

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, March 18, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Pro Tem Elliston presiding. Council Members present were Missi Elliston, Gabe Moreno, Terry Phillips and Felix Gomez. City staff present were City Manager James Stewart, Interim City Manager Barbara Holly, Finance Director Lisa McElrath, Public Works Director Steven Miller, Police Chief Randy Batten, Police Patrol Officer Garrett McDonald, Fire Chief Lloyd Perrin, Streets Superintendent Manny Perez, Golf Superintendent R. S. Bush, City Attorney Sharon Hicks, and City Secretary Tina Keys. Also in attendance were Charles Hodges, James Griffin, Daniel Mendoza, Curtis Owens, Charles Bush, Robert Klem, and Casey Long.

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

Mayor Pro Tem Elliston called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Council quorum was certified.

2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Minutes for March 4, 2025 Regular Session and March 6, 2025 Special Session
- B. Discussion, consideration and possible action regarding approval of **Resolution 2025-011** to request TxDOT / City street closures for the 98th Annual **July Jubilee Parade** to be held on Saturday, July 5, 2025
- C. Discussion, consideration and possible action regarding approval of **Resolution 2025-012** to request TxDOT / City street closures for the 98th Annual **July Jubilee Street Dance** to be held on Saturday, July 5, 2025.
- D. Discussion, consideration and possible action regarding approval of a **noise variance** as requested by the Brady/McCulloch County Chamber of Commerce in downtown Brady for the **July Jubilee Street Dance** to be held on July 5, 2025.

Council Member Phillips moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Council Member Moreno. All Council Members voted “aye” and none “nay”. Motion passed with a 4 – 0 vote.

5. PRESENTATIONS:

- Pavement Conditions Index Street Map – Steven Miller presented to Council.
- Fire / EMS Annual Report & discussion regarding rates for emergency & non-emergency services by fire department for personnel, supplies and equipment – Chief Perrin presented to Council

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND INDIVIDUAL CONCERNS ON PUBLIC HEARING

There were no public hearings.

7. INDIVIDUAL CONCERNS

- A. Discussion, consideration and possible action to award the purchase of one (1) P5 DuraPatcher One Operator Truck from Cimline, Inc. of Minneapolis, MN in the amount of \$314,620.00 or an alternate Rosco

RA400 Patcher a One Operator Patch Truck from Closner Equipment Co. of Manor TX in the amount of \$287,055. Lisa McElrath presented. Lisa said council asked staff to bring back information on the P5 truck. In researching to get most current pricing, our purchasing agent reaches out to more than one source. The PF is under Sourcewell that Simline is associated with, but we also got another bid from another company off of Buyboard. Steven Miller, Street Superintendent Manny Perez and Purchasing Agent Taylor Hoffpaur looked at both products and thought they looked very comparable. This is quite a bit cheaper than the P5 model. Steven Miller spoke with a individual Jasper County, GA use uses the machine and also found council minutes from Quebec. There are competitors to the P5. We were tied to the P5 because that was really the only bid we received. When we went out again, this product came up at a better price. They are equal equipment. The gentleman in Jasper had several and they're all doing what he wants them to do. It's comparing apples to apples. Council Member Phillips said we're good with saving money if we don't have to give something up. Mayor Pro Tem Elliston asked Miller if he's comfortable with this different model. Miller said from everything he learned, they're the same. This one is more price competitive. Council Member Moreno moved to award the purchase of one (1) One-Operator Patch Truck to Closner Equipment Co. for \$287,055. Seconded by Council Member Gomez. All Council Members voted "aye" and none "nay". Motion passed with a 4 – 0 vote.

- B. Discussion, consideration and possible action regarding approval of Resolution 2025-002 to enter into a finance contract with Government Capital for the purpose of procuring (1) DuraPatch Truck \$314,620). Item was not considered since other truck was approved in item A.
- C. Discussion, consideration and possible action regarding approval of Resolution 2025-002 to enter into a finance contract with Government Capital for the purpose of procuring (1) Rosco RA400 Patcher Truck (\$287,055). Lisa McElrath presented. Council Member Gomez moved to approve Resolution 2025-002 to enter into a finance contact with Government Capital Corporation for a total amount not to exceed \$287,055. Seconded by Council Member Moreno. All Council Members voted "aye" and none "nay". Motion passed with a 4 – 0 vote.
- D. Discussion, consideration and possible action regarding approval of Resolution 2025-009 to enter into a finance contract with Government Capital Corporation (GCC) for the purpose of procuring (2) Water Utility trucks (\$132,483.50). Lisa McElrath presented and said Council approved the purchase at the last meeting. Council Member Phillips moved to approve Resolution 2025-009 to enter into a finance contract with Government Capital Corporation for a total principal amount not to exceed \$132,483.50. Seconded by Council Member Gomez. All Council Members voted "aye" and none "nay". Motion passed with a 4 – 0 vote.
- E. Discussion, consideration and possible action regarding approval of Resolution 2025-010 to enter into a finance contract with Government Capital Corporation (GCC) for the purpose of procuring (12) sets of fire service Bunker Gear (\$49,564.47). Lisa McElrath presented. Council Member Gomez moved to approve Resolution 2025-010 to enter into a finance contract with Government Capital Corporation for a total principal amount not to exceed \$49,654.47. Seconded by Council Member Phillips. All Council Members voted "aye" and none "nay". Motion passed with a 4 – 0 vote.

- F. Discussion, consideration and possible action to approve the Brady Golf Association request for HOT funds in the amount of \$5,000. Daniel Mendoza presented. Council Member Moreno moved to approve request. Seconded by Council Member Gomez. All Council Members voted “aye” and none “nay”. Motion passed with a 4 – 0 vote.
- G. Discussion, consideration and possible action regarding the **first reading of Ordinance 1392** of the City of Brady, Texas amending Section 12.03.001 of the City of Brady Code of Ordinances replacing “traffic engineer” with “City police chief”, deleting “subject to the approval of council” and adding “an annual reporting of new traffic control signs, signals and devices will be presented to the city council”. Barbara Holly presented and said this will allow the police chief to change street signs. There have been a series of accidents where yield signs could have been prevented with stop signs. Council Member Elliston moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance 1392. Seconded by Council Member Moreno. All Council Members voted “aye” and none “nay”. Motion passed with a 4 – 0 vote.
- H. Discussion, consideration and possible action for a \$20,000 change order submitted by Eikon to accommodate design changes requested by City Council. James Stewart said he and Barbara Holly had a virtual meeting today with Eikon. They’re requesting additional \$20,000 to move to the next phase. James Stewart said he and Barbara are working out several details. The next phase has to do with surveying. With the plans approved in January, they were developing a combined connected facility on this lot. James Stewart said he and Barbara as well as the fire chief and police chief met today to get caught up. This is continuing with the path set in January. Mayor Pro Tem Elliston said we discussed not connecting fire and police. Council Member Phillips said he thought they were not connected initially due to police security issues. Chief Batten said if they touch their building, they have to get it back to Code. Chief Batten said he suggests having fire not connected then worry about PD later. Barbara Holly said the agreement in October said they would be combined, then council said they don’t want them combined. We need a topographical survey. There is a 10 foot fall across it. James Stewart said they have a plan to work with them and make sure we get what we want. Approving the change order will allow us to do it. This is number one on the priority list, but he’s not going to just give them the money. He will make sure it’s being done right. Council Member Moreno moved to approve \$20,000 change order. Seconded by Council Member Elliston All Council Members voted “aye” and none “nay”. Motion passed with a 4 – 0 vote.
- I. Discussion, consideration and possible action on hiring freeze for City of Brady new employees and new positions. Council Member Gomez said we’ve talked about this in previous budgets. This has been over a year that they thought they had a hiring freeze. James Stewart said currently we have two openings in police and one opening in PPM and those were in the budget approved last year. There have been no additional hirings. There was a position where somebody left, and somebody was hired to replace that position. Mayor Pro Tem Elliston said their intent was when somebody leaves, let’s see if those duties can be divided up with other departments. James Stewart said we’re working within the confines of the budget and said he thinks citizens will think the city is in trouble when they hear hiring freeze. It raises red flags. Mayor Pro Tem Elliston said they’re trying to cut needless spending. James said he understands council wants a more efficient way. Council Member Moreno said this came up when we did the budget in 2023.

It was understood that they did say that. The misconception was when the old city manager asked for a clarification for essential and non-essential workers. There was always a hiring freeze from that budget. Council Member Gomez asked where did that change. If there's an understanding, that's the way it should be. Council feels like they gave a directive and it was not followed. He does not want to micromanage. This was voted on. There was a hiring freeze. Mayor Pro Tem Elliston said citizens should not be alarmed. We are trying to spend their dollars as efficiently as we can. The biggest overhead is staff so the more efficient we can be with that, the better it is for the citizen to avoid rate increases or tax increases. Mayor Pro Tem Elliston said we need to be clear what a hiring freeze includes and does not include. Fire, PD and EMS were essential. Anything else was to be brought to council. James Stewart said if an employee leaves you want it to go to council to see if they can be replaced? Mayor Pro Tem Elliston said it's to see if those duties can be assigned to somebody else. James said that's what you have a city manager for. Mayor Pro Tem Elliston said we've had issues where a higher paid employee leaves, the replacement with less experience starts with the same salary as the previous person. Council Member Phillips said we're trying to improve efficiency and avoid any waste. Mayor Pro Tem Elliston said the city manager can visit with council and they will tell him if he can replace that person. James Stewart said it's his job to improve efficiency and avoid waste. Council Member Moreno moved to implement a hiring freeze that will be revisited at budget on new positions and replacement positions except first responders; fire, police and EMS. Seconded by Council Member Gomez. All Council Members voted "aye" and none "nay". Motion passed with a 4 – 0 vote.

- J. Discussion and status of water grant for water well to golf course. James Stewart said we are waiting for TWDB to put us on their agenda to hear if we have been approved for well grant. We're at the mercy of the TWDB. Council Member Moreno said we agreed to match \$400,000 for this grant. Lisa McElrath said yes. Council Member Moreno asked if there was a time frame. Lisa said no; we submitted the application and all of the documents they requested. It's now a matter of TWDB reviewing and awarding these grants. Steven Miller said we reached out eHT for the Rural Water Assistance Fund. We rose to the top for consideration. The fund is being awarded to cities. We are not on the agenda yet. Keith Kindle said he thinks it will be a few months.
- K. Discussion and status of new fire station. James Stewart said it was discussed earlier. That's where we are. This is going to be a challenge. He does not want to waste money and he wants us to get us something workable.
- L. Discussion and status of Brady Lake boat ramp plan and extension. James Stewart said he spent time on the lake and with Steve Morgan. There is a temporary launch location. It's quite effective. He went fishing last week. It's the south side of the main boat ramp. About a hundred feet down. It's a rocky not steep solid bottom. You don't need 4-wheel drive. We're working on information about a temporary modification; we have samples of mats. It's a porous plastic mat designed for pedestrian walkways or the other can go at the end of a boat ramp that would keep the boat or trailer from sinking in. The north side ramp could be used if we needed it, but he doesn't know that it's necessary. James said they're going to do some Garmin mapping of the bottom of the lake near the ramps. The main boat ramp backs up to a creek and you get to the point where the trailer will actually fall off if someone uses that ramp. Council Member Moreno asked James if he looked at the swimming area and said there is no sand at all. James said he will

check into sand. Council Member Gomez said he thought council agreed to explore bids to extend the existing ramps. Barbara Holly said there is a RFQ out right now. These samples handed out to council are temporary measures that are not expensive. Council Member Gomez said we’re already in the spring. People are already wanting to fish. We’re going to take a big hit this year. James said Steve Morgan is going to clear out that area; it’s usable. We talked about temporary signage directing people to the boat ramp. There’s not a lot of room. It’s workable but it’s not ideal. Council Member Moreno asked if there is an item on the agenda if we can have a supervisor at the meeting. James said yes. He told Steve Morgan that he didn’t need to be here because James had all the info.

- M. Discussion and status of Brady Lake small bathroom near pavilion repairs and upgrades. James referred council to photos on the screen and said there are new commodes, new sinks, paint, fixed the hole. Council Member Gomez asked if the plumbing issues were fixed. Mayor Pro Tem Elliston said that’s on a septic. Steven Miller said it might be as simple as pumping our tank. James Stewart said he would check and get back with council. Council Member Gomez said we have talked about these things over and over and there’s no solution. Daniel Mendoza asked what happened to Keep Brady Beautiful that could help with these things. Mayor Pro Tem said they disband it. Daniel said he wrote a letter for them to receive a grant. He emailed it to Sylvia. Daniel said they were only taking volunteers that worked for the City. James said he will find out.
- N. Discussion, consideration and possible action on Brady Creek clean up. Council Member Moreno said the creek is low so he wanted to discuss if we could go in and clean it up since it’s so low; cut branches and leaves, clean up. James said he instructed Steve Morgan to schedule a day to pull logs and anything like that out. Council Member Moreno said the dam has a crack in it. James will look into it.

8. STAFF REPORTS

- A. **Upcoming Special Events/Meetings:**
- 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:**

April 1	Regular City Council Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
April 15	Regular City Council Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
April 18	Good Friday Holiday, City Offices Closed, Altered Trash Schedule
April 23	HAPPY BIRTHDAY MISSI ELLISTON
May 6	Regular City Council Meeting, 6:00 p.m. – reception for outgoing council members / swearing in of new council members

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 551.074 (Personnel Matters) City Council will meet to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of a public officer or employee: City Manager / Interim City Manager contract & duties
- 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 the detrimental effect on the position of the City in negotiations with a third person: Police Station / Fire Station / G. Rollie White

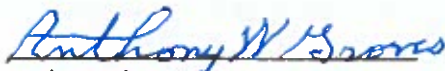
Regular Session was recessed at 7:29 p.m. Executive Session opened at 7:24 p.m. and closed at 8:13 p.m.
Regular Session resumed at 8:13.

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

There was no action as a result of Executive Session.

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Groves adjourned the meeting at 8:14 p.m.


Anthony Groves, Mayor

Attest: 
Tina Keys, City Secretary