



Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes January 13th, 2026

1. Call the Meeting to Order

Mayor Isabella Salazar called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present were Mayor Isabella Salazar, Councilor Jimmy Atkison, Councilor Mary Jiron, Councilor Amber Hitchcock, Councilor Joe Kalisek, Councilor Leona Wylie, Library Director Crystal Weigel, Finance and Administration Director Arnold Ramirez, Town Clerk Amberlee Olivas, Police Chief Scott Conner, Senior Center Director Whitney Jaramillo, Tim Boydston, Tim Boydston Jr, Carl Tennison, Lisa Tupa, Sarah Puckett, Raymond Derrick, Nancy Jones, Kerri Hale, TJ Parks, Carlene Henderson, Mark Rhoads, Mrs. Rhoads, Jeff Williams, Cesar Lopez, Clay Patman, Denise Null, and Jon Puckett.

3. Approval/Disapproval of the Agenda

Councilor Leona Wylie moved to approve the agenda. Councilor Amber Hitchcock seconded the motion. Roll Call: Councilor Jimmy Atkison—Yes, Councilor Mary Jiron—Yes, Councilor Amber Hitchcock—Yes, Councilor Joe Kalisek—Yes, Councilor Leona Wylie—Yes. The motion carried.

4. Approval/Disapproval of the Regular Meeting Minutes from 12/09/2025

Councilor Joe Kalisek moved to approve the meeting minutes from December 9th, 2025. Councilor Amber Hitchcock seconded the motion. Roll Call: Councilor Jimmy Atkison—Yes, Councilor Mary Jiron—Yes, Councilor Amber Hitchcock—Yes, Councilor Joe Kalisek—Yes, Councilor Leona Wylie—Yes. The motion carried.

5. Departmental Reports

Councilor Amber Hitchcock moved to approve the departmental reports. Councilor Jimmy Atkison seconded the motion. Roll Call: Councilor Jimmy Atkison—Yes, Councilor Mary Jiron—Yes, Councilor Amber Hitchcock—Yes, Councilor Joe Kalisek—Yes, Councilor Leona Wylie—Yes. The motion carried.

6. Public Comments

Jeff Williams, CEO of JBW Solutions, announced his training center is open for business at 1212 S Main Street. This is a full-service safety center, and he is excited to be a business in Tatum.

TJ Parks, CEO of the JF Maddox Foundation, invited all Councilors and the Mayor to a dinner. He informed them that the JF Maddox Foundation accepts applications for grants up to \$50,000.

Sarah Puckett congratulated the Mayor and Council. She informed everyone on her next business venture near the Tatum Community Park, which will be a beauty bar. Her coffee line with one of her businesses, Bestie Beverage, is expected to hit the shelves at Albertsons, United Supermarkets, and Market Street. Additionally, the ramp program is seeking volunteers on Thursdays and Saturdays.

7. Mayor, Councilor, And Department Head Comments



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Councilor Mary Jiron allowed Carlene Henderson to discuss the Roadrunner Food Bank distribution method. Carlene discussed the potential pickup location for citizens to pick up their food boxes being at City Hall. Councilor Mary would like to see the school zone extended to Sixth Street.

Councilor Joe Kalisek asked when the Veteran Affairs would be at the Tatum Library.

Councilor Leona Wylie informed all that Capital Outlay may look different since water could become its own section.

Mayor Isabella Salazar thanked everyone in attendance. The Mayor decided to revert to the original logo. Moving forward, her vision is to create a restroom at the garbage dump. Mayor Isabella Salazar is seeking quotes to demolish the old Texico building. She will demolish the Pony baseball field and turn it into a parking lot for the cemetery.

8. Discussion Items

A. Update and Discussion regarding Roadrunner Food Bank Distribution to the Community. (Whitney Jaramillo)

Carlene Henderson discussed the Roadrunner Food Bank distribution method. Carlene discussed the potential pickup location for citizens to pick up their food boxes being at the City Hall.

B. Discussion on adding rumble strips at the 4-Way stop at the intersection of Broadway Street and Main Street. (Councilor Leona Wylie)

Councilor Leona Wylie would like to reinstall the rumble strips, potentially adding some further back to slow the traffic before approaching the 4-way stop.

C. Discussion regarding the Appointment of Mayor Pro-Tem; no action to be taken. Appointment to occur at the Organizational Meeting on January 19th, 2026. (Mayor Isabella Salazar)

Mayor Isabella Salazar asked all council members if they would be interested in being Mayor Pro-Tem.

D. Discussion regarding the implementation of random alcohol and drug testing policy for employees assigned Town-owned vehicles. (Mayor Isabella Salazar)

Discussion included testing all employees, levels of testing depending on job description, and how medical marijuana cards affect this.

9. Action Item

A. Consideration and Approval of Interlocal Contract for Cooperative Purchasing with HGAC Buy for Ambulance Purchase. (Mayor Salazar)

Councilor Amber Hitchcock moved to approve the interlocal contract for cooperative purchasing with HGAC Buy for Ambulance Purchase. Councilor Mary Jiron seconded the motion. Roll Call: Councilor Jimmy Atkison—Yes, Councilor Mary Jiron—Yes, Councilor Amber Hitchcock—Yes, Councilor Joe Kalisek—Yes, Councilor Leona Wylie—Yes. The motion carried.

B. Consideration and Approval for P.O. No. 2526-346 in the amount of \$545,289.00 for ambulance from Siddons Martin Emergency Group LLC. (Mayor Salazar)



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Councilor Leona Wylie moved to approve P.O. No. 2526-346 in the amount of \$545,289.00 for ambulance from Siddons Martin Emergency Group LLC. Councilor Amber Hitchcock seconded the motion. Roll Call: Councilor Jimmy Atkison—Yes, Councilor Mary Jiron—Yes, Councilor Amber Hitchcock—Yes, Councilor Joe Kalisek—Yes, Councilor Leona Wylie—Yes. The motion carried.

C. Consideration and Approval of removing Marilyn Burns and adding Isabella Salazar to the Western Commerce Bank signature cards. (Mayor Salazar)

Councilor Amber Hitchcock moved to approve the removal of Marilyn Burns and the addition of Isabella Salazar. Councilor Jimmy Atkison seconded the motion. Roll Call: Councilor Jimmy Atkison—Yes, Councilor Mary Jiron—Yes, Councilor Amber Hitchcock—Yes, Councilor Joe Kalisek—Yes, Councilor Leona Wylie—Yes. The motion carried.

D. Consideration and Approval of Authorized Time Period for Police Officer Cesar Lopez to continue operating a town-owned vehicle while commuting from his residence in Portales to Tatum. (Chief Conner)

Councilor Amber Hitchcock moved to approve of allowing Cesar Lopez to continue using town-owned vehicle until the last meeting in February, which the topic will be revisited. Councilor Joe Kalisek seconded the motion. Roll Call: Councilor Jimmy Atkison—Yes, Councilor Mary Jiron—Yes, Councilor Amber Hitchcock—Yes, Councilor Joe Kalisek—Yes, Councilor Leona Wylie—Yes. The motion carried.

E. Consideration and Approval of Resolution No. 0021-2526 Agreeing to Waive TPF Local Entity's 5% Matching Share of \$22,342.14 (Mayor Isabella Salazar)

Councilor Jimmy Atkison moved to approve Resolution No. 0021-2526 agreeing to waive TPF local entity's 5% matching share of \$22,342.14. Councilor Joe Kalisek seconded the motion. Roll Call: Councilor Jimmy Atkison—Yes, Councilor Mary Jiron—Yes, Councilor Amber Hitchcock—Yes, Councilor Joe Kalisek—Yes, Councilor Leona Wylie—Yes. The motion carried.

F. Consideration and Approval of Resolution No. 0022-2526 Agreeing to Waive LGRF Local Entity's 25% Matching Share of \$46,478.00. (Mayor Salazar)

Councilor Amber Hitchcock moved to approve Resolution No. 0022-2526 to waive LGRF Local Entity's 25% matching share of \$46,478.00. Councilor Jimmy Atkison seconded the motion. Roll Call: Councilor Jimmy Atkison—Yes, Councilor Mary Jiron—Yes, Councilor Amber Hitchcock—Yes, Councilor Joe Kalisek—Yes, Councilor Leona Wylie—Yes. The motion carried.

10. Motion to Enter into Closed Session

- A. Town of Tatum requirements for Maintenance Department employees to obtain wastewater and water level 2 certifications.



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At 7:10 pm, Councilor Joe Kalisek moved to enter closed session. Councilor Leona Wylie seconded the motion. Roll Call: Councilor Jimmy Atkison—Yes, Councilor Mary Jiron—Yes, Councilor Amber Hitchcock—Yes, Councilor Joe Kalisek—Yes, Councilor Leona Wylie—Yes. The motion carried.

11. Return to Open Session

At 8:46 pm, Councilor Joe Kalisek moved to return to open session. Councilor Leona Wylie seconded the motion. Roll Call: Councilor Jimmy Atkison—Yes, Councilor Mary Jiron—Yes, Councilor Amber Hitchcock—Yes, Councilor Joe Kalisek—Yes, Councilor Leona Wylie—Yes. The motion carried.

12. Action on Closed Session Items

A. Town of Tatum requirements for Maintenance Department employees to obtain wastewater and water level 2 certifications.

Councilor Amber Hitchcock moved to approve that the two employees test within 15 days of receiving the update, and the other employee signs up within 15 days to take the class. Councilor Leona Wylie seconded the motion. Roll Call: Councilor Jimmy Atkison—Yes, Councilor Mary Jiron—Yes, Councilor Amber Hitchcock—Yes, Councilor Joe Kalisek—Yes, Councilor Leona Wylie—Yes. The motion carried.

13. Adjournment

Mayor Isabella Salazar adjourned the meeting at 8:48 p.m.

Read and Approved January 19th, 2026.

Mayor, Isabella Salazar

Finance and Administration Director, Arnold Ramirez



Town Council Special Meeting Minutes January 19th, 2026

1. Call the Meeting to Order

Mayor Isabella Salazar called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present were Mayor Isabella Salazar, Councilor Jimmy Atkison, Councilor Mary Jiron, Councilor Amber Hitchcock, Councilor Joe Kalisek, Councilor Leona Wylie, Library Director Crystal Weigel, Finance and Administration Director Arnold Ramirez, Town Clerk Amberlee Olivas, Police Chief Scott Conner, Senior Center Director Whitney Jaramillo, Maintenance Director Joe Garcia, Dennis Merril, Lisa Tupa, and Carl Tennison.

3. Approval/Disapproval of the Agenda

Councilor Amber Hitchcock moved to approve the agenda. Councilor Jimmy Atkison seconded the motion. Roll Call: Councilor Jimmy Atkison—Yes, Councilor Mary Jiron—Yes, Councilor Amber Hitchcock—Yes, Councilor Joe Kalisek—Yes, Councilor Leona Wylie—Yes. The motion carried.

4. Approval/Disapproval of the Regular Meeting Minutes from 01/13/2026

Councilor Joe Kalisek moved to approve the meeting minutes from January 13th, 2026. Councilor Leona Wylie seconded the motion. Roll Call: Councilor Jimmy Atkison—Yes, Councilor Mary Jiron—Yes, Councilor Amber Hitchcock—Yes, Councilor Joe Kalisek—Yes, Councilor Leona Wylie—Yes. The motion carried.

5. Action Item

A. Consideration and Action to confirm the organizational structure and appointment of department heads. (Mayor Salazar)

Councilor Joe Kalisek moved to confirm the organizational structure and appointment of department heads. Councilor Jimmy Atkison seconded the motion. Roll Call: Councilor Jimmy Atkison—Yes, Councilor Mary Jiron—Yes, Councilor Amber Hitchcock—Yes, Councilor Joe Kalisek—Yes, Councilor Leona Wylie—Yes. The motion carried.

B. Consideration and Approval to Appoint Mary Jiron for Mayor Pro-Tem. (Mayor Salazar)

Councilor Jimmy Atkison moved to appoint Mary Jiron for Mayor Pro-Tem. Councilor Leona Wylie seconded the motion. Roll Call: Councilor Jimmy Atkison—Yes, Councilor Amber Hitchcock—Yes, Councilor Joe Kalisek—No, Councilor Leona Wylie—Yes, Councilor Mary Jiron—Abstained. The motion carried.

6. Adjournment

Mayor Isabella Salazar adjourned the meeting at 5:12 p.m.

Read and Approved January 27th, 2026.

Mayor, Isabella Salazar



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Arnold Ramirez

Finance and Administration Director, Arnold Ramirez