



## Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes May 12, 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 Joe Kalisek, Councilor Leona Wylie, Finance and Administration Director Arnold Ramirez, Town Clerk Amberlee Olivas, Library Director Crystal Weigel, Police Officer Cole Steel, Public Works Director Joe Garcia, Christina Wallace, Carl Tension, Janice Derrick, Denise Null, Nancy Jones, Lisa Tupa, Regina Watson, Senior Center Director Whitney Jaramillo, Fire Chief Steve Pena, Assistant Fire Chief Paco Sarabia, Anita Nerio, Miguel Olivas, Jesus Olivas, Martina Olivas, Noralorene Olivas, and Donja Kirkpatrick. Councilor Amber Hitchcock was absent.

### **3. Approval/Disapproval of the Agenda**

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

### **4. Approval/Disapproval of the Special Meeting Minutes from 05/05/2026**

Councilor Mary Jiron moved to approve the minutes from the Special Meeting on 05/05/2026. Councilor Jimmy Atkison seconded the motion. Roll Call: Councilor Jimmy Atkison—Yes, Councilor Mary Jiron—Yes, Councilor Joe Kalisek—Yes, Councilor Leona Wylie—Yes, Councilor Amber Hitchcock—Absent. The motion carried.

### **5. Department Reports**

Librarian Crystal Weigel is ready to ramp up for the summer programs and the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the USA. Summer programs will be dinosaur themed. Additionally, she will need to purchase six new computers.

Police Officer Cole Steel was recognized for his professionalism.

Senior Center Director Whitney Jaramillo updated the Council and Mayor of the drives and informs them that she will always prioritize Tatum residents.

Public Works Director Joe Garcia has led the team with lots of mowing. Mr. Joe thanks the Tatum School groups for assisting with community clean ups. One of the areas recently cleaned up is the cemetery.

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

### **6. Financial Reports**



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Quarter 3 reporting has been reported and approved by the DFA. The Town has a remaining \$115,000 grant to be used at the Senior Center. The intended use is to add parking and level out the existing parking lot. The sought-out contractor is Ramirez and Sons which Mr. Arnold has no family ties to.

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

### **7. Public Comments**

**Regina Watson** – Informed the Council and the Mayor that before terminating the lease of the airport they should consider the lessees of the hangars first. Regina informed the Council that a break-in had occurred at the airport where the locks were cut.

### **8. Mayor, Councilor, and Department Head Comments**

**Councilor Mary Jiron** – Mrs. Mary thanked the officers and informed the Council and Mayor of an upcoming meeting on May 21st at the Harris Building starting at 9am.

**Mayor Isabella Salazar** – Mayor Isabella Salazar thanked all in attendance. Tatum Alumni is now preregistering for the event June 26 and June 27<sup>th</sup>. She reminded the citizens that if they haven't gotten their children signed up for Little League Baseball, the deadline is approaching. Mayor Salazar expects to deliver her baby next Tuesday May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

### **9. Discussion Items-**

#### **A. Discussion of Drug and Alcohol Policy for Town of Tatum Employees. (Mayor Salazar)**

Discussion included a zero-tolerance policy and drug screening in compliance with Federal Law.

### **10. Action Items**

#### **A. Consideration and Approval of Appointing Councilor Leona Wylie to be on the Solid Waste Authority Board. (Mayor Salazar)**

Councilor Mary Jiron moved to appoint Councilor Leona Wylie to the Solid Waste Authority Board. Councilor Jimmy Atkison seconded the motion. Roll Call: Councilor Jimmy Atkison—Yes, Councilor Mary Jiron—Yes, Councilor Joe Kalisek—Yes, Councilor Leona Wylie—Yes, Councilor Amber Hitchcock—Absent. The motion carried.

#### **B. Consideration and Approval to Transfer the Budgeted \$5,000 from the General Fund to the Tatum Fire Fund to Purchase Fireworks for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Show. (Chief Pena and Asst. Chief Sarabia)**

Councilor Joe Kalisek moved to approve the transfer of \$5,000 from the General Fund to Tatum Fire Fund to purchase fireworks. Councilor Leona Wylie seconded the motion. Roll Call: Councilor Jimmy Atkison—Yes, Councilor Mary Jiron—Yes, Councilor Joe Kalisek—Yes, Councilor Leona Wylie—Yes, Councilor Amber Hitchcock—Absent. The motion carried.



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### **C. Consideration and Approval of a Contractor to Demolish the Texico Building. (Mayor Salazar)**

No Motion was made. The Council and Mayor would like to seek out grant funding before moving ahead with the project.

### **D. Consideration and Approval of the Purchasing and Procurement Policy. (Mayor Salazar)**

Councilor Leona Wylie moved to approve the purchasing and procurement policy. Councilor Mary Jiron seconded the motion. Roll Call: Councilor Jimmy Atkison—No, Councilor Mary Jiron—Yes, Councilor Joe Kalisek—No, Councilor Leona Wylie—Yes. With a tie vote, Mayor Isabella Salazar—Yes. Councilor Amber Hitchcock—Absent. The motion carried.

### **E. Consideration and Approval of Adopting Resolution No. 0029-2526 Purchasing and Procurement Policy. (Mayor Salazar)**

Councilor Jimmy Atkison moved to approve Resolution No. 0029-2526 Purchasing and Procurement Policy. Councilor Leona Wylie seconded the motion. Roll Call: Councilor Jimmy Atkison—Yes, Councilor Mary Jiron—Yes, Councilor Joe Kalisek—No, Councilor Leona Wylie—Yes, Councilor Amber Hitchcock—Absent. The motion carried.

### **11. Adjournment**

Mayor Isabella Salazar adjourned the meeting at 06:33 p.m.

**Read and Approved May 26th, 2026.**



Mayor, Isabella Salazar



Town Clerk, Amberlee Olivas