores has approximately 7 weeks for an amount due of \$7,045.51 and J. Flores has 281 hours for an amount due of \$3,681.10. Mayor Rivera commented that he is not suggesting paying it all at one time although there are funds available to pay out at this time. For the future, all employees will be signing a form that they understand what the new policy is and that only 40 hours will be allowed to be carried over only upon the Mayor's approval. The funds for these payouts will come from the Water Department general fund causing the budgeted salaries to be over budget.

Councilman Hoff made a motion to pay both employees in this fiscal year.

Councilman Wade seconded the motion.

Mayor Rivera took the votes and the motion carried unanimously by those present.

14, **PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD'S RENDERING/SCHEMATIC OF PROPOSED VETERANS MEMORIAL TO BE LOCATED ON POLO CIRCLE APPROVED AND BOARD AUTHORIZED TO PROCEED WITH SOLICITING BIDS FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT FOR FINAL APPROVAL BY THE CITY COUNCIL**

Councilman Galvan, Vice Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, commented that this project has been in the making for a long time and will be located on Polo Circle.

John Topp, Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, informed the Council that the Board approved the schematic at their last meeting. The schematic was done by Michael Alex, a local architect, at no cost to the City. The Building Inspector also reviewed the plans and noted some observations that were incorporated in the final design.

He added that local staff will do the striping of the parking lot and will pull out about three trees on the property. The flagpole and the flags can be done by the Parks Board.

Chairman Topp further explained the design which was provided in the agenda packets. He stated that if the Council approves, he can then proceed to solicit bids, submit to the Board, and then present to the Council for their final approval. Donations will be sought for the pavers.

Chairman Topp stated that if the project does not exceed \$50,000 no formal bids are required. He added that the starting budget for this project is \$6,200.

Councilman Hoff stated that such a project was undertaken by the City of La FERIA and they would be a good resource to tap into.

Councilman Hoff made a motion to accept the schematic and allow the Parks Board to proceed to obtain quotes for the project.

Councilwoman Thompson seconded the motion.

Mayor Rivera took the votes and the motion carried unanimously by those present.

15. CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. MAYOR'S AND CITY SECRETARY'S ATTENDANCE TO THE TEXAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE WORKSHOP IN SOUTH PADRE ISLAND ON MAY 17-18, 2021, APPROVED.
- B. Police Monthly Report – April 2021
- C. Municipal Court Report - April 2021
- D. Monthly Investment Report – April 2021
- E. Monthly Financial Report – April 2021
- F. Monthly Check Listings – April 2021
- G. Council/staff liaison reports

Mayor Rivera reminded the cybersecurity training that is due June 15, 2021.

Mayor Rivera also reported that he is still waiting on the final word regarding the American Relief Act funding to the city.

There being no further business, Councilman Wade made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Councilman Galvan seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously by those present.



George Rivera, Mayor

Attest:



Sylvia R. Trevino, City Secretary