



450 Thunder Head Lane • P.O. Box 1150 • Annetta, Texas 76008 • (817) 441-5770

City Council Meeting Minutes

The City Council of Annetta met in a regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, October 15, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. in the Annetta Town Hall at 450 Thunder Head Lane to consider the following agenda:

Todd Covington with Covington Services hosted the WebEx and gave an introduction and instructions to the panelists and attendees.

- I. **Call to order.** Mayor Bruce Pinckard called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance/Invocation of Prayer.** Council Member Sandy Roberts led the pledge and Mayor Pinckard gave the invocation.
- III. **Roll call/Quorum check.** A quorum check revealed that Mayor Pinckard and Council Members Kent Stasey, Jim Causey and Sandy Roberts were all present. Council Member Danny Coffman joined the meeting via WebEx. Council Member Shane Mudge was absent. Also present was Jamee Long, City Secretary.
- IV. **Public Comments:** Citizen, Kristi Turner (111 Rolling Spring), discussed the possibility of sidewalks along Thunder Head Lane and requested the sidewalks be considered separately from the park concept. Ms. Turner went over the steps she has discussed at Council meetings over the past year. She also discussed using CCPD funds that were used to purchase the UTV. Citizen, Harry Klann (144 Pepperbush), stated that his 5 year old son attends Stuard Elementary. Mr. Klann stated that his family moved here from California this past June. He stated that he would be in favor of a sidewalk instead of driving his son to school. Mr. Klann discussed traffic and safety concerns. Citizen, Heather Parmenter (119 Silver Ridge), stated that her family moved here two months ago. She discussed an accident in her prior community that resulted in blinking lights being installed quickly after the accident. Ms. Parmenter stated that "sidewalks can add up to \$3,000 in property value to homes and this increase would pay for the sidewalks." Citizen, Al Gloer (273 Highland), discussed his frustration with the WebEx meeting on October 8, 2020. Citizen, Brian Berryhill (Tanglewood), via WebEx, thanked Kristi Turner and Al Gloer for their comments. Citizen, Kim Sadin, via WebEx, stated "Stuard Elementary is the only school without sidewalks ... that's all."
- V. **Consent Items: Reports from City Staff and Commissions or Committees:**
 - a. Consider the approval of Minutes from the Regular City Council Meeting on September 17, 2020.
 - b. Financial Report.

c. Public Works Report.

Council Member Roberts moved to accept all consent items, Council Member Causey seconded the motion, with all aye. Motion passed unanimously.

VI. **New Business:**

- a. **Discussion and Action:** Consider a resolution designating The Community News as the official newspaper for Fiscal Year 2020-21 for publication of matters pertaining to the Town of Annetta. Council Member Causey moved to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign a resolution designating The Community News as the official newspaper for Fiscal Year 2020-21 for publication of matters pertaining to the Town of Annetta, Council Member Stasey seconded the motion, with all aye. Motion passed unanimously.
- b. **Discussion and Action:** Consider an agreement with Aledo ISD regarding the UTV. Chief Fred Collie stated that last year they used the Town's UTV during football games. Chief Collie stated that they gave people rides to the stadium that were having trouble walking that far. He stated the UTV is kept in a locked building when it is not being used. Mayor Pinckard asked how many residents were enrolled in the Aledo school district. Chief Collie stated he was unable to obtain this information prior to the meeting. Chief Collie stated there are probably more Annetta students in the school district than from any other city. Citizen, Kristi Turner, asked Chief Collie if they are only using the UTV during football season. Chief Collie stated that it is currently only being used during football season. Citizen, Mike Brasovan, asked Chief Collie "do you know if the Aledo ISD folks would be interested in making a little deal on buying the ATV and helping with some sidewalks at their school and in return get an ATV ... and maybe split some cost on a sidewalk?" Chief Collie stated that he would be happy to give him Dr. Bohn's number. Mr. Brasovan stated "I know Dr. Bohn's number." Chief Collie stated that he also wanted to say that there are no sidewalks at McCall or Coder Elementary Schools. Mayor Pinckard stated that he and the Council Members have reviewed all schools regarding sidewalks. Mayor Pinckard also stated the UTV was purchased because a prior CCPD Coordinator insisted on purchasing the UTV and the Council Members were led to believe there would be extensive use of the UTV, but this has not happened. Council Member Stasey moved to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign an agreement with Aledo ISD regarding the UTV, Council Member Roberts seconded the motion, with all aye. Council Member Causey asked if the school district has approved the agreement. Chief Collie stated the agreement would be reviewed at the next School Board meeting. Council Member Causey then asked "if they make changes, will it be brought back to us?" Council Member Stasey amended his motion to include "after approval by Aledo ISD unless there are changes," Council Member Roberts seconded the motion, with all aye. Motion passed unanimously.
- c. **Discussion and Action:** Consider an ordinance amending the subdivision ordinance. Mayor Pinckard stated the subdivision ordinance is still under attorney review. No action taken.
- d. **Discussion and Action:** Consider participation with NCTCOG in the Regional Building Codes Program. Mayor Pinckard discussed the need for this program due to changes and updates to the International Building Code. Council Member Causey moved to continue participation with NCTCOG in the Regional Building Codes Program at a cost of \$500, Council Member Roberts seconded the motion, with all aye. Motion passed unanimously.
- e. **Discussion and Action:** Consider participation with NCTCOG in the Regional Public Works Program. Mayor Pinckard stated this program is regarding transportation and will allow Annetta to participate with the group. He stated the cost is based on Annetta's population. Council Member Stasey moved to

continue participation with NCTCOG in the Regional Public Works Program at a cost of \$1,500, Council Member Causey seconded the motion, with all aye. Motion passed unanimously.

- f. **Discussion:** Updates on capital improvements projects and SCADA SAMSARA Integration. Mayor Pinckard discussed how SCADA allows for the monitoring of the water system remotely. He discussed the labor savings for using the SCADA system. Mayor Pinckard discussed the SAMSARA Integration will allow further monitoring that currently Hudson Oaks is providing to the Town. Citizen, Karen Gloer, asked what the Town's costs are currently with Hudson Oaks. Mayor Pinckard stated the cost savings will be in the labor and will allow future independence from Hudson Oaks. He stated the cost savings will be in future labor that should not be needed in the future. Citizen, Karen Gloer, asked if the cost savings will be passed on to the water system customers. Mayor Pinckard stated that water rates have not increased in 6 years and the savings will continue to push down future costs. He stated the Town's debt is on the infrastructure and the Town does not have a property tax.
- g. **Discussion:** Discuss IT options for storage of meeting recordings. City Secretary, Jamee Long, discussed the NAS being a separate server for storing meeting recordings. She stated this separate server will allow for a link to the meeting recordings to be posted to the Town's website and will also allow for emailing a link to access documents on the NAS. Todd Covington discussed the NAS would be purchased from Amazon and he will install the equipment. Mr. Covington discussed this would protect the Town's files because it would be a separate server. Mayor Pinckard and Council Member Causey discussed the security that the NAS would provide and the costs that are budgeted for this expense.

VII. Old Business:

- a. **Discussion:** Discuss Annetta Park Concept. Mayor Pinckard stated that Mr. Remigio, a recent architecture graduate from Texas Tech, has provided a sketch and measurements for a future sidewalk. The Mayor stated that he and Council Members are spending many hours discussing this project with engineers and planners. He stated that cities cannot spend public funds on private property and portions of the sidewalk would be on the Aledo ISD property and Lions Club property. Mayor Pinckard discussed the utility easements and drainage issues. He stated that he and Council Members have met with the Aledo ISD via WebEx and plan to meet with the Lions Club to discuss the easements. Mayor Pinckard stated the sidewalks cannot be placed on the agenda until the costs can be confirmed and a site plan is approved. He stated that once additional information is obtained, a workshop will be scheduled for the public to attend. Mayor Pinckard stated that if anyone wants a copy of Mr. Remigio's sketch, to email the City Secretary. Citizen, Kristi Turner, discussed possibly using funds that are allocated for mowing in the budget to use on the sidewalk project. Council Member Stasey stated the money allocated for mowing is not only at Town Hall but is required, due to state requirements, for mowing at all well sites and lift stations. Ms. Turner discussed the possibility of the school district using the Town's property for soccer practice and the school district mowing. Ms. Turner also discussed families using the property for blow-up screens and showing movies. Mayor Pinckard stated the Town's property can already be used for families walking dogs and picnics. He stated that he and the Council Members have never expressed they do not want the park or sidewalks or that the public is prohibited from using the open spaces. Mayor Pinckard discussed working together as a community and commented that Ms. Turner had stated at a prior meeting that she did not want to work with Council Member Coffman regarding the sidewalk project. Ms. Turner interrupted by saying "no, no, no, no ... I never said that." Mayor Pinckard confirmed that she had said that at the end of a prior meeting. Ms. Turner stated loudly "sir, you are lying." Council Member Stasey stated that "we are not going to have that" during a meeting. Ms. Turner stated that the meetings had been recorded since August and people could go back to review. Council Member Coffman stated that during a prior meeting he offered his phone number to Ms. Turner for anyone to call him and that he would like to meet with people to discuss their concerns. Council Member Coffman stated that Ms. Turner

responded to his offer by saying “no ... no one wants to talk to you about anything.” Council Member Coffman stated that he remembers the comment very well because it “took him aback” and stated that it is “totally not who I am.” He stated that he has served the community openly and is available to anyone. Ms. Turner stated that she remembered that Mr. Coffman asked her to give his number to the moms she had been working with and she stated the “moms don’t know you ... they know me.” She stated that “her contacts would rather talk to her.” Ms. Turner apologized for the comment and stated that she was sleep deprived at that time. Mrs. Klann stated that she did not “want to take a nature walk to school” and is concerned about chiggers if the grass is not mowed. Mayor Pinckard discussed possible options for the Town’s property including a community garden. Council Member Coffman stated that discussions had been had with Aledo Athletics several years ago about a possible practice field for their use in exchange for upkeep and mowing, but Aledo Athletics decided it was too far from other facilities. Council Member Coffman also discussed that it was always the intention that private funding would pay for the project and that ADA compliance would be required. Council Member Coffman discussed the amount of work that he and other members of the Council have spent on this project. Mayor Pinckard discussed the meeting with the school district on October 6, 2020 and the higher standards in place for new development now and into the future. He stated the Town is also reviewing public assessment options so the citizens requesting and who will use the sidewalk, can assist in the payment of the project. Mayor Pinckard stated that he has given a lot of his time to the Town and has enjoyed his work for the Town. He stated the Town is run like a business and is efficient. Mayor Pinckard stated that he and the Council Members have always and will continue to stay and visit with all citizens after the meetings to hear their concerns and ideas.

VIII. Items of Community Interest. Council Member Roberts discussed the upcoming Homecoming football game. Kristi Turner asked about the other options for materials for the sidewalk. Mayor Pinckard stated that he is in discussions with the Town’s attorney and consulting engineers but that mulched Christmas trees as Ms. Turner had suggested are not an option for a compliant sidewalk. He stated there are statutory requirements that require a higher standard for Public Improvement projects like sidewalks, including bonding and culverts crossing ditches. Mayor Pinckard stated the grants require about 3 years of planning and discussed the cost of the Aledo sidewalk project. Ms. Turner stated that Aledo “did not do their numbers right.” She also discussed NCTCOG grants. Mayor Pinckard stated the Town is working on this project and needs to learn more about the “public’s appetite for absorbing the cost.” He discussed the amount of money the Town spends on roads each year and the sidewalk project will be more than the annual roads budget. Mike Herring discussed the “strings that would be attached to a grant.” Mayor Pinckard stated the sidewalk project may not qualify for the Safe Routes to School grant because it does not bring children from their houses to the school and across a busy street to a sidewalk but rather as proposed is on the opposite side of the street from the neighborhood. He stated that there have been some suggestions from professionals that say the Town may instead want to install crosswalks and other options since safety is the main concern. The Mayor stated that since the Town does not have a property tax, it may not qualify for some grants as proposed since other funding sources have not been exhausted but will find that out through any application process. He stated that he likes the idea of a sidewalk along a thoroughfare and he said the school district is also supportive of the sidewalk project. Council Member Stasey stated that most of the sidewalks at the other schools drop children off on the curb except for Walsh Elementary. He stated that Walsh Elementary was designed differently because it was designed within the community. Council Member Stasey also discussed the amount of time that is being spent on the sidewalk project and in evaluating all other schools, in addition to meetings with engineers. Karen Gloer asked why the school traffic was not directed behind the school instead of along Thunder Head Lane. Mayor Pinckard stated that this location was in the ETJ of Annetta South at the time the school was built and not in Annetta. Council Member Roberts stated that when she bought her property on Rim Rock Road, the realtor told her that the area of the Meadow Park subdivision was scheduled to become a park, but it was developed with homes. Mayor Pinckard stated there are challenges, but he implored citizen involvement and positive feedback. He stated that a lot of citizens like the dark skies and the capability to put an accessory building of good size in their back yard. Council Member Causey requested citizens to come to

the meetings, ask questions, call Council Members and do not post negatively on social media. He stated that the negative posts on social media damage a community and there are comments that are not accurate. Council Member Coffman stated the Aledo sidewalk project cost \$1.1 million for .7 mile of sidewalks. He stated you can “do the math” to calculate what the Annetta sidewalk project will cost for .3 mile of sidewalks. Council Member Coffman discussed flashing stoplights to aid in the flow of traffic. Brian Berryhill via Web Ex thanked the Mayor and Council Members for explaining the work that has been done regarding the sidewalks and for the financial conservatism with decisions among all matters that relate to the Town. Mr. Berryhill stated that the WebEx was “fairly well done tonight” and his only complaint was not being able to hear some people who spoke with muted microphones or did not step up to the podium before speaking. Mayor Pinckard thanked everyone for their input and stated that we are committed to further developing the WebEx experience through technology improvements. Al Gloer then asked to comment and stated that “he does not have a horse in the sidewalk issue, he does not have children and if it never happened he probably wouldn’t notice.” He also requested more information for the citizens prior to the meetings. He stated that “social media is here” and he has “not been the best steward of social media.” Mayor Pinckard responded to Mr. Gloer’s comments regarding publishing too much information before research is completed and confirmed and that the bidding process on city projects can be negatively affected if too many details are discussed at meetings prior to going out to bid. The mayor illustrated this with the example of small towns and cities overpaying for projects because there often were not enough bidders interested in doing the work at competitive prices and that inflated bids are often the result. Mayor Pinckard asked everyone to work together in a positive fashion because “we all love Annetta, some for different reasons” and that to his knowledge “no one was forced to move here” but instead hears it “over and over again from citizens that they love it here” and to unify to find a positive voice. He stated that City Council Members make themselves available, the office is open 8:00 to 5:00, Monday through Friday, you can email info@annettatx.gov at any time and the Town’s phone number is on a large sign in front of Town Hall.

IX. **Adjournment:** With no further business before the council, the Mayor adjourned the meeting at 8:48 p.m.

These minutes were approved on the 19th day of November, 2020.



Jamee Long, City Secretary



Bruce Pinckard, Mayor