

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, April 24th, 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, April 24th, 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 – Mayor Pro Tem called meeting to order at 5:36pm

2.0 QUORUM – Councilman Garcia- Present, Councilman Weeks- Present, Mayor Pro Tem Alfaro- Present, Councilman Chavez- Present. Councilwoman Flores-arrived at 5:36pm, Mayor arrived at 5:44pm.

3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Mayor Pro Tem Alfaro 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.]*

Ramon Duran lives on 917 Tamarisk wanted to address the council concerns that he has with Anthony Housing Authority regarding the staff and handling of money. Mr. Duran has concerns about people that run Anthony Housing such as Employees, inspectors, supervisors, he would like to address it on the next town council meeting.

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

- 03-27-2023 Regular Town Council Meeting
- 04-10-2023 Regular Town Council Meeting

Motion to approve both minutes by Councilman Garcia, second by councilwoman Flores. Motion Carries 4-0.

6.0 New Business:

6.1 Discussion, consideration and action on Ordinance of the Town of Anthony, Texas updating existing water and wastewater fees and establishing new water and wastewater fees

Valerie brought this item back because roll call was not taken, and it is required.

Mayor Pro Tem Alfaro-Yes

Councilman Weeks- Yes

Councilman Chavez-Yes

Councilman Garcia- Yes

Councilwoman Flores-Yes

6.2 Discussion, consideration and action on resolution establishing and approving a master fee schedule that shall be updated as necessary from time to time by the town council.

Valerie brought this item back because roll call was not taken, and it is required.

Mayor Pro Tem Alfaro- Yes

Councilman Garcia – Yes

Councilman Chavez- Yes

Councilman Weeks-Yes

Councilwoman Flores-Yes

6.3 Discussion, consideration, and action on approving cinder block wall for 309 Tamarisk Street

Ron stated that he believes Officer code Enforcer Lupe had left homeowners a correction notice. Ron explains the wall that is shown in the picture the ordinance says the front corner side of the house within the front set back of the house up to the front of the house should not exceed higher than 42" solid could be up to 6' with rod iron. Wall is approximately 6' high and was built with no permit. Valerie says that the homeowners are asking if they can keep the wall the way it is. But it is not up to code. Mr. Garcia says that even though the wall is in violation he says that there's more houses that have walls around the community. Mayor Pro Tem agrees that there are walls that high, but he is wondering if it was built before the variance was approved or after. Mr. Chavez says that

there are walls that were built after the variance was approved and were built without a permit. Mr. Chavez stated that if amend to get it redone everyone else that has a wall should get it up to code. Councilman Weeks says that if they are allowing it to keep all others that were brought up to the meeting should also get cited as well. He points out that they had told a resident to knock out 7' of a carport that cost them thousands of dollars. He says it should be the same with anyone that doesn't have an up to code. Councilman Chavez motions to approve the variance Councilman Garcia 2nd. Mayor says that because of conflict of interest with the homeowners being related to Mr. Garcia, Mr. Garcia can't vote. Councilman Weeks says is not the motion it's the situation that If variance is approved for these homeowners and because they were cited it wouldn't look right for the other houses that were brought up. Mayor says that if we were to go back and cite those individuals because they are under violation are they also having to come to council to get approval of variance on their case. Motion made by Councilman Chavez with the state and modifications second by Councilman Weeks. Motion carries 4-1 Councilman Garcia abstain.

6.4 Discussion, consideration and action on support letter for City of El Paso Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) program

Valerie says that in the CAF's is just a letter of support for the City of El Paso community development since they are the ones that applied for the grant for the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant program. Mayor says this is just preliminary because of funding being made available that it is going to include some of the planning that is regarding climate pollution reduction grant program. This is just to move forward and show El Paso support and Town being open to this if they move over to sending a letter of support. Motion to approved by Mayor Pro Tem Alfaro, second by Councilwoman Flores. Motion Carries 5-0.

6.5 Presentation on Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Financial Statements

Auditor mentioned that Since 2020-2021 had accounting missions. From the report auditor will be going thru the 5 year Financial Summary years, auditor says that it has been a positive 5 years. Current assets 6,081,134 million compare that to last 5 years less than that at 2,823,605 gave positive liquidity.

7.0 Executive Session: 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.

Close executive session at 6:18pm.

7.1 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:

7.1. Take any action based on discussions held in closed session under Executive Session Agenda Item -**Reconvene open session at 7:28pm no action taken**

7.1. Motion to approve Mayor Pro Tem Alfaro to table items for next council meeting, second by councilman Chavez. Motion carries 5-0.

8.0 Reports

8.1 Finance- Councilman Weeks states that auditor gave good detail regarding financial. Accounting Manager Jessica has put together a PowerPoint presentation to go more into detail of the numbers the auditor had provided with a breakdown of numbers. Councilman Weeks suggested to leave presentation for next council meeting.

8.2 Streets- Spring clean up went well 12 roll offs that were services, cleaned up the graffiti. There were 7 sewer and water leaks. Mayor states calls for projects TASA the application that was submitted it went from community cost from 6million to 11 million project. Good news is that we would be covered 100% because we are a disadvantaged community. After it get approves it will be brought to council table to formally denied or

approved getting the funding and distributing matching funds. Mayor says he got together with Nate to submit for the appropriation committee with Veronica Escobar and Anthony got 3 projects chosen, 2 for PD and 1 for increasing and expanding the water treatment plan. That could be a total of 18 million dollars that the town could receive. Mayor says he did have a meeting for the CBDG project at 500,000 everything is moving forward; Nate was able to get the surveys done for Poplar Street with the residential homes.

8.3 Parks- Trash is being picked up and grass is being cut on all parks. Maintaining weeds put flags on triangle park fixed Irrigation on all parks. Councilman Garcia mention that the concession stand is in bad shape. Suggest if it can look into the budget to fix it or to provide the trailer that can be used to have a concession stand. Mayor states that he had talked with Heber before he left that they wanted to put money aside to expand it and clean up the baseball park area. By the way it is probably better to knock it down because it is bad. Mayor says they still have plans to close the horseshoe at Richard White Rd. and close the fence from the entrance to municipal park all the way to the baseball park because they used to be speed bumps and kids are drifting on that road. Councilman Weeks suggested if the town wants to make money and would clean up and fix the soccer field to have available since there is a shortage of soccer fields in El Paso. Mayor says the guys are trying to get the playground equipment for the park at Wildcat Dr.

8.4 Water & Sewer- Council Garcia mentioned that there were a few leaks, replaced the auger, plant/well working good. Mayor says they are currently working on one pump right now completely dug it out. TOMCO will be coming back and replacing the pipes and redoing the lift station on the sewer plant. Mayor stated that earlier there was discoloration switched lines out, flushed hydrants to clear the debris reason being NM doesn't have strict regulation like TX does for the well sites they had drills 4 or 5 wells right on the state lines which affect our water quality.

8.5 Police & Fire- Chief mentioned that two grants were submitted, one couldn't be fund put in the request to fund 10 vehicles. 5 for the PD and 5 for public works. Appropriation said because of funding issue only 1 vehicle could be funded. Updated cameras systems that allow them to take pictures of license plates, images. And help officers doing traffic stops. That one did get funded. PD did do a warrant roundup which was very successful everything went well. Officers had been doing traffic stops 5 out of 10 stops have been illegal smuggling. Non-citizens are the ones doing the smuggling. U.S Marshall awarded

one PD officer with recognition. Mayor had the opportunity to talk to the agency support specialist getting inventory, handling situations with the officers.

8.6 Municipal Court- January to March 2023 the reports for court are gross placements of \$61,642.00 with 978 accounts. Amounts adjusted and cancelled are \$27,117.00. \$25,526.00 was collected and \$52,526.00 on resolved money. The dollar resolution rate is 85%. There were 1,050 letters mailed for collection notices and approximately 12,830/476 skip tracing addresses and phone updates.

8.7 Administration – Mayor reminded early voting is taking place including Saturday and Sunday.

- I. **ADJOURN MEETING – Motion to adjourn meeting councilman Chavez second by councilwomen Flores at 7:52pm**

MINUTES PASSED AND APPROVED ON 8 DAY OF MAY 2023



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Benjamin C. Romero Jr.", is written over a horizontal line.

APPROVED BY MAYOR BENJAMIN C. ROMERO JR.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Valerie M. Armendariz", is written over a horizontal line.

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