

**Michael Henry
Mayor-Elect**

**Don Hall
Mayor**

**Jackie Muckleroy
City Secretary**

City of Tatum
680 Crystal Farms Road
P.O. Box 1105
Tatum, TX 75691
(903)-803-3580

City Council
Tate Smith – Pro-Tem

Greggory Cole

Robin Palmer

J.R. Smith

Wendell Moore

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

May 13, 2024

5:30 pm

At 5:30, the meeting was called to order by Mayor, Pro-Tem, Tate Smith. All Council Members were present. Mayor Don Hall was not present.

Mayor Pro-Tem Tate canvassed the results of the May 4th City Officers Election returns. The May 4th City Officers Election returns were canvassed and the results were:

For Mayor:	Michael Henry	124
	Don Hall	61
Alderman 1	JR Smith	105
	Jonathan Knapp	73
Alderman 2	Wendell Moore(uncontested)	138

Mr. JR Smith moved to approve the 2024 election returns for May 4, 2024.

The motion was seconded by Wendell Moore and all voted in favor.

City Secretary, Jackie Muckleroy, administered the Certification of Election and Oath of Office to Mayor-Elect Mayor, Michael Henry.

Mayor, Michael Henry was sworn in and it was witnessed by Council and citizens of Tatum, TX who were in attendance at the meeting.

Discussion and Motion: Approve last month's minutes and checks written for the City of Tatum. JR Smith moved to approve the motion and it was seconded by Wendell Moore and all were in favor.

OLD BUSINESS:

George Huffman: Revisit request to reassign land previously gifted to the City of Tatum.

Mr. Huffman says only interested in this land and has provided a survey as we requested in the Feb Council meeting. Mayor Henry was present during this meeting. Terrazas asked him if he would like his kids to grow up next to this? Terrazas will send his survey in to this office. Said that Lindley survey was old work.

Randy Randolph (citizen) spoke up and said ordinance was passed that there will be no drilling on this land. Lawyer for Huffman said in 1914, the city was supposed to build a park and never did. He stated that it was not on the tax roll and Mr. Huffman wants it back.

Gregg Cole made a motion to table and it was seconded by Wendell Moore. All in favor.

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NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion & Motion: To begin the process to remove a city councilman due to unethical and illegal actions.

Wendell Moore made a motion to begin the process and it was seconded by Councilman JR Smith.

Wendell informed audience that Palmer provided private conversations taken during executive session to previous Secretary, Leticia Poindexter.

Mr. Wendell Moore moved to approve this motion for consideration of whether Councilman Palmer should remain on the council due to unethical and illegal actions on his part. Mr. Moore provided the council with a copy of a text message sent to a previous employee of the City of Tatum; allegedly divulging information discussed during an executive session.

Mr. Palmer disputed this and stated that what he presented to the employee was centered around a diversity issue that should have been brought to the attention of the Dept. Head/HR.

Mr. Palmer stated that he did not do anything illegal or unethical.

Mr. Wendell Moore said divulging information in executive session was unethical. Mr. JR Smith asked why was his name even mentioned in the text?

Mr. Moore stated that didn't trust Mr. Palmer any longer as a council member because could not be trusted not to divulge private conversations during executive sessions.

Tate Smith asked audience to keep it down.

Mr. Palmer stated that Mayor Hall called him to his office and inquired if he had been talking with Tish via text. Robin said if you ask a question, I won't lie. Why couldn't this matter be brought to my attention personally, like a man vs in front of the council and citizens. He went on to state that this was a personal vendetta.

Tate smith moved to table this item for a future meeting and this seconded by JR Smith.

Discussion and Motion: Approve new computer, monitor and docking station for Mayor Henry

Gregg Cole made a motion to approve this item and it was seconded by Tate Smith. All in favor.

Discussion and Motion: Mr. Victor Terrazas

- Purchase of parcel #32009, owned by the City of Tatum
- Neighbors drilling

Mr. Terrazas expressed concern regarding drilling on property located in parcel #32009. He

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Stated that this was attempted some years ago, but was halted due to city ordinances prohibiting drilling within 500 feet in city limits. He also stated that per his survey this drilling, if allowed, would encroach upon his property and be in violation of city ordinance. Mr. Terrazas would like to prevent them from drilling within a mile of his home or any home in the city. He would like the council to weigh in on this and support him and his neighbors. He has contacted environmental lawyers. He indicated that if the city will allow him to purchase the land, that he would be willing to donate it back to the city to build a city park. He expressed concern about the environmental issues this would cause, particularly regarding the health of the citizens. He is concerned that it would cause birth defects, cancer and even death, not just now but even 20 years from now. Expressed concern for our future citizens.

Mr. Huffman was asked to come forward to explain his request for this same property that Mr. Terrazas was addressing. Mr. Huffman provided an updated survey (which was requested during a previous council meeting) from the council. Mr. Huffman explained that this property was needed for access. Mr. Terrazas chimed in and stated that there was another access point he could use to his property. Mr. Terrazas also asked if Mr. Huffman would want drilling to occur next to his house or that of his children or family? Mr. Terrazas will provide survey to council at a future council meeting.

Tate Smith motioned to table this item and JR Smith moved to second this motion. All in Favor

Discussion and Motion to: Discuss, plan and approve repairs on the following streets and possibly others:

- Repairing Melinda Ln.
- Repairing Nero St.
- Repairing Cherry St.
- Repairing Stonecrest St.
- Repairing Cargill St.
- Repairing Beauregard and 149- 18 wheelers causing erosion.

Business owner (Exxon) complaint per JR Smith. These street issues cause problems for Tatum ISD school buses. Per Wendell Moore, maybe Mayor Henry can review bids to fix roads with something other than oil dirt.

Robin said that he has a business owner that would be willing to give us a deal on asphalt. Wendell Moore asked if this is cold or hot mix? Robin Palmer stated that he didn't know but could find out. Nakia Smith spoke up and said he called to get a patch fixed. After the repair, the pothole was back within a week. He stated that the use of oil dirt is like a band aid. Mayor Henry showed pictures of holes in Melinda St. that were a water bottle deep. Council Moore received a call from Ms. Breedlove about potholes that were in need of repair.

Mayor suggested we put a dollar amount on it.

JR doesn't remember cost on oil dirt provided by commissioner Kuykendahl.

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Citizen Sam Newton spoke up and stated that he lives on Stonecrest and says we are concerned about our street. We are fixing things ourselves which shouldn't be the case. Councilmen Moore agreed and said we need to address this. Another citizen, Alan Flores, whose street continually has pothole issues that are damaging their vehicles, wants to know if we can use other materials to repair the potholes, other than oil dirt.

Wendell Moore stated that this is a cost issue and added that we need to look at cold or hot mix. Per Matt Allison, he spoke to commissioner, Robert Kuykendall. Commissioner Kuykendall needs an estimate before he can provide a quote.

Tate said we can look at quote and get estimate from Longview Asphalt.

Amended Motion to get quotes: Mayor to get quotes from County commissioner.
Robin to get quote from Longview Asphalt quote by ton.

Tate Smith motioned to get bid from Commissioner Kuykendall and was seconded by Wendell Moore.
All in favor.

Discussion and Motion: Approve the purchase of electronic ticket writers with ARPA Grant Funds Chief James Smith presented the information and provided documentation with quotes.

Wendell Moore made a motion to approve the purchase of these items and it was seconded by Gregg Cole. All in favor.

Discussion and Motion: Cinta's Uniform Services (Shayne Davis)
Mr. Shayne Davis presented his proposal. Tate Smith asked if we could do shirts only. Mr. Davis stated it would increase the cost. Mr. Smith asked if shirts could be provided to office personnel? Mr. Davis agreed that they could, but it would be more cost effective if we went with both pants and shirts. He stated that normally this was a 60-month contract but that his executives were in agreement to do a 36-month contract of the City of Tatum.

Wendell Moore made a motion to table this item, JR Smith approved and seconded the motion.
All in favor.

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Discussion and Motion: Discuss remaining funds from ARPA Grant and approve allocation of these funds:

Gregg Cole made a motion to allocate the current total of ARPA funds as of 05/13/2024 as follows:

- 60% Water
- 20% City Administration
- 20% Police Department

This motioned was seconded by Wendell. All in Favor
Council reserves the right to make adjustments as needed.

Information Only: Hillary Communication Update

Visiting Speaker, JJ Francois, Mayor of Elgin, Oklahoma, provided status update on the Hillary Communication grant. Total amount of grant was \$4.4M. This grant was awarded prior to COVID. Contract out to bid will be approved in 120 days. Installs before construction are finished. Environmental clearance required with this type grant. No money collected to date. No action required. Information only.

Information Only: Police Department - Chief James Smith

Information Only: Public Water Works - Mike Morton

Information Only: Fire Chief - Rayford Gibson- Cody Jones, Assistant Fire Chief provided updates

Information Only: TEDCO Nakia Smith

** The Tatum City Council reserves the right to adjourn into executive session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any of the matters listed above, as authorized by Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), 551.072 (Deliberations about Real Property), 551.073 (Deliberations about Gifts and Donations), 551.074 (Personnel Matters), 551.076 (Deliberations about Security Devices), and 551.086 (Economic Development). This facility is wheelchair accessible and accessible parking spaces are available. Request for accommodations or interpretive services must be made 48 hours prior to the meeting. Please contact the City Secretary's Office at (903) 803-3580 or by email at cityoftatum@tatum.texas.gov.

I certify that the foregoing notice was posted on the bulletin board and the front door of the Tatum City Hall, Tatum, Texas this the 05/14/2024.
