



# VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES EDELWEISS LODGE AND SPA CLUB ROOM TAOS SKI VALLEY, NEW MEXICO

**TUESDAY, JULY 8, 2014, 1:00 P.M.**

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**MAYOR:**  
Neal King

**COUNCIL:**  
Kathleen V. Bennett  
J. Christopher Stagg  
Barbara L. Wiard  
Thomas P. Wittman

**VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR:**  
Mark G. Fratrack

**CLERK/TREASURER:**  
Vanessa N. Chisholm

## **1. CALL TO ORDER & NOTICE OF MEETING**

The regular meeting of the Village of Taos Ski Valley Council was called to order by Mayor King at 2:00 p.m. The notice of the meeting was properly posted.

## **2. ROLL CALL**

Vanessa Chisholm, Clerk/Treasurer, called the roll and a quorum was present.

### **Governing body present:**

Mayor Neal King  
Councilor/Mayor Pro Tem Barbara Wiard  
Councilor Kathy Bennett  
Councilor Chris Stagg  
Councilor Tom Wittman (arrived at 1:30 p.m.)

### **Staff present:**

Village Administrator Mark Fratrack  
Village Clerk/Treasurer Vanessa Chisholm  
Public Works Director Raymond Keen  
Community Development Director Don Schieber  
Public Safety Director David Wallace  
Village Attorney Dennis Romero

## **3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Councilor Bennett requested that Item 7.C. Parks and Recreation Committee Report be moved up to follow # 4 "Approval of the Minutes..." so that Chairman Kett can report.

**MOTION: To approve the agenda as amended.**

**Motion:** Councilor Wiard

**Second:** Councilor Bennett

**Passed:** 3-0

## **4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE June 10, 2014 VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING.**

**MOTION: To approve the minutes from the June 10, 2014 Village Council Meeting**

**Motion:** Councilor Wiard

**Second:** Councilor Bennett

**Passed:** 3-0

## **7. C. Parks and Recreation Committee**

Katherine Kett, Chair of the Parks and Recreation Committee, thanked Ray Keen and Don Schieber for their help and gave an update on several items:

- Doggie trash stations will be relocated.
- New bear-proof dumpsters will be installed.
- The benches on the JR Ramming Nature Trail will be oiled.
- Some disc golf course baskets are being relocated because of a conflict with the new mountain bike trail.
- There are plans to improve the volleyball court.

- A simpler, smaller trail map is being designed.

Ideas and suggestions for the Parks and Recreation Committee may be put in Ms. Kett's box at the Village Office.

## 5. CITIZENS FORUM

- A. Mark Goldman, chair of the Construction Technology Department at UNM-Taos, gave a short presentation on the *UNM-Taos Sustainability Institute: Humanitarian Design Seminar*. The four day seminar (August 5-8, 2014) will be filled with lectures, movies, and workshops with speakers from around the world, showcasing effective humanitarian design. Councilor Wiard added that admission is half price until July 25 and the seminar is available for three UNM credit hours for only \$125. Information was distributed.
- B. Bill Sullivan expressed his displeasure that residents are charged for water leaks on their property. He stated that Albuquerque also charges for water leaks.

## 6. FINANCIAL REPORTS

Treasurer Chisholm reported that the NM Department of Finance and Administration has approved the interim 2014-2015 budget. The final quarterly report and resolution for the beginning balances for FY2015 budget will be presented at the August Council meeting. The fiscal year ended with gross receipts collections at \$1,012,094.01, down about 1.79% (\$18,433.71) from last year. Lodgers' tax was up for the fiscal year, ending with \$301,859.63, up 11.65%. This does include a late payment of \$10,639.00.

Chisholm pointed out a correction to Ordinance #2014-30, Section 10, Current Impact Fee Schedule, which was amended last month. There was a typo. The cumulative development impact fee should be \$4.3724 per square foot, not \$4.3734.

The Financial Report was accepted into the minutes.

## 7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- B. **Public Safety Committee and Firewise Board of Directors** – Councilor Bennett  
Councilor Bennett reported on the June 16, 2014 Public Safety Committee meeting.
- Several special event permits will be submitted soon for review.
  - Kit Carson Electric Coop is marking and cutting trees that could possibly fall on live power lines.
  - Everyone was thanked for their help with the float decoration for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

After the Public Safety meeting adjourned the Firewise Community Board of Directors convened. Items discussed:

- The reverse 911 project was removed from the action list due to the expense and poor operation.
- The evacuation plan is finished and will be distributed when the siren is tested.
- Keen reported that the siren will be erected on the roof of the TSV, Inc. VMF.

- Ace Hardware participated in the Firewise education program and the HIZ assessment project.

The next meeting of both committees is scheduled for Wednesday, July 16, 2014 at 1:00 p.m. at the Village Office.

**A. Planning and Zoning Commission**

Councilor Wittman reported on the July 7, 2014 P&Z Commission meeting.

- Several revisions have been made while revising the Master Plan. A strong statement on the necessity of fixing the intersection of Ernie Blake Road and Twining Road will be included.
- There is a problem with residential addressing in the Amizette area. Apparently there are two or three properties with the same address. Amizette area roads and addresses were discussed.
- The Pattison Trust is working on a Master Plan for their 1400 acres and when finished would like the P&Z Commission to review it.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 4, 2014 at 1:00 p.m. at the Edelweiss Lodge and Spa Club Room.

**D. Lodgers' Tax Advisory Board**

Councilor Stagg reported on the June 25, 2014 Lodgers' Tax Advisory Board meeting. Some grant funding was awarded.

**8. REGIONAL AND STATE REPORTS**

Councilor Wiard reported on:

- June 18, 2014 Taos Regional Landfill Board meeting: Business included decreasing gravel rates, punch cards for the Town of Taos, and request to close the Parker litigation. The next Landfill and Intergovernmental Council (IGC) of the Enchanted Circle meetings are scheduled for Wednesday, July 16, 2014.
- North Central NM Economic Development District meeting: There was discussion on the Questa Chevron Mine closing, limited funding per legislator for capital outlay (\$700,000), and budget adjustments.
- NMML Policy Committee meetings: This is the beginning of development of the municipal Legislative package.

**9. MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor King reported on the challenges of the current state of the GIS addressing and the outdated GIS mapping system. He is working with staff to improve the systems.

**10. STAFF REPORTS**

Administrator Fratrack's report included:

- There has been no progress on the Townsite Act. Depending on the engineering consultants' recommendations for the wastewater plant upgrades, staff will ask to either continue pursuing the Townsite act through the Columbine Hondo Wilderness Act or work directly with the local Forest Service.

- The Village Bus: “Free Ride” to Taos Ski Valley – The Chamber will be providing a free shuttle on Saturdays primarily for the music activities and also supporting all the other activities, biking, hiking, etc.
- There continue to be concerns about the chlorination station. The previous engineering consultants will be meeting with staff.
- The Village, in partnership with TSV, Inc., will be purchasing the Burn Boss (air curtain burner) to safely and efficiently burn the slash pile and to comply with Forest Service requirements.
- A “Cell Phone Service Facilitator” will bring the big three (Verizon, T-Mobile, & AT&T) to the table to find solutions to cell phone problems, concentrating on the two C's (capacity and coverage). The fix for the capacity issue is the fiber optic line. The facilitator will be looking at the best way to establish better coverage on the mountain and in the Village limits. Some coverage improvement should be seen by this ski season.
- The Village, TSV, Inc., FS, NMDOT, and other players are working on a utilities trench (KCEC power lines, fiber optic, and natural gas) up the canyon. A great deal of coordination is required and it is slowly moving forward.
- Summer hiking seems to have increased so much that Hiker Parking for the Williams Lake trail is overflowing on certain days. There was discussion about creating angle parking on the main road.

Chief Wallace reported on Public Safety activity:

- There was one crash, one break-in, and no citations were given out.
- Fire and EMS were involved in one camp fire incident, and one diabetic/cardiac EMS call.
- There was an incident involving State Police and Search and Rescue efforts to reach a person who had jumped from the cliff at the Yerba trail.
- Weekly fire department training is attended by 10-12 people each week.
- The rescue truck should be back this week with a new engine.

Director Schieber reported on Community Development:

- It is extremely busy with a 4600 square foot home being constructed in Pioneer's Glade and three other additions.

Director Keen reported on Public Works

- Focus is on road improvements. Mag chloride is being mixed and put on the roads. The road in front of the St. Bernard Condos to Ernie Blake Road will be delayed until the sewer line is fixed.
- Keen welcomed Eloy Montoya who has returned to work with the Village.

## 11. OLD BUSINESS

### A. Public Hearing: ORDINANCE #2015-51 an Ordinance Adopting Regulations Requiring Underground Electrical Utility Service.

The purpose of the ordinance, in part, is to reduce the potential for wildfire that can occur when overhead service lines come into contact with trees. The ordinance mandates the elimination of overhead electrical service and requires the conversion to underground service for all properties and structures within the municipal

boundaries of the Village. Councilor Bennett requested a one word change to Section 4.1.

Mayor King opened the Public Hearing. No one spoke either FOR or AGAINST the ordinance. Mayor King closed the Public Hearing.

**MOTION: To adopt Ordinance #2015-51, an Ordinance Adopting Regulations Requiring Underground Electrical Utility Service**

**Motion:** Councilor Bennett **Second:** Councilor Wittman **Passed:** 4-0

## 12. NEW BUSINESS

### A. Consideration to Approve Professional Services Contract with Mark Fratrack, Village Administrator

Staff recommended that Council discuss and consider approval of the contract with Mark Fratrack.

**MOTION: To approve the contract with Mark Fratrack as Village Administrator**

**Motion:** Councilor Wiard **Second:** Councilor Wittman **Passed:** 4-0

### B. Consideration to Approve Professional Services Contract with Dennis Romero, Village Attorney

It is in the best interest of the Village to contract with an outside attorney on an as needed basis.

**MOTION: To authorize and approve to enter into a contract with Dennis Romero for contracted legal services**

**Motion:** Councilor Stagg **Second:** Councilor Wittman **Passed:** 4-0

### C. Consideration and Approval: Resolution #2015-264, a Resolution Requesting a Permanent Budget Adjustment for FY2014

Treasurer Chisholm explained that at the end of each fiscal year it is often necessary to request a permanent budget adjustment. Some departments may have gone over their line items while others may have gone under, but the total budget remains under budget. These adjustments are necessary in order to balance the budget. The adjustments needed this year are: Water/Sewer Enterprise (Legal fees increased during the fiscal year due to the LCI2 vs. VTSV litigation); Water Depreciation Reserve (revenue increase due to LCI2 vs. VTSV litigation and expenditures increase – Chlorination Station).

**MOTION: To approve Resolution #2015-264, a resolution requesting a permanent budget adjustment for FY2014**

**Motion:** Councilor Stagg **Second:** Councilor Wittman **Passed:** 4-0

### D. Consideration and Approval: Resolution #2015-265, a Resolution Requesting a Permanent Budget Adjustment for FY2015

Staff feels the purchase of the Burn Boss air burner would be a valuable asset for the community. Wallace has received approval from the State Fire Marshal to use

Fire Capital funds as long as the burner is listed on the Village's inventory. TSV, Inc. will share the cost and a memorandum of agreement will be created. "Revenue – Other" will record the TSV, Inc. payment in the Budget Adjustment. Capital equipment under Fire Capital Account is increased by \$52,500.00 and Revenue – other is increased by \$26,250.00.

**MOTION: To approve Resolution #2015-265, a Resolution requesting a permanent Budget Adjustment for FY2015.**

**Motion:** Councilor Stagg      **Second:** Councilor Wittman      **Passed:** 4-0

**13. MISCELLANEOUS**

Councilor Wittman asked if and when there will be a replacement employee for John Miller's position. After discussion, it was requested that the staff hire as soon as possible.

**14. ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL.**

The next meeting of the Village Council is scheduled for Tuesday, August 5, 2014, 2:00 p.m. at the Edelweiss Lodge and Spa Club Room.

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion: To adjourn the meeting.**

**Motion:** Councilor Bennett      **Second:** Councilor Wiard      **Passed:** 4-0.

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Neal King, Mayor

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Vanessa Chisholm, Village Clerk