



**Mayor Jerri Medrano**  
**Mayor Pro-Temp James Mizell**  
**Alderman Eric Anderson**  
**Alderman Tim Hatten**  
**Alderman Gary Nash**  
**Alderman Jake Walker**

The City of Hallsville Council meeting convened in regular session at 6 P.M. on Tuesday, April 21, 2015, at City Hall located at 115 Main Street.

**The following members were present:**

Mayor Jerri Medrano  
Alderman Eric Anderson  
Alderman Gary Nash

Mayor Pro Tem James Mizell  
Alderman Tim Hatten  
Alderman Jake Walker

**The following members were absent:**

**City Of Hallsville Staff Present:**

City Secretary Kimberly Smith  
City Attorney Jason Searcy

Officer Sam Lavender  
City Attorney Josh Searcy

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jerri Medrano.

**II. Invocation**

The Invocation was led by Mayor Jerri Medrano.

**III. Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Jerri Medrano.

**IV. Executive Session – (In accordance with Texas Government Code, Subchapter D)**

Section 551.071 – Consultation with Attorney; Closed Meeting – Legal Advice on City Streets.  
Went into closed session at 6:01 P.M.

**V. Reconvene into Open Session - (In accordance with Texas Government Code, Subchapter D)**

Section 551.071 – Consultation with Attorney; Closed Meeting – Legal Advice on City Streets.  
Reconvened into open session at 6:42 P.M.

The Mayor stated how the council discussed how Harrison County can maintain county roads in the City of Hallsville, but politically chooses not to do so if such failure is not used at the discretion of a governing body. The City also can exercise authority to regulate and maintain county roads located in the City Limits. So, with that in mind, we are having a called meeting Saturday morning at 8:00am to consider and act upon amending the budget to attempt to address this situation. Now we are opening up the discussion, and I think that two people have signed up. Are they here?

Susan Poettler stated, ok I am Susan Poettler and I live on Green Street, this is my first time here but I think that we all need to come together, they said they have discussed the roads, I've been here 10 years and I have not once seen these roads taken care of. They've had patch work and it's not holding. Now, I'm not putting blame on anyone, I've spoke to Harrison and spoke to people here seems how September was brought up that they needed to take care of the roads here and it was denied because of the situation of who owns the road. I would have liked to have seen the Mayor say look, we're going through this, bear with me, I will patch the roads temporarily until we can find out what we are going to do, because meanwhile, the roads are getting worse, and our vehicles are getting damaged, and I need it done. We need it fixed. It's 10 years since I have been here and those roads have never been fixed, so this has been stemming from way back, it's not a new issue, it should have been taken care of as soon as someone takes office. It's important. We got schools that are 65 whatever dollars; we got police officers that have brand new vehicles and all these lights that aren't really necessary. Let's get our roads fixed. Its dangerous for us, it's dangerous for our children in the car, and its just plain dangerous. Its costs and we pay taxes and every time taxes come out, where's it going? We need our roads fixed, and I'm tired of excuses and this is gonna happen, you know Marshall is saying, or not Marshall, but Harrison is saying those are City roads. They look like City roads to me, they are in the City. Let's quite puttin blame and let's do something. You're the Mayor and I look to you to make the City come together not pull apart. Thank you.

Mayor Jerri Medrano stated, and the next person that is signed up is David Hart.

David Hart stated, yes ma'am, that's me. I'm David Hart and I live at 409 South Central, anyway I just had something that I was gonna read, and I wrote on there because I didn't know how this worked, so anyway it says people come from miles around to take their children to Hallsville schools and pay a lot of money to bring them here. They bring much revenue to this town. So why is it that the roads are not being taken care of? I drive a motorcycle almost every day. I drive on county roads and also city streets and first of all it is a danger every time I get on my motorcycle, but to have to try to avoid potholes every morning as well as the oncoming traffic ad they wonder why you almost have a head on collision trying to avoid the potholes. It is awful. When it rains you cannot tell if it is a pothole on my bike. I heard the city has only one person to repair the roads. At this point he will never be done. Never in the years I have lived in Hallsville which is about 36 years or more, have I seen the roads in this bad of need of repair. It is easy to say you're going to do something about things but they are only words. This town needs action and not words, and please stop using clay's name every time something is being brought up. It gets old. Its time for a change because it's obvious no one knows how to run a business and take care of something as simple as getting the roads paved. That's all I wanted to say.

Mayor Jerri Medrano stated, is there anybody else that would like to say anything, they have 3 minutes.

Chris O'Bryant stated I would. Again, it's the road issue and I know it's prolly like a broken record at this point, but it's a broken record for us. I've lived here since 73', and I know it's been bad weather this year, we've had some snow, and we've had some ice; we've gotten a lot of weather, that there should be contingencies funds and if this, there is a breakdown between Harrison County and the City, I mean that's for someone to step up and take care of that. I mean it's not for us to keep driving over the same ole thing, and they have never been completely resurfaced. I mean in all the years I have been here, and I've too seen money going elsewhere and I think it's a little bit over the top, but we need to address issues that are important to the everyday folks. And I have known personally of a lady that hit a pot hole on Gallilee, back when Gallilee was so bad, that she had to have extensive work done to her vehicle. You know, someone's gonna have wreck, someone's gonna hit and our school buses need to run. They need to run, that's not an issue, but when we are tearing up people's yards because you're trying to maneuver and they are trying to maneuver not even taking into consideration of motorcycles. We are talking school buses. And you know the one off of, umm across from Rutland, and they are trying to turn and they are turning, Waldron Ferry, you know, it's like they have to come out, we just need to do this, and it's been long since overdue, and I'm like Susan, it would nice to hear, hey guys this staff, we don't know what, who, when, where, why, but we are gonna address it, because it's not been address up to this point and something needs to be done. Thank you.

Mayor Jerri Medrano asked if there was anybody else. Well we have received from the County on March 24<sup>th</sup> is the first item. I have been trying to contact the County Judge before that and we received from the attorney, their attorney, what their intention, so we have had it less than a month, we have been working trying to find solution, that's one reason why we are meeting Saturday, trying to remedy some of it. It's going to take a long time to get them completely redone but we are striving to look at possibilities and that is what we will be looking at Saturday, when we come together. So, when we have more, we will let you know how the session goes Saturday and the vote on that.

Alderman Gary Nash stated, the reason we can't vote on it tonight, it's not on our agenda and you have to have it on the agenda so the public knows what you're voting on. We can't say we are going to take money from here to spend to do this project, it a legality, you know how red tape is, but that's what Saturday, we can put it on the agenda and it will be posted for Saturday morning to call the meeting so we can do something Saturday we can't vote on it tonight because it's legal, a legal, a legal type of thing.

Mayor Jerri Medrano stated, we cannot make decisions that we will have to discuss that in an open meeting on Saturday morning, and you're welcomed to come Saturday morning 8 o'clock.

Alderman Jake Walker stated, that's why we have, cause we plan on starting to address the problem.

Alderman Gary Nash stated, but we can't say we are going to spend money on this project tonight, because it's not on the agenda.

Mayor Jerri Medrano stated that we just got the figures in the cost of everything at 4 o'clock this afternoon.

Linda Bartlett stated, I just want to verify that I did talk to James Greer and everything that Jerri Lea is telling you is the absolute truth. She got a, she was told, notified about three (3) Friday's ago, that the county was not gonna repair the roads and it was thrown into her lap. And I called, I mean I am not one of these that say she said, he said, I called him first and spoke with him and he told me that she just found out about it so, and it was the fact we are chartered, am I saying it correct, Mayor Jerri Medrano stated, incorporated. Linda Bartlett stated, incorporated City and if we are not an incorporated City, then the County would have to fix the roads. We are incorporated and so it is kind of an issue and that's what he told me, it's an issue on whether we are going to have to be able do it or not, so I'm just saying, I want y'all to know I did talk to James Greer, I don't think he is here to verify this information but I did call him.

Alderman Tim Hatten stated, well I think the City's taken the bull by the horns by meeting Saturday to get this issue resolved. It is gonna take a process, it is gonna take some time, I know that the roads got in the shape that they are in over time so it's gonna take some time to get them fixed, so the only thing that I would ask is just bear with us while we will do what we can to fix these roads. And you were right, this was dumped on us, so we are gonna take the belt that was dumped on us and try to make something out of it, so.

At this time there were a couple different people in the audience making comments at one time.

Susan Poettler stated, did September sneak up on you. I talked to someone who over at the Road and Bridge is you know, and I asked can you please tell me what's going on because your hearing two sides of the story and there's always two sides to the story, just like when I heard and you know my hearing was, you know he spoke to them way back in September about the issue that we needed an interlocal agreement with the City and Harrison so we can continue the roads cause if we don't get that interlocal agreement we can't do anything and if she will just sign the interlocal agreement, we can get on the road.

Mayor Jerri Medrano stated, I didn't know that it had expired until March 24<sup>th</sup>, James Greer is our Commissioner, he represents our Precinct in the County, when he came, the interlocal agreement states that we would have the County, and pay all the expenses for them to repair City streets which we have been putting those out for bid and getting those done for years, and they are a lot better streets. It was only then that he told us that they just chose not to repair, the other streets, or the roads that are in the County. Some of these roads, half of the road, half is the City and half is the County cause it's not in the City limits. Its just, if we had gotten together earlier, back when they were thinking about this, we could have probably worked out a better deal, but right now we are gonna take the high road and we are gonna do what we can for our citizens, and yes I've listened done all I can do but I have to get all the facts, get all the information. The engineer got us information on costs cause we have no clue how much it will cost, and he has went out and the process would be, we will have to let out for bids and

everything. It's just a process that we have to go through, but we have to do that because we are using tax payer money. We're using your money, and we're doing the best we can on; we don't have this budgeted. We have \$10,000 a year budgeted for maintenance and streets which has been what we have needed. But with this rain, we haven't been able to repair anything cause we need 7-8 days of dry weather before we can do anything on our regular city streets. So it's just gonna be a process so just please be patient, we know, we drive those roads too. So, that's where we are at. Ok, I'm gonna close this part of the meeting; did you have something to say Josh?

City Attorney Josh Searcy stated no I just want to make sure that you don't forget about the Variance.

Mayor Jerri Medrano stated oh yeah, just this part. I thought we had to close this part and open it up for our regular meeting. That special session, we will now reconvene to open session.

#### **VI. Consent Agenda**

Mayor Jerri Medrano asked to approve the Consent Agenda Items including the Police Department Summary for March 2015, the Water Department Summary for March 2015, the Permit Report for March 2015, and the Monthly Financials for March 2015.

Motion was made by Alderman Jake Walker and seconded by Alderman James Mizell.

Motion carried. 5 Ayes; 0 Nays; and 0 Abstention

#### **VII. Public Comments**

#### **VIII. Discussion Items**

1. Discuss the failure of Harrison County to maintain its roads in the City Limits.

This item was discussed after the Council reconvened from Executive Session.

2. Discuss to research information on adding tornado sirens inside the City Limits.

Mayor Jerri Medrano stated that a committee should be formed to gather information and bring it back to the Council at a later date. Alderman Eric Anderson volunteered to be the chairperson of the committee.

#### **IX. Items to Be Considered**

1. Consider and act upon the approval of the Minutes of March 17, 2015.

Motion was made by Alderman Jake Walker and seconded by Alderman Tim Hatten.

Motion carried. 5 Ayes; 0 Nays; and 0 Abstention

2. Consider and act upon approval of a variance for 101 Fredericksburg, Germantown Subdivision.

Trent Tutt, 4T Enterprises, briefly explained to the Council the reason for the Variance.

Motion was made by Alderman Gary Nash and seconded by Alderman Jake Walker.

Motion carried. 5 Ayes; 0 Nays; and 0 Abstention

**X. Adjournment**

The Council meeting adjourned at 7:03 pm.

**City Of Hallsville**

Signed:

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Mayor Jerri L. Medrano

Attest:

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Kimberly Smith, City Secretary

Sworn and subscribed by before me on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of May 2015.

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Faron Cain  
Notary Public, State of Texas