

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, October 9, 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, October 9, 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 the meeting to order at 5:31pm.

2.0 QUORUM

Councilwoman Stevens- Absent (arrived at 5:33pm)

Councilman Weeks- Yes

Mayor Turner- Yes

Mayor Pro Tem Alfaro- Yes

Councilwoman Flores- Yes

Councilman Chavez- Yes

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.]*

Ray Montano American Legion Commander wanted to let the Town know what is going on with the legion. He stated that they had over 100 bikes that participated in their last event and collected can goods and will be getting ready for the Thanksgiving basket. Convection coming up in October 27th and working diligently with the Town of Anthony. They are partnering up with Five Star Barber Shop and will be having a trunk a treat on October 31st.

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

- 09-11-2023 Regular Town Council Meeting
- 09-15-2023 Special Town Council Meeting
- 09-25-2023 Regular Town Council Meeting - pending

Council Pro Tem Alfaro motions to approve 9-11-2023 and 9-15-2023 minutes, seconded by Councilman Weeks. Motion passes 5-0.

6.0 New Business:

- 6.1 Discussion, consideration and action on independent contractor agreement for professional projects management services between Mark Ray and Town of Anthony, Texas
Councilman Weeks asked the Attorney if he had a chance to look over the contract. The Attorney mentioned that he did, and contract looks okay. Councilman Chavez motions to approve seconded by Councilman Weeks. Councilwoman Stevens Abstains. Motion passes 4-1.
- 6.2 Presentation, discussion, consideration and action on solar panels for the Town Hall located on 401 Wildcat Drive Anthony, Texas 79821 by DAC Solar
David Aber and Michael Avila presented an idea of putting solar panels in the Town Hall. Their concept is to help lower the town's yearly consumption of \$90,000 a year. Just in the Town Hall it is currently wasting 123,000kwh a year, this year is projected to spend \$18,450 for the Town Hall itself. The average rate in 2022 was \$0.13 in 2023 the average rate went up to \$0.15. The idea is to lock in utility costs with solar panels. The estimated cost for an 80kw system for the building would be an estimated cost of \$250,000. There are funding options available. Town Hall qualifies for at least 2 multipliers looking at being cover up to 50% just from the federal funding not including any grants or loans that can be acquired from the USDA. Councilwoman Stevens inquired if once applied for a grant is it guaranteed that the Town qualifies. Michael did inform that he can't say it will be guaranteed but he did mention that in a town in Pecos

TX they were successful and were granted the grant. Mayor Pro Tem Alfaro inquired the funding period to apply. Michael mentions this grant expires next year; applications need to be submitted by November. The Attorney mentions that given that it is over \$250,000 it needs to go out to bid. DAC Solar ultimately would like to help Anthony TX go green. Councilman Weeks motions for no action, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Alfaro. Motion passes 5-0.

6.3 Discussion, consideration and action on a new job position called Lead Operator for the Public Works Department

Public Works Superintendent will be presenting three new job positions. Lead Operator will go directly to wastewater it will need a required license operator class B. Mayor Pro Tem Alfaro inquired when hired they need a license or will they be hired and then give them 48 weeks to get the license with class B. The Superintendent says they would need to be hired with a class B license. Councilwoman Stevens mentions this position would be considered the superintendent assistant. Councilman Chavez inquired how many of the public works guys are ready to test. The Superintendent mentioned that two of them have already set a date. One is testing the end of October for his class C groundwater. One individual will be testing October 10th for class D groundwater. The following week another individual will be testing for class D wastewater and another individual will be testing the following month for his class C wastewater. Councilman Weeks did mention that the Accounting Manager did factor in these positions into the new fiscal year budget to fulfill these positions. Mayor Pro Tem Alfaro motions to approve Lead Operator seconded by Councilman Stevens. Motion passes 5-0.

6.4 Discussion, consideration and action on a new job position called Senior Utility Operator for the Public Works

Senior utility operator will report to the Lead Operator. This position will require class C water and class C wastewater. Councilwoman motions to approve seconded by Councilman Weeks. Motion passes 5-0.

6.5 Discussion, consideration and action on a new job position called Utility Operator for the Public Works Department

The utility Operator will replace the current position maintenance worker, this position does not require any type of experience or licenses. Will help train new hires to move up.

Councilwoman Flores motions to approve seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Alfaro. Motion passes 5-0.

6.6 Discussion, consideration and action on independent contractor agreement for services as municipal court judge between Ida Baeza-Gardner and the Town of Anthony, Texas

The municipal court judge Ida Baeza-Gardner stated that she would like the Town of Anthony to give her the opportunity to continue her services with the town as she has been since 2007. Councilman Weeks motions to approve, seconded by Councilman Chavez. Motion passes 5-0.

7.0 Reports

7.1 Finance- **Councilman Weeks states he will get with Accounting Manager for beginning of the fiscal year updates.**

7.2 Streets- **Councilman Chavez speed bump fixed on Thirst St. and Washington St. Cleaned holding pond in Torres Alto. Fixed speed bumps on Fresno St and Fatima St. Fixed broken meter on Jefferson St. Inspected holding ponds fences, cleaned storm drainage on Main St and removed weeds from the ponding area on Isabel St.**

7.3 Parks- **Councilwoman Flores painted benches municipal parks, cut weeds on municipal and triangle parks. Fixed hole in municipal park chain-link fence, fix light on pavilion on municipal park, and trim trees on Torres Alto Park.**

7.4 Water & Sewer- **Councilwoman Stevens deep cleaned clarifiers at wastewater plant, cut weeds at the wastewater plant. Installed a new sensor on scum box at the wastewater plant. And bought a new sludge judge (measuring device) for wastewater plant.**

7.5 Anthony Texas Police Department – **Mayor Pro Tem Alfaro nothing to report.**