

**HONORABLE MAYOR**  
Anthony David Turner, MPH

**MAYOR PRO TEM**  
Louie Alfaro, Place #4

**COUNCIL**  
Alicia Stevens, Place #1  
Shawn Weeks, Place #2  
Soledad Flores, Place #3  
Eduardo Chavez, Place #5



**MINUTES**

**Town of Anthony, Texas**

Monday, September 11, 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, September 11, 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 called meeting to order at 5:38pm.**

**2.0 QUORUM**

**Councilwoman Stevens- Yes**

**Councilman Weeks- Yes**

**Mayor Pro Tem Alfaro-Yes virtually**

**Councilwoman Flores- Absent**

**Councilman Chavez- Yes**

**3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE- Mayor led the Pledge of the 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.]*

Adriana Chavez resident at 417 Luisa St., stated she had previously spoken to Councilwoman Stevens about agenda item 8.6 in reference to possibly streaming the town council meetings on YouTube. She believes it will be more accessible since there is no need for a Facebook since many residents don't use Facebook. She believes there is a way to simultaneously stream on both platforms at the same time while meetings are LIVE and possibly add it to the Towns website to make more accessible.

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

- 08-14-2023 Regular Town Council Meeting
- 08-21-2023 Special Town Council Meeting
- 08-24-2023 Special Town Council Meeting
- 08-28-2023 Regular Town Council Meeting- pending

**Councilman Weeks motions to approve 8-14-2023, 08-21-2023, and 08-24-2023 minutes, Seconded by Councilman Chavez, motion passes 4-0.**

**6.0 Public Hearing**

6.1 Public hearing on 2023 proposed tax rate of \$0.780636 with Maintenance and Operation (MNO) rate at \$0.658911 and a debt service (I&S) rate of \$0.121725

**No one signed up for public hearing, public hearing was held for 15 minutes.**

**7.0 Old Business:**

7.1 Presentation by American Legion Livesay-Chavez Post 122 to request \$15,000 from Hotel Motel Funds for the Texas 16th District Convention on October 20 to 22, 2023 in Anthony, Texas

**Mr. Montano gave a presentation on behalf of the American Legion Livesay-Chavez Post 122 on what they do and offer to the community of Anthony Texas as well as Anthony NM. Mr. Montano stated that close to 300 people will be attending this convention, he addressed the event will occupy approximately 50 rooms. He spoke to Best Western and they are providing 35 rooms and hoping that the Anthony Inn will pick up the other 20 rooms. Mr. Montano stated he doesn't want to send any guest to stay in other hotels that are not in Anthony.. Mr. Montano stated that without these funds it cannot be possible to have this event. Councilwoman Stevens asked Mr. Montano that how much of the \$15,000 is entitle to the registrations. The Town Attorney Mr. Palomares, stated that this is only a presentation it is not a discussion, consideration and action item. Councilman Weeks motions that even though they want to support American Legion it needs to go through the hotel motel personnel to**

review and send this budget request and schedule a special meeting for discussion. Mayor Turner suggested having the special meeting Friday September 15,2023.

**8.0 New Business:**

8.1 Discussion, consideration and action on an Ordinance for 2023 proposed tax rate of \$0.780636 with Maintenance and Operation (MNO) rate at \$0.658911 and a debt service (I&S) rate of \$0.121725 for fiscal year October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024.

**Councilman Weeks motions to approve an ordinance for 2023 proposed tax rate of \$0.780636 with maintenance and operation rate at \$0.658911 and a debt service rate of \$0.1217525 for fiscal year October 1,2023 to September 30,2024. Seconded by Councilman Chavez. Motion passes 4-0.**

8.2 Discussion, consideration and action on a variance to replace an existing carport on 500 Jaime Street

**Building Inspector Ron Roth stated that resident is requesting to rebuild an existing carport. Since the home is on a corner lot, per Anthony Municipal Code Ordinance it requires a 20ft side set back from the property line to the house. Homeowner wants to rebuild it and make it bigger, 35ft instead of 20ft. Councilman Weeks asked Ron if he has any concerns and if he's ok with the variance. The Building Inspector said there were no concerns other than the 20ft setback and he sees no problem with the variance. Councilman Chavez asked if this work needs to be done by a license contractor and the Building Inspector mentioned the permit can be pulled as a homeowner permit and build it himself. Mayor Pro Tem Alfaro motions to approve variance, seconded by Councilman Chavez. Motion passes 4-0.**

8.3 Discussion, consideration and action on renewing client services agreement for human resources services between Cano HR Group and Town of Anthony, Texas

**HR Accounting Manager Mrs. Ramirez mentioned that the Client Services Agreement for Human Resources Services is set to renew in December 2023. Services will remain the same as previous year, fees will stay the same. Councilman Weeks motions to approve on renewing Client Services Agreement for Human Resources with Cano HR Group. Seconded by Councilwoman Stevens. Motion passes 4-0.**

8.4 Discussion, consideration and action on FY 2023- FY 2024 administrative cost agreement for the Far West Texas Water Plan between the Rio Grande Council of Governments and Town of Anthony, Texas

**Ms. Annette Gutierrez, Executive Director from the Rio Grande Council of Government was present to answer any question regarding the FY 2023-FY 2024 administrative cost agreement. The Town has been members since 2001 and she is asking all members to be part of their administration agreement. Councilman Weeks asked if it's for \$245.00 annually and Ms. Annette confirms that it is. Councilman Weeks motions to approve, seconded by Councilman Chave. Motions passes 4-0.**

8.5 Discussion, consideration and action on Leap Year Capital of the World Festival budget and agreement for professional services between Rave Marketing & Events, LLC and Town of Anthony, Texas

**Gina Roe- Davis owner of Rave Marketing & Events was present to answer any questions regarding the proposal she had submitted for the Leap Year Event contract and budget. Councilwoman Stevens asked if she would oversee entertainment and what kind of ideas she has in mind. Gina mentioned that the phase doesn't start until she has been provided a signed contract for the event. Councilman Weeks stated that they must approve the contract only they will not be approving the budget. The Town Clerk assures Council that it is correct and right now it's just to approve the contract. Councilman Weeks motions to approve the contract , seconded by Councilman Chavez. Motion passes 4-0.**

8.6 Discussion, consideration and action on changing the Town of Anthony, Texas live stream meetings from Facebook to YouTube

**Councilwoman Stevens stated that she has had residents come to her regarding Town Council meetings only being accessible on Facebook. Residents feel it is a burden having to create an account on Facebook to have access to meetings. Councilwoman Stevens stated that if it can be streamed on both Facebook and You Tube, but it should be accessible on the town's website. Councilwoman Stevens assures that the town can get the 50 subscribers on You Tube with no problems and the Town Clerk stated that as**

soon as the town can get to 50 subscribers, they can start streaming on You Tube. Mayor Turner recommended to add YouTube and keep Facebook lives as well. Councilman Chavez motions to add YouTube as a streamline for meetings and keep Facebook, Seconded by Councilman Weeks. Motion passes 4-0.

8.7 Presentation and discussion on Wilson and Company, Inc Engineering & Architects Firm

Mark with Wilson and Company gave a presentation on what type of services they provide for municipalities, such as engineering and architecture, planning, environmental, survey and mapping, and construction administration. Mr. Ibarra the senior project manager went more into depth in the types of projects Wilson and Company offer like the water system, wastewater systems, re-use systems and system evaluation. Esperanza Holguin is the government liaison; she works with small communities with funding and Grantsmanship programs and the process of getting a grant. Mayor Turner asked in case of a water catastrophic event and don't have any water operators how Wilson and Company will be able to handle it in a short term to where the town doesn't fall out of compliance. Mrs. Holguin states that they do have 3 water license operators, license in New Mexico and Texas. Mayor asked given that they do work for New Mexico the water laws are different than Texas, given that the town has had issues to where the wells dip because of the flooding irrigation that happens in New Mexico how would Wilson and Company resolve that conflict of interest and work in the best interest with both clients. Mrs. Holguin states they would be able to serve both clients if a situation like that would happen and there will be an incentive to work with both Anthony, New Mexico and Anthony, Texas.

8.8 Discussion, consideration and action on application of El Paso Electric Company to implement a voluntary Texas business solar power program

The Town Attorney presented this item. The El Paso Electric (EPE) filed it on June 26, 2023 to implement a voluntary Texas business solar power program. They are creating a new schedule and new rate with an only subscription program to work with mid to large commercial and to be able to do this program EPE are building a 15 megawatts solar facility in Fabens, Texas to provide the power necessary for the subscribers of this program. Given that it is a voluntary subscribe program it is not going to affect the current rate of the customers. The Town Attorney stated there's no recommendation

**just a follow up with El Paso Electric and let The City of El Paso take the lead. No action taken just informative.**

8.9 Discussion, consideration, and action on petition of El Paso Electric Company to revise military base discount recovery factor (MBDRF)

**The Town Attorney stated this is a utility rate filed to revise the military base discount recovery factor. That rate basically provides a discount to the military base that is in Fort Bliss set to a 20% discount. PURA section 36.354 provides that an electric utility, municipally owned utility, or electric cooperative may access a surcharge to all the utility retail customers in the state to recover the difference in revenue between the revenue from the discounted rate for military bases provided under subsection and the base commercial rate. The Attorney recommends no action taken just informative.**

**No Action taken.**

#### **9.0 Reports**

9.1 Finance- **Councilman Weeks next meeting will be approving budget for FY 2023-2024 and currently working on Fundview integration.**

9.2 Streets- **Councilman Chavez fix leak on Cedar St. service line, changed manhole lid on Poplar and 7<sup>th</sup> St. Put a 4-way sign at stop sign at Poplar & Eduardo St. Took off graffiti at stop sign on 6<sup>th</sup> St.& Tamarisk. Checked for potholes and covered them with cold mix. Swept street and curb on Antonio St. & 11<sup>th</sup> St.**

9.3 Parks- **Councilwoman Flores- Mayor states trash was picked up from all parks. The shelter, tables, and benches were painted at Municipal Park. Cut grass around poles to get painted. Trouble shood and changed solenoids at baseball park, zone 4-5 irrigation. And the restrooms were cleaned.**

9.4 Water & Sewer- Councilwoman Stevens- housekeeping on wells open new water services and close accounts. Asset management. Cleaned lift stations, removed rugs on racetrack, cleaned distribution box, cut weeds, and evaluated things to get fixed. The superintendent addressed the residents to not flush disposable wipes because they do not disintegrate.

9.5 Anthony Texas Police Department – there were 3 family violence cases, 34 motor vehicles impounds, 23 recovery possession of narcotics, a big spike on driving with no Driver license, an influx of 10 information calls. Overall, for the month there were 234 calls for service. In addition to it a little over \$10,000 was collected from impounds, \$246 for fingerprints, \$66 for reports. They were 10 felony arrests, 12 misdemeanor arrests, 1 EDOS. 246 citations, 68 total cases. Currently recruiting there is a high number of individuals applying.

9.6 Municipal Court- Mayor Pro Tem Alfaro - there were over 100 cases processed last month, court brought in over \$23,000. The court has been working well and court is doing remote sessions. The judge is moving cases along. As well as the prosecutor processing cases.

9.7 Administration – Mayor Turner states the staff is working diligently, keeping up with projects.

10.0 The Town Council will go into a closed executive session pursuant to Section 551.074 (personnel matters) of the Texas Government Code to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or charge against an officer or employee; the open meeting will be reconvened following the closed session at which time action, if any, will be considered.

Entered into close session at 7:34pm.

10.1 Town Council will go into closed session to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or charge against police officer from the Anthony Police Department (Adam Orozco)

10.2 Town Council will go into closed session to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment and duties for the Public Works Department (Arturo Chavez)

**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.**

10.3 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.

**Reconvene into open session and take any action if necessary:**

**Reconvene meeting at 9:01pm**

10.1 Take action based on discussions held in closed session under Executive Session Agenda Item 10.1

**No Action Taken**

10.2 Take action based on discussions held in closed session under Executive Session Agenda Item 10.2

**Councilwoman Stevens motions to approve the hiring of Arturo Chavez at \$21.00 an hr. Seconded by Councilman Weeks. Motion passe 4-0.**

10.3 Take action based on discussions held in closed session under Executive Session Agenda Item 10.3

**No Action Taken**



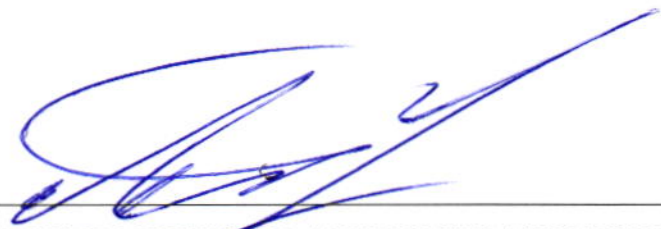
The next Regular Town Council meeting is scheduled at 5:30 PM on Monday, September 25, 2023.

**11.0 ADJOURN MEETING**

Councilman Chavez motions to adjourn meeting, seconded by Councilman Weeks. Motion passes 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:03pm.

**MINUTES PASSED AND APPROVED ON OCTOBER 09, 2023**



  
APPROVED BY MAYOR ANTHONY DAVID TURNER, MPH



SUBMITTED BY: TOWN CLERK  
VALERIE M. ARMENDARIZ, MPA