

Anita City Council Monthly Meeting
744 Main Street
Anita, Iowa 50020
July 9th, 2025
6:30 p.m.

The Anita City Council met in regular session July 9th, 2025, at 6:30 pm, at Anita City Hall. Mayor Daughenbaugh presided, Clerk Jean Jessen, and Council members Meghan Dorsey, Simon Jensen, Deanna Andrews, and Cheryl Sokol via phone. Council member Roger Huffman was absent. Also present were City Attorney, Justin Hockenberry; Street Superintendent, Eric Steffensen and various members of the public.

Mayor Daughenbaugh called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm. Motion by Jensen; second by Dorsey to approve the agenda as posted. Ayes: All. Motion passed.

Motion by Jensen; second by Dorsey to approve the consent agenda including the June 11th, 2025, city council meeting minutes; clerk's treasurer's report, and bills as presented. Ayes: All. Motion passed.

Discussion was held on Release and Settlement Agreement (794 Main). Motion by Andrews; second by Jensen to approve the Release and Settlement Agreement (794 Main) with noted changes. Ayes: All. Motion passed

A discussion was held on Resolution 2025-24 "Approving request to Cass county treasurer for assignment of tax sale certificates, approval of city acquisition of property through tax deed, authorization to request release of property taxes and special assessments, and release of all city liens and special assessments in to encourage rehabilitation of housing (9 Sun Valley)." Motion by Sokol; second by Dorsey to approve Resolution 2025-24 as presented. Roll Call Vote: Dorsey-aye, Jensen-aye, Andrews-aye, Sokol-aye. Resolution passed.

A discussion was held on the 2025 Outstanding Obligations Report. A motion by Andrews, seconded by Jensen to accept the report as presented. Ayes: All. Motion passed.

A discussion was held on re settlement of pending litigation regarding abandoned property at 308 Elm Street. Motion by Dorsey, second by Jensen to accept the re settlement as presented. Roll Call Vote: Jensen-aye, Andrews-aye, Dorsey- aye. Sokol-Nay. Motion passed.

A discussion was held on a recent rezoning request. A motion by Dorsey, seconded by Jensen to set a public hearing in regard to the possible zoning designation changes on August 13, 2025 at 6:15 following the Zoning commission meeting tentatively set for 6pm on August 13th. Ayes: All. Motion passed.

A discussion was held on the payment for The Anita Volunteer Fire Department's new ambulance scheduled to arrive July 7, 2025. A motion by Dorsey, seconded by Andrews to make payment upon arrival and inspection. Ayes: All. Motion passed.

Darrell Hockenberry with Anita Development updated the council on the ongoing revitalization of the Sun Valley Subdivision. The group has secured no-interest loans from both CADCO and the Cass County Supervisors to build two brand-new homes—each featuring 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, and a detached 2-car garage.

Construction is expected to take approximately six months. Once completed, the homes will be moved to their permanent locations on the north side of Sun Valley Drive. Floor plans are available to view online at www.homesforia.com, or printed copies can be picked up at City Hall.

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The homes will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis. If you or someone you know is in the market for a new home, please contact a member of the Anita Development group or the City Clerk for more information.

Street Superintendent Eric Steffensen provided the council with an update on recent department activities. Due to the recent rainfall, keeping up with mowing in the parks and public spaces, as well as maintaining washed-out alleys, has been a challenge. The street department appreciates the public's patience as they work through these weather-related delays and welcome the much-needed moisture.

In other updates, parking lines on Main Street have been freshly repainted, and both concrete and hot patch repairs have been applied to address problem areas throughout town.

Superintendent Steffensen presented the council with building permits. A motion by Jensen, seconded by Dorsey to approve permits as presented. Ayes: All. Motion passed.

During the meeting, the council, clerk, mayor, and members of the public shared updates and voiced concerns. One issue raised was the condition of several ditches around town, which have either filled in with silt or been intentionally abandoned. As a result, water is often forced to flow across streets and pool in low areas. The city encourages property owners to keep ditches and runoff areas clear to help prevent erosion and reduce street washouts.

The fire department also announced plans to sell the older ambulance to help offset the cost of the new one. Minor exterior repairs will be needed on the cinder block restrooms in the city's public parks.

This year, Anita's annual Steak Fry weekend in August will coincide with the town's 150th anniversary. SMALL TOWN PRIDE SINCE 1875. Anita. "A Whale of a Town"

With no further business, Motion by Dorsey; second by Jensen to adjourn at 7:37 p.m. Ayes: All. Motion passed.

The next regular monthly Anita City Council meeting will be August 13th, 2025, at 6:30 pm at Anita City Hall.

Ben Daughenbaugh, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jean Jessen, City Clerk