



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

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2014, 2:00 P.M.

7 Firehouse Road
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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 (arrived at 2:40 p.m.)
Councilor Kathy Bennett
Councilor Chris Stagg
Councilor Tom Wittman

Staff present:

Village Administrator Mark Fratrack
Village Clerk/Treasurer Vanessa Chisholm
Deputy Village Clerk Ann Marie Wooldridge
Finance Director Nancy Grabowski
Public Works Director Raymond Keen
Community Development Director Don Schieber
Public Safety Director David Wallace
Village Attorney Dennis Romero

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: To approve the agenda as amended with item 8. State and Regional Reports to be done upon the arrival of Councilor Wiard (late due to tire problems during trip to Santa Fe meeting)

Motion: Councilor Wittman **Second:** Councilor Bennett **Passed:** 3-0

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 2, 2014 VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING.

MOTION: To approve the minutes from the September 2, 2014 Village Council Meeting

Motion: Councilor Wittman **Second:** Councilor Bennett **Passed:** 3-0

5. CITIZENS FORUM – No one spoke at the forum.

6. FINANCIAL REPORTS

Clerk/Treasurer Chisholm introduced Nancy Grabowski who will become the new Finance Director/Treasurer at the end of the month, upon Chisholm's retirement.

The annual audit started on September 15 and their report was submitted on September 29. The auditors will present their findings at the November or December Council meeting. Two

businesses were audited for Lodgers’ taxes. Chisholm presented the Profit and Loss comparison with 2013, as well as the GRT and Lodgers’ Tax collection summaries. The Gross Receipts Distribution graph for September 2014 was also included. The Financial Report was accepted into the minutes.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Planning and Zoning Commission

The Commission did not meet. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 3, 2014, at 1:00 p.m., at the Edelweiss Lodge and Spa Club Room. Councilor Stagg requested a workshop to immediately follow the P&Z meeting to discuss Village development projects and revenue sources. The workshop will be open to the public.

B. Public Safety Committee

The Committee did not meet. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 20, 2014 at 1:00 p.m. at the Village office. It has been decided to hold meetings on the first Monday of each month (prior to the P&Z meeting) at the Village office. The next meeting will be held on November 3, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. at the Village office.

Councilor Bennett reported on the progress of the GIS mapping system containing the assessments of the residents/property owners in the Village. It is not complete, but making progress. She reported on the Municipal League seminar she attended during September. Everyone was encouraged to see the wonderful New Mexico tourism advertisements with New Mexico True on YouTube.

C. Parks and Recreation Committee

Administrator Fratrack reported that Katherine Kett is regrouping the committee.

D. Lodgers’ Tax Advisory Board

No report.

9. MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor King reported that he received an invitation to attend the Regional Water Plan meeting. Councilor Stagg will represent the Village, as he is knowledgeable about water rights. The Mayor and staff are addressing issues with a part-time Village resident.

10. STAFF REPORTS

Administrator Fratrack reported on:

- Townsite Act – The Forest Service met with Senator Udall’s office. The Senator had a positive outlook for the Columbine Hondo Wilderness approval. It was suggested that if by June or July 2015 the Columbine Hondo Wilderness act has not been approved, the Village should pursue the Townsite act directly with the Forest Service.
- “Free Ride” Van – Few riders took advantage of the summer ride, just 1 to 7 riders per shuttle for a total of 33 passengers for nine weekends. Councilor Stagg has driven the van and stated it is not good for long distance rides. TSV, Inc. would like to use the van for the winter for employee rides from the KTAO radio station to TSV. They could also provide rides to skiers that need to go to the parking lot after shuttle hours. TSV, Inc. will work out an agreement with Village staff and report to the Council
- Chlorination Station Repairs – The fix seems to be holding. Some exploratory excavation was done to see if there were issues with the collection gallery. No further exploration was done because it would become a bigger project with a longer timeline.
- The Burn Boss – Preliminary training was done by the manufacturer. The Village will conduct additional training this fall and will be allowed to use the parking lot only this year. In the future a new location (private property) will be needed as the Forest Service

will not allow the Village Fire Department to use the incinerator on Forest Service land (the parking lot) even though they think the incinerator is a wonderful thing and very safe for the Village and the environment.

- Projects – Utility trenching and dredging the Beaver pond are projects shared by the Village and TSV, Inc.
- Water Trust Board – Two applications have been submitted; one for the Kachina Water tank and one to develop the Gunsite Spring, to develop a secondary water source.

Human Resources Director Chisholm reported on personnel matters:

- Matthew Foster has been hired as Don Schieber’s assistant. He previously worked for the Town of Taos Planning Department.
- Ann Marie Wooldridge has been promoted to Village Clerk.
- Mayor King will officially authorize the changes at the November meeting.

Director Wallace summarized the September Public Safety Report:

(Councilor Wiard arrived during Wallace’s report.)

- Law Enforcement – Five citizen assists, one agency assist, one papers served, two residential and two commercial burglar alarms, one criminal damage to property, one downed power line, two larcenies, one intoxicated female removed from a bar, 43 hours of traffic enforcement (11 traffic stops, 4 written citations, 3 verbal warnings)
- EMS – One altitude sickness
- Fire – One fire reported down canyon that turned out to be an attended campfire
- September Activities included:
 - Big Barn Dance
 - Enchanted Circle Fire Academy (4 students, 1 instructor, 1 company officer, 1 command staff)
Since the mini-academy started in 2001, the VTSV Fire Department has had more students participate (32) than any other department in the Enchanted Circle.
 - Oktoberfest
 - KTM Adventure Motorcycle Rally
 - Burn Boss Training
- ISO (Insurance Service Office) – Since 1997 the VTSV Fire Department has been rated at a level 8 (scale with 10 low and 1 the best). After the inspection this summer, the VTSV Fire Department was raised from an 8 to a 6 rating. Congratulations to Wallace and the entire Fire Department.

Director Schieber reported on:

- NM State Engineer – Visit to look at the Beaver Pond, the Village’s original source of water in 1968.
- Water Sources – GPS coordinates are needed for the Village water sources.

Director Keen reported on:

- The sewer line fix on Bighorn Hill Road and the Bavarian pipeline have been completed.

8. REGIONAL AND STATE REPORTS

Councilor Wiard summarized the distributed report. The next Taos Regional Landfill Board and Intergovernmental Council (IGC) of the Enchanted Circle will meet on October 15, 2014. The NMML Board of Directors meeting prioritized the 2015 Legislative issues. She attended the DWI Grant Council meeting this morning. The National League of Cities (NLC) Congress of Cities will be in November in Austin, TX. Wiard reminded everyone about the elections on November 4, 2014 at the Edelweiss Lodge and Spa Club Room, and encouraged them to vote.

11. OLD BUSINESS

A. Public Hearing: Consideration to Approve Ordinance No. 2015-37, Amendments to Ordinance No 2003-37, An Ordinance Adopting Regulations for Septic Tanks and Sewer Use Within the Village of Taos Ski Valley.

The ordinance amendments were introduced at the September Council meeting. There are currently twelve homes that could directly connect to the Village system and would be affected by this ordinance change. An additional seven homes will be able to connect upon negotiating easements to facilitate gravity connections. In order for the Village to retain the current nitrogen level permit, 95 to 97% of eligible residents must be connected. Mayor King opened the Public Hearing.

Henry Caldwell, condo owner and property manager at the Inn at Taos Valley, spoke in favor of the ordinance amendments. No one spoke against the ordinance. Mayor King closed the Public Hearing.

MOTION: To approve Ordinance 2015-37, an ordinance mandating the connection of residences that could connect to the Village Sewer System adjacent to their properties

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

B. Public Hearing: Consideration to Approve Ordinance No. 2015-52, an Ordinance Creating the Office of Finance Director and Village Treasurer.

This ordinance was introduced at the September Council meeting. Ordinance No. 1997-06 created the position of Village Clerk/Treasurer. Staff conferred with other municipalities to verify that according to State statutes a separate ordinance for creating the Office of Finance Director and Village Treasurer is the correct procedure.

Mayor King opened the Public Hearing. No one spoke either for or against the Ordinance. The Mayor closed the Public Hearing. Councilor Stagg reiterated that he feels an ordinance specifying a Finance Director is not needed. Discussion followed.

MOTION: To approve Ordinance No. 2015-52, creating the office of Finance Director and Village Treasurer.

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

C. Public Hearing: Consideration to Approve Ordinance No. 2015-53, an Ordinance creating the Office of Village Clerk.

This Ordinance was introduced at the September Council meeting. Staff conferred with other municipalities to verify that according to State Statutes a separate ordinance for Village Clerk is the correct procedure.

Mayor King opened the Public Hearing. No one spoke either for or against the Ordinance. The Mayor closed the Public Hearing.

MOTION: To approve Ordinance No. 2015-53, an Ordinance creating the Office of the Village Clerk.

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

12. NEW BUSINESS

A. Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2015-270, a Resolution creating separate positions of Village Clerk and Village Treasurer.

This agenda item was not needed based on the outcome of the votes under OLD BUSINESS. No motion was made.

13. MISCELLANEOUS - None

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

The next meeting of the Village Council Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 5, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. at the Edelweiss Lodge and Spa Club Room. Election/Voting Day is on Tuesday, November 4, 2014.

16. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Councilor Stagg

Second: Councilor Wiard

Passed: 4-0.

Neal King, Mayor

Ann Wooldridge, Village Clerk