



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, March 17, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. in the Annetta Town Hall at 450 Thunder Head Lane to consider the following agenda:

- I. **Call to order.** Mayor Sandy Roberts called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance/Invocation of Prayer.** Council Member Shane Mudge led the pledge and Council Member Danny Coffman gave the invocation.
- III. **Roll call/Quorum check.** A quorum check revealed that Mayor Roberts and Council Members Shane Mudge, Kent Stasey, Jim Causey, Danny Coffman and Bruce Pinckard were all present. Also present was Jamee Long, City Secretary.
- IV. **Public Comments:** Citizen, Kristi Turner, stated "I would like to reiterate my questions made last month regarding the CCPD program. Are we currently in compliance with the statute? Who is the director? Who is on the board and have we ever had a board? We have over \$100,000 available to aid the community in this program and it needs new leadership to serve the community. It is my belief that this council has focused too much of its time in obsessing over what private citizens write on social media pages instead of on the issues that citizens are asking to be addressed. Why was a traffic study approved for the corner of Rim Rock and Lakeview, but money never dedicated to it? We heard last month that the account had a huge spectrum. Have steps been taken to find the real cost and not from a big, expensive engineering firm but from local groups? We heard two years ago about the dangers of what happens if the Meeker Lake Dam breaks and the council discussed what if a young family is driving down Old Annetta when it happens, but has anything been done? A local mom twice gave comments about how her son was injured walking to school on Thunder Head Lane and this council made very untrue statements about what happened during town meetings, on social media and, I am told, in private meetings. Again, he was injured on Thunder Head Lane, on school property. It happened. We have all heard about a family at the Old Annetta curve that has an accident monthly. Last month, a first responder gave his expert opinion regarding how helpful a guardrail would be to prevent decapitation or someone being impaled, yet the response from officials was that there needs to be personal responsibility. If officials even took an ounce of time that they seem to spending on obsessing over social media accounts of others, I truly think that there would be more action and less smoke and mirrors. Along those lines, anything that involves minor children such as a private citizen's personal, private social media accounts is off limits. And, let me say that again, anything

that involves kids is off limits. It is. Stifling free speech whether it be keeping the public physically out of meetings, because you can, or essentially placing a bounty on a private citizen's posts, is neither good government or in support of free speech. It's gross. We are in the midst of another election season. While I may be the loudest at expressing questions, I guarantee that I'm not the only one with these questions. Make this election about your record, not personal attacks. While you are not allowed to delete your comments on social media, you are able to respond and provide your insight. Why are we paying CHE? It's a simple question. Why is the town looking at more animal ordinances if dog ordinances cannot be enforced? Why does the town have Ordinance 156 calling for an Annetta police force when we all know that the cost would be astronomical? Shouldn't our standing ordinances be cleaned up significantly before we pay for more to be written? These are legitimate questions, not hateful attacks as you tell people. I get messages regularly from people asking 'who's that.' People have noted names and continue to do so. Personal attacks do not serve the community. As public servants, let your record show. You should be proud of what you personally have achieved. So, I challenge all Annetta officials, their spouses and their friends, make this year's election and all future elections about what the candidates have achieved and their goals moving forward. As I said last year, if you love the community, then stop this craziness. There should not be a repeat of 2019 and 2021 on social media. As one new citizen said last year, 'that's a huge red flag.' If you love your community, stop." Citizen, John Roberts, stated "Thank you for hearing me tonight, Council and Madame Mayor. Just want to share the previous speaker, her jabs at social media I think were at me because she turned around and faced me directly about the hate speech that I interpreted from some of her comments this week. I know you guys aren't the social media police and you shouldn't even have to be dealing with that. I don't see you posting on social media so I don't know where that dig comes from but it apparently needs to be addressed. So, what I would like to share with you is that four comments were made about how the council isn't doing their job. One of the comments that was made was regarding a screwed up Ordinance 192, which isn't even in place anymore. It's 215. So, the prior speaker doesn't even do the homework. She's just throwing something up against the wall to see if it sticks. And, I think this group has done a wonderful job. Waterworks, we've got people that are taking care of our business now for us. That is amazing from where we were years ago. We're moving forward and I'm glad ya'll are here. I don't understand some of the jabs that you guys get because what you do is on your time and for our community. The community that we all love. If people don't appreciate what is done, I don't understand why they can't work to a conclusion to make things better instead of being hateful on social media." Citizen, J.D. Davis, stated "I have lived in Annetta for approximately 18 years now. A comment was made a little while ago that private accounts are off limits, but twice now I have received an email from Jamee asking for information from my private accounts. Going through emails and private texts and everything else. The comment about your private accounts, I don't get that. So, I guess what's good for the goose is not good for the gander ... whatever. Here's my question on this. I was going through last month's expenses and I wondered why we keep wasting taxpayer money and city services on fraudulent requests. I mean, I've got the same request twice basically now for open records. I'm all about open records if there's something there. That's fine. But, if there's a crime that's been committed, you can go to the Parker County District Attorney and file a claim. We have over \$11,000 in attorneys' fees for the city. When does this stop? When do we have recourse to say enough is enough? We're wasting taxpayer money and I'm a taxpayer, so it's got to come to an end. Talk to the city attorney and see if we can recoup it. There's nothing there so just ... what do you do? Does this keeps going on over and over and over. I just want to know what can be done about this."

V. **Consent Items: Reports from City Staff and Commission or Committees:**

- a. Consider the approval of Minutes from the Regular City Council Meetings on February 17, 2022 and Special City Council Meeting on February 26, 2022.
- b. Public Works Report.
- c. Financial Report.

Council Member Coffman moved to accept the consent items as written, Council Member Pinckard seconded the motion, with all aye. Motion passed unanimously.

VI. **New Business:**

- a. **Discussion and Action:** Consider selecting and awarding contract to bidder for the labor, materials, construction and installation of one 60,000 gallon AWWA D-103 Bolted Ground Storage Tank and related appurtenances; and authorizing the Mayor to enter into agreement with selected bidder. Mayor Roberts stated that the Town received two bids, one from Blasco Texas Inc. and one from Superior Tank Co. and that Dr. Harkins has ranked the bids. She stated that Dr. Harkins ranked Superior Tank Co. as #1 and Blasco Texas Inc. as #2 as best value for the Town. Mayor Roberts stated there is a cost difference and we were not expecting the cost to be this high. Council Member Stasey discussed Dr. Harkins' recommendation and the specifications of the bid. Council Member Pinckard stated that TCEQ has approved the Ground Storage Tank. Council Member Pinckard moved to approve the recommendation from the Town's water engineer, Victoria Harkins, to select Superior Tank Co. for labor, materials, construction and installation of one 60,000 gallon AWWA D-103 Bolted Ground Storage Tank and related appurtenances, and authorize the Mayor to enter into agreement with Superior Tank Co., Council Member Coffman seconded the motion, with all aye. Motion passed unanimously.
- b. **Discussion and Action:** Consider authorizing the Mayor to enter into an interlocal agreement with Parker County for road repair, maintenance and construction. Council Member Stasey asked if the Town's attorney had reviewed the agreement. City Secretary, Jamee Long, stated that the Town's attorney had reviewed and that the agreement is needed due to the Town having a new mayor. Council Member Pinckard moved to authorize the Mayor to enter into an interlocal agreement with Parker County for road repair, maintenance and construction, Council Member Stasey seconded the motion, with all aye. Motion passed unanimously.
- c. **Discussion:** Discussion regarding agreement with the City of Hudson Oaks for operation and maintenance of Annetta water and sewer systems. Mayor Roberts stated that the Town now has two Annetta operators and the Town can move forward for operation and maintenance of Annetta water and sewer systems. She stated that the City of Hudson Oaks has been notified of the Town's 90 days pursuant to the agreement. At the end of the 90 days, the Town plans to continue operations under a new agreement. She discussed a future agreement being the next step in Annetta taking over operations. Council Member Coffman discussed the importance of relations with adjoining cities. He stated that he believes it is time for Annetta to manage their own systems. Mayor Roberts stated that City Council has planned for this transition for many years. Council Member Coffman stated that he wanted to be on City Council for a voice for the citizens. He continued that there has been a lot of work, time and effort to get to the place we are today, and he hopes there is some cost savings in the future. Council Member Pinckard stated that there have been some preliminary discussions on how the transition will take place and working with Hudson Oaks on a new agreement. Council Member Causey discussed agreements the Town has entered into for disaster situations. Council Member Stasey stated that prior City Council Members and Mayor have also worked hard towards this transition and to continue the process for a superior water rating. He discussed the increases in Annetta property values. Citizen, Kristi Turner, stated that this is "off topic." Council Member Stasey stated that he is proud of the work that has been done in order to achieve this

transition from Hudson Oaks operating the systems to Annetta taking over. Citizen, Al Gloer, asked if there is somewhere that he can see that this will save money. Council Member Pinckard stated that it has been the primary goal all along. He stated that economics was the driving factor for the transition. He stated that the economic factor is not off topic with this discussion. Mayor Roberts asked Mr. Gloer if he is referring to the Town's debt. Mr. Gloer stated that he understands that the debt is what drives the water bills up. Council Member Pinckard stated that the debt will be paid off in about a dozen years. He stated that there has not been a rate adjustment since the sewer plant was replaced. Mr. Gloer asked if the change in Hudson Oaks operating the Town's systems is going to make water bills go down. Council Member Pinckard stated that there will not be a price reduction. Council Member Causey stated that it costs a certain amount to operate a system whether it is Annetta operators or Hudson Oaks operators. Council Member Pinckard stated that the Town will receive a better value from having Annetta operators than paying Hudson Oaks to operate the systems. Citizen, J.D. Davis, gave a scenario that if the contract with Hudson Oaks was \$100,000 and now the Town just spends \$90,000, will the \$10,000 left over be paid on the debt to reduce the debt quicker. Council Member Causey stated that the Town's notes cannot be called. He stated that at last month's City Council meeting, the Town's financial adviser discussed that the bonds are not callable and that it does not make economic sense to do anything at this time. He stated that any savings will go back into the repairs and maintenance of the systems. Council Member Stasey stated that the money will stay within the Enterprise Fund. He stated that there is no city property tax in Annetta and that City Council has no plans to raise water rates or implement a city property tax.

- d. **Discussion and Action:** Consider a proclamation proclaiming April 2022 as Child Abuse Prevention Month. Mayor Roberts read the proclamation. Council Member Coffman moved to approve a proclamation proclaiming April 2022 as Child Abuse Prevention Month, Council Member Pinckard seconded the motion, with all aye. Council Member Coffman stated that he has close ties with child abuse due to his wife's work as a pediatrician at Cooks Children's Hospital. He stated that children are affected everywhere by abuse. He stated that he would step in front of anyone that would abuse a child. He discussed the importance on talking about child abuse. He stated that he appreciates the City Council proclaiming this every year. Council Member Mudge stated that he has been a grief counsellor for a long time and that it is sad that there is child abuse. Citizen, Kristi Turner, stated that there were signs on Old Annetta Road regarding child abuse. Mayor Roberts thanked Council Member Coffman for speaking and stated that she appreciates his wife's work with abused children. Council Member Pinckard stated that over the past two years there has been additional stress added to families due to the pandemic. He encouraged everyone to "be there for someone." He stated that if anyone needs someone to talk to, call him. Council Member Coffman reiterated the importance of talking about abuse and ways to help each other. Motion passed unanimously.
- e. **Discussion and Action:** Consider scheduling a Spring Community Clean-Up and Beautification Day. Council Member Pinckard moved to open the item up for discussion. Council Member Coffman seconded the motion. Mayor Roberts stated that the clean-up scheduled in February was cancelled due to inclement weather. Council Member Pinckard moved to schedule a Spring Community Clean-Up and Beautification Day on Saturday, April 2, from 9:00 a.m. until noon, Council Member Mudge seconded the motion, with all aye. Motion passed unanimously.

VII. **Items of Community Interest.** Mayor Roberts wished Council Member Stasey a happy birthday and she thanked Travis Askins, Annetta's new water operator, for attending the meeting. Mayor Roberts reminded everyone that Poison Prevention Week is March 20-26. She announced that the children's book "There was an Old Lady that Swallowed a Clover" giveaway winner is 135 Rolling Spring Drive. Mayor Roberts wished everyone a Happy St. Patrick's Day. Council Member Coffman stated that if anyone wants bluebonnet seeds to contact Jamee Long, City Secretary, and she will let you know how and when to collect the seed pods.

VIII. **Adjournment:** With no further business before the council, the Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

*These minutes were approved on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2022.*

*Jamee Long*

Jamee Long, City Secretary



*Sandy Roberts*

Sandy Roberts, Mayor