



CITY OF TEXICO
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Date: May 12, 2026

Time: 4:30 p.m.

Location: Senior Citizen Center

City Officials Present:

- Mayor-Deborah Autrey
- City Clerk -Austen "Ozzie" McMullen
- Deputy Clerk-Maria Ulibarri
- City Attorney-Rick Queener
- Judge-Virginia Loera
- Police Chief-Doug Bowman
- Fire Chief-Diane Queener
- Sr. Citizen Director-Helen Lucio

City Council Members Present:

- Councilman Carter
- Councilman Autrey
- Councilwoman Askew
- Councilwoman Rojas-Natividad

MEETING SUMMARY

The meeting began with a prayer and pledge led by Mayor Deborah Autrey. Council members approved the minutes from the April 28th meeting and public comments were brief. The Curry County Substance Use and Behavioral Health Program presented their initiatives, including a \$1.1 million grant for five years and various community engagement activities. The Texico Senior Citizens Area Agency on Aging program's budget issues were discussed, leading to a motion to drop out of the program. The council also approved an amendment to the intergovernmental agreement with Curry County to remove EPCOR as the utility manager and adopted a new cemetery ordinance.

OPENING ITEMS

Mayor Deborah Autrey opened the meeting with a prayer, thanking God for the privilege of living in the United States and making decisions for the city. Roll call was conducted, noting all council members were present.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Mayor Deborah Autrey called for a motion for the approval of the minutes from the April 28th meeting, Councilman Autrey made the motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilwoman Rojas-Natividad. A roll call vote was conducted, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment was opened, with a speaker thanking the city for addressing a sewage issue on Craig earlier in the year.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Deborah Autrey introduced Bethany Brzozowske, who gave a presentation on Curry County's substance use and behavioral health program. She explained that the SAMHSA-funded program focuses on reducing marijuana and opioid use and has received \$1.1 million over five years to serve Curry County through community outreach and engagement. Melissa Gomez Williams, the new program coordinator, also outlined key efforts, including safe storage and disposal education, opioid overdose prevention training, and mental health first aid instruction.

Mayor Deborah Autrey discussed the challenges faced by the Texico Senior Citizens Area Agency on Aging program, including budget cuts and the need for a balanced budget. The program served 14 clients, with 13 hours of weekly services, but faced funding shortages. Mayor Deborah Autrey recommended dropping out of the program due to budget constraints and the inability to predict revenue. Council members discussed the possibility of using the senior center for community activities and fundraisers if the program is discontinued. A motion was made by Councilman Autrey to discontinue participating in the (AAA) program which was seconded by Councilwoman Askew. Roll call vote was conducted.

Councilwoman Rojas-Natividad: YES

Councilman Autrey: YES

Councilman Carter: YES

Councilwoman Askew: YES

Mayor Deborah Autrey and Council members discussed the need for easements for a waterline extension project. The attorney for ENMWUA was consulted to ensure the city can use the same ground as ENMWUA without issues. The city plans to draft an encroachment agreement with ENMWUA to proceed with the project.

FINANCIALS

Deputy Clerk Maria Ulibarri presented the third-quarter financial reports, noting over-budget items and the need to add line items in the FY 27 budget. The joint utility fund was negative, and the city needed to transfer funds from the general fund to cover the shortfall. The council discussed the upcoming budget workshop to address financial issues and approved the reconciliation report.

ALL FINANCIAL ITEMS APPROVED WITH A ROLL CALL VOTE.

Councilwoman Rojas-Natividad: YES

Councilman Autrey: YES

Councilman Carter: YES

Councilwoman Askew: YES

ACTION ITEMS

Mayor Deborah Autrey and Council members discussed the need to amend the intergovernmental agreement with Curry County to remove the requirement for EPCOR as the utility manager. The amendment was read by City Clerk Austen "Ozzie" McMullen and approved by the council, with the intention to present it to the county commission for final approval.

ALL ACTION ITEMS APPROVED WITH A ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilwoman Rojas-Natividad: YES

Councilman Autrey: YES

Councilman Carter: YES

Councilwoman Askew: YES

RESOLUTIONS / ORDINANCES

Ordinance 3-411 Joint Utility: Mayor Deborah Autrey presented Amended Ordinance 3-411 for approval to post, which included new dumpster prices for annexed properties. **(approved for posting)**

Amended Ordinance 6-410 Cemetery: Mayor Deborah Autrey introduced Ordinance 6-410, the cemetery ordinance, which increased the prices for cemetery plots. The council approved the ordinance for adoption. **(adopted)**

ALL RESOLUTIONS/ORDINANCES APPROVED WITH A ROLL CALL VOTE.

Councilwoman Rojas-Natividad: YES

Councilman Autrey: YES

Councilman Carter: YES

Councilwoman Askew: YES

REPORTS OF MAYOR, COUNCIL, PERSONNEL AND DEPARTMENTS

Mayor Deborah Autrey reported on the wastewater treatment plant meeting, noting the state's concerns about nitrogen levels in the playa.

Councilwoman Rojas-Natividad reported on the clean-up efforts at the cemetery by school children. That the kids from Texico School's did an outstanding job of helping get the cemetery cleaned up and in order. City is very grateful to High School Principal Dee Rae Timberlake for helping get that organized.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 17:20

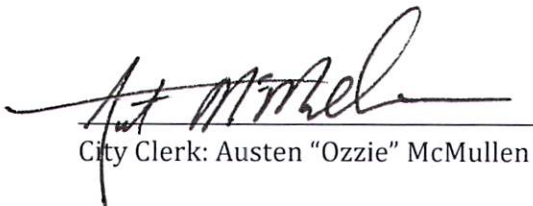
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Regular Meeting: Tuesday, May 26, 2026, at 4:30pm.

SIGNATURES

ATTEST:


Mayor: Deborah Autrey


City Clerk: Austen "Ozzie" McMullen

