

HONORABLE MAYOR

Benjamin C. Romero Jr

MAYOR PRO TEM

Louie Alfaro, Place #4

COUNCIL

Jose Garcia, Place #1

Shawn Weeks, Place #2

Soledad Flores, Place#3

Eduardo Chavez, Place #5



Minutes

Town of Anthony, Texas

Monday, March 13th, 2023

REGULAR MEETING

at 5:30 p.m.

Anthony Town Hall,
401 Wildcat Drive
Anthony, Texas 79821

Notice is hereby given of a regular meeting of the Town of Anthony Council, to be held on Monday, March 13th, 2023 at 5:30 p.m., Town Hall, 401 Wildcat Drive, Anthony, Texas 79821, for the purpose of considering the following agenda items. All agenda items are subject to action. The Town of Anthony Council reserves the right to meet in a closed session for consultation with attorney on any agenda item should the need arise and if applicable pursuant to authorization by Title 5, Chapter 551, of the Texas Government Code.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER- Major called to order at 5:38pm.

2.0 QUORUM – Present; councilman Garcia, councilman Weeks, Mayor Romero, Mayor Pro Tem Alfaro, Councilwoman Flores, and councilman Chavez.

3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE- Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS AND RECEIPT OF PETITIONS: *[At this time, anyone will be allowed to speak on any matter other than personnel matters or matters under litigation, for length of time not to exceed two minutes. No Council discussion or action may take place on a matter until such matter has been placed on an agenda and posted in accordance with law – GC, 551.042.]*

Let the record reflect that no one signed up for the open quorum.

5.0 Approve the Minutes of the following Town of Anthony Council Meetings:

- 01-23-2023 Regular Town Council Meeting
- 02-03-2023 Special Town Council Meeting
- 02-13-2023 Regular Town Council Meeting

Town Clerk announced she was not able to complete minutes. Motion made by Councilman Weeks second by Councilman Chavez to delete item to approve minutes. Motion carries 5-0

6.0 New Business:

6.1 Discussion, consideration and action on Resolution No. 2022-68-0313 to approve the waiver request from Anthony Housing Authority for the \$15,435.00 in lieu of taxes by the town council- Valerie mentioned that back in August 8th brought to mayor for taxes to be waived. Item was first taken up to council on August 22nd, 2022, it was approved. A letter was provided to Mary, but the resolution was not brought back. Valerie asked Mary to send statements that were sent to Carlos to have for records. Henry asked for a little more explanation what it is the lieu of taxes for the IRS. Motion to approve by councilman Chavez second by councilwoman Flores. Motion carries 5-0.

6.2 Discussion, consideration and action on Resolution No. 2023-06-0313 with Water Finance Exchange (WFX), a 501(c)(3) non-profit to offer the Town of Anthony, Texas free services for capital planning, assist with identifying funding opportunities and provide expertise for the town's for sustainability and affordability – This is a nonprofit that Ms. Anette from the Rio Grande Council Government had brought on to us to talk to, they would like to offer free services since we are a small community they will not charge us if for example letting them know we lost a finance accountant they wanted to assist us with a temporary financial accountant. That's what type of profit they are to help and with identifying funding opportunities and provide expertise for the town's sustainability and affordability. They also wanted to assist with grants so in order for them to help us we need to pass a resolution that needs to be made. Mayor thinks the assistance is more philosophical aspects to help advocate to get funds and grants. No money is involved. Motion to approve first councilman Garcia second by councilwoman Flores. Motion carries 5-0. Motion was passed to call back item 6.2 to do roll call. Present Councilman Garcia, councilman Weeks, Mayor Pro Tem Alfaro, Councilwoman Flores, and councilman Chavez.

6.3 Discussion, consideration and action on Resolution No. 2023-07-0313 to assign a signatory agent of the loan/grant assistance under the rules and regulations of Rural Utilities Service, a department of the United States Department of Agriculture- Chief mentioned to council who wants to be assigned as a signatory/authorized agent for this. The council suggested that Valerie or Chief because they're the ones that are here in town hall the most. Mayor thinks that Valery has a lot on her plate with catching up with the audit suggest Chief can be assigned. Council motion approved to assign Chief as the authorized agent first by councilman Chavez second by Mayor Pro Tem Alfaro. Motion carries 5-0. Roll call present

councilman Garcia, Councilman Weeks, Mayor Pro Tem Alfaro, Councilwoman Flores, councilman Chavez. Motion to call back to item 6.2 by councilman by Chavez second by Councilman Garcia.

6.4 Discussion, consideration and action on the procedure for Council Action Forms (CAF) and the accompanying detailed attachment and paperwork as referred to Resolution No. 2016-1114- Councilman Weeks Suggesting CAF's are to be done to provide the Mayor, Council and Department Heads with detailed summary. Paperwork should answer 90-95% of potential questions. The purpose of the 3 days is for the council to review, assess and prepare thoughts and questions for the meeting. No action on item 6.4.

6.5 Discussion, consideration and action on 2023 Consumer Price Index (CPI) adjustment to municipal telecommunications right-of-way access line rates- An item that comes back to every year there is always an adjustment to maximum access to line rates for telecommunications right of way for franchise fees. There was an increase due to inflation, it went up to 4.283% there for the maximum access line rates went up. There was an option to decline the increase if so, there is a need to vote that needs to pass but he figures the town wants to keep up because of inflation. The council can vote and pass to accept the new increase or to keep last year's rates. No action Taken.

The council is going into close session at 6:02pm.

7.0 Executive Session: The Town Council will go into a closed executive session pursuant to Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney) of the Texas Government Code to seek the advice, consult and discuss with its attorney about a pending or contemplated litigation; the open meeting will be reconvened following the closed session at which time action, if any, will be considered.

7.1 Town Council will be in closed session to seek advice, consult and discuss with its attorney about Town of Anthony's pending eviction litigation against Robert Lopez related to the Town's property municipally identified as 100 W. Rainbow Drive, Anthony, Texas 79821.

The Town Council will go into a closed executive session pursuant to Section 551.087 (Deliberation regarding Economic Development) of the Texas Government Code to discuss or deliberate regarding commercial or financial information that the governmental body has received

from a business prospect that the governmental body seeks to have locate, stay, or expand in or near the territory of the governmental body and with which the governmental body is conducting economic development negotiations; or to deliberate the offer of a financial or other incentive to a business prospect described by Subdivision (1); the open meeting will be reconvened following the closed session at which time action, if any, will be considered.

7.2 Town Council will be in closed session to discuss economic development: 892 acres, 900 Ginger, L.P. and Exit 0, L.P.

Reconvene into open session and take action if necessary: No Action Taken.

7.1. Take any action based on discussions held in closed session under Executive Session Agenda Item

7.1. Motion to proceed the appeal to the Texas Supreme court by first councilman Chavez second by Mayor Pro Tem Alfaro. Motion carries to 4-1.

7.2. Take any action based on discussions held in closed session under Executive Session Agenda Item

7.2. No action taken.

8.0 Reports

8.1 Finance- Administration is still working on AUDIT 2021.

8.2 Streets- There will be more information about TxDOT meetings with Mayor and Gilbert Town Engineer tomorrow at 1:30pm

8.3 Parks- Everything is good at the parks and there is nothing to report. Mayor announced there will be a scheduled Spring Clean Up for year 2023.

8.4 Water & Sewer- since the public works is short-staffed there has been a lot of overtime and this item will be brought to next meeting to add more overtime to ensure staff is able to operate and managed the town's water, sewer, streets, and parks maintenance.

8.5 Chief's Monthly Report – Chief announced the Budget Academy training that was attended by him, Town Clerk, and Public Works Superintended Assistant. Accounting Manager will be going to a conference in April 2023 for training in government finance.

8.6 Police & Fire- The court had \$32,000 in revenue from citations and traffic stops.

8.5 Administration – the town employees had a sexual harassment training on February 28th, 2023 with HR Cano

I. **ADJOURN MEETING** – Motion to end meeting at 8:04pm made by Councilman Chavez, seconded by Councilwoman Flores.

MINUTES PASSED AND APPROVED ON 10 DAY OF APRIL 2023



{seal}

APPROVED BY MAYOR BENJAMIN C. ROMERO JR.

**SUBMITTED BY: TOWN CLERK
VALERIE M. ARMENDARIZ**