

**PALM VALLEY CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
February 10, 2021**

The City Council of the City of Palm Valley met in a Special Meeting on the 10th day of February 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 (VIA ZOOM):

Mayor George Rivera
Councilman Michael Galvan
Councilwoman Cynthia Thompson
Councilwoman Lisa Taylor
Councilman Eric Hoff
Councilman Jerry Wade

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** - The Legislative Prayer was led by Councilman Hoff.
4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** – None
5. **ORDINANCE ADOPTED CALLING/ORDERING A BOND ELECTION FOR MAY 1, 2021 TO BE HELD IN THE CITY OF PALM VALLEY, TEXAS**

Mayor Rivera commented that this action tonight is historic. This will determine the future of the City by selling bonds to make the City's water and sewer system improvements that are necessary.

Councilwoman Taylor affirmed that action by the Council is to pass the ordinance to allow citizens to vote on the issuance of bonds for the necessary improvements. The citizens will decide and also then decide how to pay for the improvements. This will require the need to 'educate' the citizens on the bond issue.

Mayor Rivera explained that yes, that is correct. The proposition to issue \$22 million in bonds will be up to the voters to decide. He added that the Council will decide on March 16 what the best funding option should be if the bond issue is voted on favorably.

Councilwoman Thompson asked if there will be opportunities to educate the citizens. The answer was yes. Mayor Rivera stated that as much information that is necessary will be distributed to the citizens for them to make an informed decision. A survey will also be distributed to the

residents for them to decide what the best funding option should be. The survey results will be on the agenda for March 16.

Matt Lee, financial advisor, commented that based on the most current legislation regarding bond issues and based on rates today, the numbers are only an estimate as of February 10, 2021. Tonight's action is only to authorize proceeding forward with an election on May 1, 2021. If the bond issue passes it authorizes the Council to issue bonds for \$22 million over a period but it does not have to issue the entire amount, but it could be up to \$22 million.

Mayor Rivera stated that the City is prepared to provide as much data as possible for the voters to make an intelligent decision. The City, however, cannot tell the citizens to vote for or against the bond issue but it is the City's responsibility to issue as much information and data as is necessary. Mayor Rivera added that he will also be hosting small public forums.

Councilman Galvan questioned if the bond issue would include the streets. David Flinn, City Engineer, replied that only that section, which is 6 ft wide for the trenching underground would be replaced.

Donna Theall, a local resident, asked what the result at the end of 10 years would be because you just do not buy bonds and forget about them.

Mayor Rivera explained that if the voters approve the bond issue, then the Council goes out and borrow the money and it is repaid through an increase in property taxes. Mayor Rivera offered to meet with Mrs. Theall to explain the issue further.

Councilman Wade made a motion to adopt the ordinance calling a bond election for May 1, 2021 in the amount of \$22,000,000.

Councilman Galvan seconded the motion and the motion carried by the following votes:

Aye: Wade, Galvan, Thompson, Taylor

Nay: None

Abstained: None

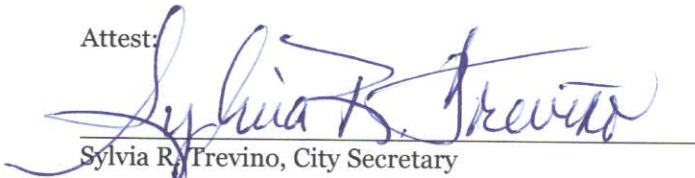
(Note: Councilman Hoff was not present during the vote).

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:23 p.m. upon a motion by Councilman Galvan and a second by Councilwoman Thompson.



George Rivera, Mayor

Attest:



Sylvia R. Trevino, City Secretary