



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, July 20, 2023, 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 Sandy Roberts and Council Members, Kent Stasey, Jim Causey, Shane Mudge, Danny Coffman and Bruce Pinckard were all present. Also present was City Secretary/Administrator, Jamee Long.
- IV. **Public Comments:** There were no public comments.
- V. **Consent Items: Reports from City Staff and Commission or Committees:**
 - a. Consider the approval of Minutes from the Regular City Council Meetings on June 15, 2023.
 - b. Public Works Report.
 - c. Financial Report.

Council Member Coffman moved to accept the consent items as presented, Council Member Causey seconded the motion, with all aye. Mayor Roberts stated that there were 79 leak notifications in June. Motion passed unanimously.

- VI. **New Business:**
 - a. **Discussion.** Discuss irrigation in Annetta. Mayor Roberts stated that the Deer Creek Water System was placed on a mandatory water restriction at 5:00 p.m. today. She stated that repairs were made during the 5-day outdoor watering restriction, but day 6 was difficult on the water system. She discussed the importance of fire flow for the Town. She stated that this was not an easy decision, but the Town's engineers formally recommended this restriction. Mayor Roberts stated that addresses ending in odd numbers can irrigate on Wednesdays, and addresses ending in even numbers can irrigate on Sundays. She stated that, with the restriction, water pressures should improve. The property owner at 114 Tanglewood stated that he is glad the restriction was implemented, but asked what the Town is doing to assist with the

issue in the future. Mayor Roberts stated that the Town is working closely with engineers to improve the water system. Council Member Pinckard stated that the Town has made drastic improvements to the water system since its purchase from the City of Willow Park. Council Member Causey asked the property owner if he has low pressure all the time. The property owner stated "yes" and that he has issues with appliances being able to operate due to low water pressure. Council Member Pinckard stated that the property owner may have an issue in his house. The property owner stated that he cannot take a shower and do laundry at the same time. Mayor Roberts asked if the Town's operators have checked his water pressure. He stated that they have checked his and his neighbors' water pressure. Council Member Coffman asked when the last time the water pressure was checked. The property owner stated that he has low pressure now but does not other times of the year. He believes this is due to his property being on a hill. Council Member Stasey discussed the elevation changes in the Town. He stated that the issue is that the tanks are refilling slowly. Council Member Stasey stated that the Town is in the process of making adjustments to the system that will improve water pressure. Council Member Coffman asked the property owner when he reported the pressure issue last to Town Hall. The property owner stated that the Town's operators tested his pressure today and that the pressure was good. City Secretary/Administrator, Jamee Long, stated that the operators can only test the water pressure on the outside of the house and that sometimes there is an issue with a water softener, water heater or other appliance inside the house that is reducing water pressure. Mayor Roberts asked the property owner if the Town's operators had any suggestions. The property owner stated that the operators said there needs to be a water tower for the Deer Creek Water System and that some pressure valves need to be added to the system. Council Member Pinckard stated that it is going to take some good communication to assist the Town in solving the problem. The property owner stated that his pressure is low every day. Council Member Mudge stated that he has a private well and for the last two months his pressure has been the same. Citizen, Bob McCann, stated that the Town's automated meters should have pressure measuring devices so this can be monitored. Ms. Long stated that the Town monitors the pressures with SCADA. Mr. McCann stated that the aquifer is going down a foot per year. He stated that he does have water softener and the input pressure is 65 and the output pressure is 40, so these do affect the pressures. Council Member Stasey asked where he measures to get the pressures. He stated that the Town's operators check the pressure outside his home, and he checks the pressure inside his home. He recommends turning on the bypass of the water softener when pressures are low. Council Member Coffman asked the property owner if he has checked the filter in his water softener. The property owner stated that the problem is not his water softener. Citizen, Julie Ignatiev, stated that her water pressure is "not great." She stated that her concern is the lack of consistency in the information that went out last week. Ms. Ignatiev stated that the text messages, emails and phone calls are not all the same. She stated that she was out of the country last week and they had someone pet sitting who was told by a neighbor that they could not have the sprinkler on. Ms. Long stated that every outreach was exactly the same except for the text message because there are a limited number of characters that can be added to the text message due to the Town's outreach software. Mayor Roberts stated that the Town's water systems needed the 5-day restriction to allow for the tanks to fill and the system to recover. Mayor Roberts stated that hand watering was allowed but was not included in the message because the system needed time to recover. She stated that customers could call Town Hall to discuss specific watering needs. Ms. Ignatiev was argumentative about the consistency in the messages and Mayor Roberts confirmed that all messages are the same except the text message due to limitations in the outreach system. Council Member Coffman told Ms. Ignatiev that the Town does not have control over customers that were out of the country and not checking messages. Ms. Ignatiev stated that she did not get the messages until she got home from being out of the country. Mayor Roberts asked Ms. Ignatiev if her phone did not work while she was out of the country. Ms. Ignatiev stated that she had her phone turned off. Ms. Ignatiev then stated that she did receive a "screenshot" from her pet sitter of the text that was sent out. Mayor Roberts stated that she received the message by text, email and phone call because she is signed up for all outreach the Town offers. She encouraged all water customers to sign up for the emergency outreach system. Mayor Roberts stated that if anyone has any questions to please call Town Hall. Council Member Causey stated that the 5-day notice stated that it was "voluntary." Council Member Pinckard stated he does not know how the Town could have been more communicative in the notification. He stated that he believes that at some point the Town's responsibility ends and the person's responsibility begins. He continued that we all have personal responsibilities and that he hoped that Ms. Ignatiev had a

wonderful and safe trip. Ms. Ignatiev stated that she is not blaming the Town for her dead garden and is requesting consistency in the messages. Mayor Roberts stated that the messages were consistent. Council Member Stasey stated that he understands about a customer being out of town because he was also out of town. He stated that the 5-day moratorium was a request to the water customers to "dial it back" so the system could have some repairs done. He stated that the Town has done this in the past in a similar situation. Council Member Stasey stated the moratorium was a request but the mandatory water restriction that was implemented today is pursuant to the Town's Drought Contingency Plan. He stated that the moratorium was the Town giving the customers the opportunity to help themselves by evaluating their watering schedules. He continued, "do the math" when you know that everyone is watering at the same time every day. He stated that the Town's wells can only pump so much water. Council Member Stasey stated that irrigation is the issue, and that the moratorium was also a time to allow the Town's storage tanks to refill. He stated that he has discussed this issue with the Upper Trinity Groundwater Conservation District, and this is an issue for the entire county. He stated that this is not unique to Annetta as a public water supply and is not unique to private well owners. Council Member Stasey stated that the Town is making improvements to give the customers more flexibility and to distribute water to the most needed areas of the water system. He discussed the challenges in elevation within the Deer Creek Water System. He stated that the wells and the system are constantly changing. Council Member Stasey stated that last year there were 1,500 private wells drilled in Parker County. He stated that this is the highest number in the state and that the number two county in the state only drilled 300 wells last year. He stated that the Town of Annetta is dealing with things that have never happened before. He stated that it would take millions of dollars to have another source of water and if that were to happen, the Town would be on the supplier's restrictions. He continued, that to preserve the water that we have, we are going to have to work together to manage what we have and not wish for what we want. Ms. Ignatiev asked if there is some reason why the Deer Creek Water System is the only system that is on the restriction because all water is coming from the same source. Council Member Stasey stated that some of the Town's wells are drilled to the Paluxy and some are to the Trinity aquifer. He stated that there is diversity in the Deer Creek Water System. Ms. Long stated that there are specific guidelines in the Town's Drought Contingency Plan that specify the triggers to dictate the stage of restrictions. She stated that the triggers were only met with the Deer Creek Water System and not the Lakes of Aledo Water System. Ms. Ignatiev again asked if these systems were in the same aquifer. Council Member Causey stated that the Town does not own the aquifers. Council Member Pinckard stated that the issue is the rapid growth and the number of private wells that are being drilled all around us. He stated that surface water is unobtainable right now for Annetta. He stated that the Town is continuing to make developers pay for added wells and infrastructure to Deer Creek Water System that will assist in the future. He stated that the Town does not want development. Council Member Stasey stated that there have been no restrictions on the water systems since 2014. Council Member Pinckard stated that there have not been year-around water restrictions since Annetta bought the water system from Willow Park. Citizen, Mr. Van on Quail Run, stated that he recently moved back to Annetta and he discussed the current situation with wells in the area. He stated that as long as cities allow developers to drill this many wells, there will be an issue. He stated that he has spent \$18,000 on new sod and needs to figure out a way to water the sod. Mr. Van stated that he plans to purchase water from another source for his sod. Council Member Pinckard stated that the water system belongs to the customers and when they are asked to conserve, it is necessary to conserve. He stated that the Town does not send unnecessary messages but when it does, it needs customers to comply. Ms. Ignatiev read a portion of the communication that was sent out by the Town for the 5-day restriction. Mayor Roberts asked her to read the next paragraph about the restriction being "voluntary." Ms. Ignatiev continued to be argumentative about the communication. Mayor Roberts stated that "we would need to agree to disagree." Ms. Ignatiev stated "you are not honest" to Mayor Roberts.

The Mayor stated that she is in discussions with the Town's water engineers on how to improve the water system for the future. Council Member Pinckard stated that there were a couple of repairs and malfunctions that needed to be addressed at the same time. Council Member Stasey stated that the Town is reviewing all data with engineers and operators. Council Member Pinckard stated that the Town's wells are running 24/7 during this time of year. Ms. Ignatiev asked if the Town is selling tanker trucks of water to outside vendors. Ms. Long stated that the Town is not selling bulk water during the restrictions. Council

Member Causey stated that he has seen that on social media and is glad this got cleared up. Ms. Ignatiev asked when the last time that bulk water was sold? Ms. Long stated that the last bulk water was used by Precinct 4 in June for the Annetta road projects. Mr. McCann discussed the complexity of the water system and the importance of redundancy. He also discussed the possibility of a sustainment plan. Mr. McCann thanked the City Council and staff for their work to solve the issues with the water system.

- b. **Discussion and Action:** Consider authorizing the Mayor to execute a letter of engagement to George, Morgan & Sneed CPA for the Town's financial audit year ending September 30, 2023. Council Member Pinckard moved to authorize the Mayor to execute a letter of engagement to George Morgan & Sneed CPA for the Town's financial audit year ending September 30, 2023, Council Member Coffman seconded the motion, with all aye. Council Member Pinckard stated that this is necessary to make sure the Town is compliant on all financials. Motion passed unanimously.
- c. **Discussion and Action:** Consider authorizing the Mayor to issue a proclamation for the Town of Annetta to raise awareness of Monarch Butterfly conservation efforts and habitat creation and preservation. Mayor Roberts read the proclamation. Council Member Stasey moved to authorize the Mayor to issue a proclamation for the Town of Annetta to raise awareness of Monarch Butterfly conservation efforts and habitat creation and preservation, Council Member Pinckard seconded the motion, with all aye. Council Member Stasey thanked the Mayor for promoting this at Bearcat Nation 101. He stated that Mayor Roberts makes seed balls for this event and he thanked her for the amount of extra time she spends promoting the butterflies and teaching children. Motion passed unanimously.
- d. **Discussion and Action:** Consider authorizing the Mayor to execute Addendum to Municipal-County Contract for Road Repair for an expenditure of \$15,143.04 (labor and equipment) and \$4,842 for Prime Oil-AEP, Chip Seal and Grade 4 Rock for rebuilding Rockdale Court (materials). Council Member Pinckard moved to authorize the Mayor to execute Addendum to Municipal-County Contract for Road Repair for an expenditure of \$15,143.04 (labor and equipment) and \$4,842 for Prime Oil-AEP, Chip Seal and Grade 4 Rock for rebuilding Rockdale Court (materials), Council Member Coffman seconded the motion, with all aye. Motion passed unanimously.
- e. **Discussion and Action:** Presentation of the draft 2023-2024 Town of Annetta Budget for Council consideration and approval. Authorize publication of the 2023-2024 Town of Annetta Budget Hearing in the Community News. Council Member Causey thanked Ms. Long for drafting the spreadsheets to begin the budget process. He stated that the Town operates on a fiscal conservatively basis so the Town can continue to not raise water rates and not request an ad valorem tax. Council Member Stasey stated that there will be budget amendments for items not forecasted in the budget. Council Member Stasey discussed franchise fees and sales tax revenue. Council Member Causey moved to approve the draft 2023-2024 Town of Annetta Budget with publication on July 28, 2023 in the Community News and Budget Hearing on August 17, 2023, Council Member Coffman seconded the motion, with all aye. Motion passed unanimously.
- f. **Discussion and Action:** Consider a policy and procedure for informational or warning signs in the right-of-way. Mayor Roberts read Resolution 23-02. Council Member Pinckard moved to open this item for discussion, Council Member Mudge seconded the motion. Mayor Roberts stated that someone requested citizens to send emails to Town Hall regarding this item, but this was not requested by the Town. Mayor Roberts thanked Ms. Eatinger for her patience while this was moved swiftly through the legal process for drafting a new policy and procedure. Council Member Pinckard also thanked Ms. Eatinger for helping to create a process for this in the future. Council Member Causey moved to approve the policy and procedure for informational or warning signs in the right-of-way, Council Member Pinckard seconded the motion, with all aye. Motion passed unanimously.

- g. **Announced winner of children’s book contest.** This month’s book is The Highlights Book of Things To Do, and the winner was 144 Pepperbush. Mayor Roberts stated that the Town’s water/wastewater operator, Steve Hill’s, daughter wrote a children’s book that will be given away in September.

VII. Old Business:

- a. **Discussion and Action:** Consider selecting and awarding contract to Rock Island Construction for the labor and materials for a shop behind Town Hall; and authorizing the Mayor to negotiate and enter into agreement with Rock Island Construction. Mr. Martin with Rock Island Construction discussed the revised pricing list and the options provided for City Council consideration. Ms. Long stated that the prior foundation engineer could not complete the foundation plans without having the engineered construction plan, so the option to include this with Rock Island Construction’s possible award would be a better option for the Town. Ms. Long stated that the Town’s attorney also makes this recommendation. Mr. Martin discussed the Geotech and that the grading for the building will be a separate cost. Council Member Pinckard moved to select and award contract to Rock Island Construction for the labor and materials for the shop behind Town Hall, including the engineered/stamped foundation plan, construction of foundation and construction of PEMB which is Option 6, at a cost not to exceed \$325,000, Council Member Coffman seconded the motion, with all aye. Mr. Martin stated that Option 6 is the speediest process. Council Member Causey asked if this amount includes the build out and if this is ADA compliant. Ms. Long stated that this does not include the 700 square foot build out and that the architect’s plan did include ADA compliance. Mr. Martin stated that the hardware on the doors will be ADA compliant. Council Member Stasey stated that Option 6 is the best option for the Town. Motion passed unanimously.
- b. **Discussion and Action:** Consider a municipal services agreement with Aledo Independent School District regarding the AISD Water Facilities. Mayor Roberts stated that the Town’s attorney is still waiting confirmation from the school district’s attorney regarding this agreement. Council Member Mudge moved to table this item until the August 17, 2023 regular City Council meeting, Council Member Pinckard seconded the motion, with all aye. Motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Items of Community Interest. Mayor Roberts stated that Bearcat Nation 101 is scheduled for August 5, 2023 at Aledo High School. Council Member Mudge discussed the grief camp that he assists with every year. Council Member Pinckard stated that Shane has been doing this for 30 years. Council Member Stasey stated the Split Rail Golf Course is having lunch and dinners now and other events. Mayor Roberts stated that the 76008 Magazine has info on local restaurants. Mayor Roberts wished Council Member Causey a happy 70th birthday.

IX. Adjournment: With no further business before the council, the mayor adjourned the meeting at 9:19 p.m.

These minutes were approved on the 17th day of August, 2023.



Jamee Long, City Secretary/Administrator





Sandy Roberts, Mayor