

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF McCULLOCH

CITY OF BRADY

The City Council of the City of Brady, Texas recessed budget work session on 7/17/23 to reconvene at 5:00 p.m. on July 18, 2023 with Mayor Aaron Garcia presiding. Council Members present were Missi Elliston, Larry Land, Gabe Moreno, Jeffrey Sutton and Felix Gomez, Jr. City staff present were City Manager Erin Corbell, Public Works Director Steven Miller, Finance Director Lisa McElrath, and City Secretary Tina Keys.

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL & CERTIFICATION OF A QUORUM

Mayor Garcia called the meeting to order at 5:08 p.m. Council quorum was certified.

2. CONTINUE BUDGET WORK SESSIONS FROM 7/10/23

Lisa McElrath thanked the council for their honesty and feedback during this process.

Mayor Garcia said we didn't agree to construct an animal control facility. What is the answer? What is the solution?. Erin said they are moving funds around and the vet recommended trying a stronger disinfectant than we are using. We don't have a long-term fix. Council Member Elliston asked if we need to give them a bigger budget. Erin said we worked some of that into the base budget. They will be able to purchase a huge 55 gallon drum of disinfectant. Mayor Garcia said this is going to continue to be an issue and we will have to figure it out at some point. Mayor Garcia asked how much we now have available that we could spend. Council Member Elliston asked about the amounts that were not approved at the 6% raise. Lisa said it was a total of \$15,000 spread across several funds. It's more trouble than it's worth to adjust the numbers. The General Fund was about \$5,000. Erin has the directive not to approve the additional raises, so that will not happen. So, there should be \$118,000 available in the general fund. Council Member Land also asked about animal control that was turned down. Council Member Land asked how long ago it was the offer to purchase other facility for \$150,000. Erin said in March. Council Member Elliston said the seller is at \$192,000 plus \$50k-60k to renovate. We could spend that much for a new facility. Lisa said the funding wasn't discussed. It's not in the budget, not even for that. Council Member Land said we know where we are at with the situation, what are the ideas to get it fixed. Erin said she looked into grants. We will keep doing what we can until the state forces us to do something. Council Member Moreno and Mayor Garcia asked about the \$113,000 that is left. Lisa said the two reports that she handed out, the second is the fund balance adequacy report. Lisa reviewed with council. Erin said she doesn't have estimate for Municipal Court roof, but he said it could be repaired. She asked him to email her all the options. Lisa said there is zero money for the roof right now. Lisa said in Sept or Oct, we will go back to council to roll over project funds that were not complete. We can tell then if there will be extra funds and we can see if we have the funds for the roof. Mayor Garcia said there is \$113,000 left but we may need to use that for animal control and to fix roof. Council Member Elliston asked about the EDC paying back half of civic center loan, how much that is. Erin said \$330,000. Council Member Elliston said we may be able to use those funds for animal control. Mayor Garcia asked about the child welfare board. Council Member Elliston would love to keep that in but if we can't, she understands. Council Member Moreno said if we do it for that organization, we have to do it for other organizations. Council Member Elliston said she understands that, but we have programs for the seniors, baseball, parks, etc. We have a whole meal program for seniors for \$100,000 a year. Lisa said there has to be an interlocal agreement. The city has to receive benefit to give to an organization. There are laws that have to be followed. Council Member Elliston asked what we benefit in the senior center. Lisa said that's an established program that we actually run. Council Member Elliston said we put it in last year to implement every year. Lisa said she did put \$2,500 in the base budget. Lisa said Erin needs to bring an interlocal agreement and council can

vote for or against. Council Member Moreno asked about EDC funds. Erin said EDC funds are to help create jobs. Council Member Elliston said the funds have already been approved. We just need to honor the obligation we made last year.

Erin said the Luhr water project funds are approved for just under \$800,000 in EDAP funds. Steven Miller said Keith Kindle has been very helpful for Brady. Mayor Garcia asked if we already hired them as our engineer. Miller said no, they did this work, but eH/T is hoping to be the engineer. Lisa went over the funds that were moved from the water fund into the water construction fund.

Council Member Land thanked Lisa for making the budget process easy.

Mayor Garcia thanked Erin, Lisa, Tina and Valerie. Mayor Garcia said he knows it's challenging to teach the new people and said he appreciates all the work that went into it.

Erin said on the payroll, we adjusted down to the 3% so we are reallocating people in line with their job description. Customer service rep is being made a lead customer service rep. There are two others that are being adjusted to get them to where they need to be on the step program.

Lisa wanted to make sure everyone is in sync with those approvals or if there is anything else. Mayor Garcia asked if Erin gets an email tomorrow on the repairs, can we approve that? Erin said we would probably need to amend the budget. Lisa said if we could get it tomorrow, they may be able to work with it.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Garcia closed the meeting at 5:52 p.m.



Aaron Garcia, Mayor

Attest: 

Tina Keys, City Secretary