

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF McCULLOCH

CITY OF BRADY

The City Council of the City of Brady, Texas met in a Regular Meeting on Tuesday August 15, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. 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, Police Chief Randy Batten, City Attorney Sharon Hicks and City Secretary Tina Keys. Other City employees in attendance were Manny Perez, Danny Galindo, Marty Martin, Joe Solis, Kristie Martin, Connie Echols, and Letha Moore. Also in attendance were Lisa Moreno, Fernando Nandin, Keith Kindle, Charles Bush, Tim Walker, Daniel Mendoza, Lisa Selensky, and Tony Groves.

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

Mayor Garcia called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m. Council quorum was certified.

2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Land gave the invocation, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Fernando Nandin said he has some concerns. He has offered his services as a contractor. He raised his family here. He helped form many non-profits in Brady. Some are concerned that people will be retaliated against if they speak up against the code department. He also has issues with permitting department. There were vast differences in costs. A house has been on septic since it was built, but has been charged sewer. That is not fair.. Inspections are being done strangely with a cell phone on face time. This is not a fair inspection. We need a qualified physical person in person to do inspections. Also, automobiles parked on private property. The city is targeting the people who don't have jobs or money. Those people can barely afford food. There are cars in upscale neighborhoods that have been there 30 years or more. It's ok for those prominent people. The city has no right to climb fences to see what's in their backyard. And inspectors have no right to enter someone's home without consent.

Tim Walker said he wants to put forth an idea for a future meeting, creating a committee for our golf course to address issues. He met with golf superintendent today regarding the water issue. They looked at the sprinklers. There are a lot that are broken. A lot of them line the fairways. If we had adequate water, it would be great. Timers are set to stop dirt from cracking. Half of what they are watering is roads and rocks. It's a simple fix. He has a detailed plan to show to council. They have volunteers to help.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Minutes for Regular Meeting on August 1, 2023

Council Member Elliston moved to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Council Member Gomez. All council members voted "aye" and none "nay". Motion passed with a 5 – 0 vote.

5. PRESENTATIONS:

There were no presentations

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND INDIVIDUAL CONCERNS ON PUBLIC HEARING

There were no public hearings.

7. INDIVIDUAL CONCERNS

- A. Discussion, consideration and possible action on a resolution to request financial assistance from the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) Economically Distressed Areas Program (EDAP) to provide in an amount

not to exceed \$2,500,000 for the costs of planning, design and construction for the replacement of water lines, including the restoration of residential service connections and the addition of new fire hydrants and related asphalt repair; to authorize the officers, staff and consultants to file an application and other documents for financial participation in the program; and making certain finding in connection therewith. Steven Miller introduced Keith Kindle with Enprotech Hibbs & Todd who reviewed project with Council. Council Member Sutton moved to approve Resolution 2023-012, a request for funding in an amount not to exceed \$2,500,000 through TWDB and its EDAP. Seconded by Council Member Moreno. All Council Members voted “aye” and none “nay”. Motion passed with a 5 – 0 vote.

- B. REMOVE FROM THE TABLE: Council Member Elliston moved to remove item from the table. Seconded by Council Member Sutton. All Council Members voted “aye” and none “nay”. Motion passed with a 5 – 0 vote. Discussion, consideration and possible action regarding the City’s employee insurance benefit package for FY 2024. Erin Corbell presented. Mayor Garcia said he understands there was a meeting with staff today. Erin Corbell said she called the meeting. Mayor Garcia said what the staff does is invaluable to us and the City, and as long as he’s here and has a say, staff won’t lose any benefits. It will be a long and drawn-out fight for our employees to take away benefits. He wanted to apologize for any confusion or rumors. Mayor Garcia said he is available to any employees at any time and thanked staff for what they do and for coming out tonight. Council Member Elliston said unfortunately we’re in a changing world where benefits are going to have to change at some point. Erin Corbell said we had some high loss ratios in the past, so council went with a plan that had higher deductibles to decrease rates. Our loss ratio has now declined. Council Member Elliston said she wouldn’t ever support taking away benefits. Mayor Garcia said the proposed plan is cheaper with better benefits. Council Member Moreno said there should be a workshop to go review benefits. Council Member Moreno said they were told we were saving money, but it’s not comparing apples to apples. Council Member Moreno said he’s glad the supervisors are here. We’re here to get answers. We’re here to make tough decisions. Erin Corbell asked Kristie Martin to get the insurance rep on the phone, but Council Member Moreno said he didn’t want a phone call. Council Member Elliston said she understands it’s for 3 years. Erin said the health goes out for bid every year. Council Member Elliston said she is concerned our rates will go up next year. Erin asked Council Member Elliston if she is concerned because the deductible is low, employees will use the insurance more. Erin said if we can make it affordable to our employees to take care of themselves with preventative health care, it will help. Council Member Sutton said the job for council is to be the mediator between money and employees and to make sure they get the best for the least. Mayor Garcia said our citizens elected us to oversee. One of the perks as an entity is the ability to provide great health insurance and we should do that. It’s one of our great benefits. Council Member Elliston said she thinks there could be options to choose from. Council Member Gomez said we had no clue what we were looking at during the last meeting. We’re just trying to figure out where our money is going. He said they know the employees work hard. Council Member Moreno said he would like to sit with the individual who set this up. It’s a lot of money. Council Member Moreno said he would like to table again and set up a workshop. There’s a bunch of different options that we can do. Tim Walker said he is an insurance broker. Normally when someone is looking at what they spend on healthcare you have to see if you’re competitive in the marketplace. A lot of times, companies will offer multiple plans. We can offer them to pay 100% for one plan or a buy up plan for another plan. Erin Corbell asked if next Friday works for everyone. Council Member Land said he is in favor of really good insurance for our employees. Council Member Moreno moved to table. Seconded by Council Member Elliston. All Council Members voted “aye” and none “nay”. Motion passed with a 5 – 0 vote.

- C. Discuss and conduct a record vote FOR or AGAINST the proposed 2023 tax rate.
In a record vote FOR or AGAINST a proposed 2023 tax rate being the “no new revenue” tax rate calculated by MCAD Chief Appraiser Zane Brandenberger as of 8-8-2023 at \$0.342220 cents pr \$100 of value.:

Missi Elliston	For
Larry Land	For
Gabe Moreno	For
Felix Gomez	For
Jeffrey Sutton	For

All Council Members voted “aye” and none “nay”. Motion passed with a 5 – 0 vote.

- D. Discussion, consideration and possible action regarding City board appointments to fill vacancies. For consideration: Missi Elliston, Lisa Selensky. Council Member Moreno moved to appoint Selensky and Elliston. Seconded by Council Member Gomez. All Council Members voted “aye” and none “nay”. Motion passed with a 5 – 0 vote.

8. STAFF REPORTS

A. Monthly Financial / Utility Reports

B. Monthly Activity Reports: Seniors, Golf, BPD, Fire-EMS Calls, BVFD Expense Report, Animal Control, Airport, Code Enforcement, Municipal Court

C. Upcoming Special Events/Meetings:

August 16	BISD first day of school
Sept 1 st – 3 rd	49 th Annual World Championship BBQ Goat Cook-off, Richards Park
September 4	Labor Day Holiday, City Offices closed, Altered trash schedule
September 5	Regular City Council Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
September 19	Regular City Council Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
October 3	Regular City Council Meeting – TIME TBD
October 3	National Night Out
October 4 – 6	TML Conference, Dallas – Early Registration Ends August 24th

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The City Council of the City of Brady adjourned into Executive Session for the following:

- Pursuant to Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), the City Council will consult with the City Attorney about pending or contemplated litigation or on a matter in which the duty of the attorney to the City under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with the Texas Open Meetings Act:
- Pursuant to Section 551.072 (Deliberations about Real Property), the City Council will deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real properties of the City as the deliberation in an open meeting will have detrimental effect on the position of the City in negotiations with a third person: G. Rollie White Facility and 480 acres at Brady Lake

Regular session was recessed at 7:04 p.m. Executive Session was opened at 7:14 p.m. and closed at 7:57 p.m. Regular Session resumed at that time.

11. OPEN SESSION ACTION ON ANY ITEMS COMING OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

No action was taken as a result of Executive Session

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Garcia adjourned the meeting at 7:58 p.m.



Aaron Garcia, Mayor

Attest: 

Tina Keys, City Secretary