



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

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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

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2013 2:00 P.M.**

**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, Village Clerk/Treasurer, called roll and a quorum was present.

**Governing body present were:**

Mayor Neal King  
Mayor Pro Tem Barbara Wiard  
Councilor Kathy Bennett  
Councilor Chris Stagg  
Councilor Tom Wittman

**Staff present were:**

Village Administrator Mark Fratrack  
Village Clerk/Treasurer Vanessa Chisholm  
Public Safety Director David Wallace  
Village Attorney Dennis Romero

**3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

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

**Motion:** Councilor Wittman

**Second:** Councilor Stagg

**Passed:** 4-0

**4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 3, 2013 VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING**

**MOTION: To approve the minutes from the September 3, 2013 Village Council Meeting.**

**Motion:** Councilor Wiard

**Second:** Councilor Wittman

**Passed:** 4-0.

**5. CITIZENS FORUM**

No one spoke at the Citizen's Forum.

**6. FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Clerk/Treasurer Chisholm reported that the annual audit is complete. Details will be presented at a future Council meeting. She presented the Profit & Loss report and a previous year comparison. Revenues are up just a little, but down from the previous years.

**7. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A. Planning and Zoning Commission**

Councilor Wittman summarized the September 30 meeting. There was discussion on the demolition of part of the J.R. Ramming Memorial Trail (including the ADA boardwalk) by TSV, Inc. to create their new tubing runs. It was recommended that the Parks and Recreation Committee be involved in finding a solution. Councilor Stagg stated that it is part of the plan in the EIS. The Snow Removal Ordinance will be introduced at the November Council meeting, with a vote in December. Steve Ruppert and Mary Mortimer have resigned from the Commission. April Bender and Henry Caldwell will fill the vacancies. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 4, 2013, at 1:00 p.m., at the Edelweiss Lodge and Spa Club Room.

**B. Public Safety Committee**

No meeting.

**C. Parks and Recreation Committee**

No meeting.

**D. Lodgers' Tax Advisory Board**

No report.

**8. REGIONAL AND STATE REPORTS**

Mayor Pro Tem Wiard reported on the meetings of the Intergovernmental Council (IGC) of the Enchanted Circle and the Taos Regional Landfill Board. She gave an update on illegal dumping in the county. The proposed covered/secured loads resolution includes a first time fine of \$40 or purchase of a tarp. Repeat offenders will be fined and cited. Improvement plans for the Landfill have been created for possible legislative funding. The IGC had a presentation by Renewable Taos and a proposed resolution to support renewable energy. A plan has been created for IGC 2014 legislative involvement. This includes a luncheon for IGC members to present regional and individual priorities to the legislators representing the region (December 12) and an Enchanted Circle Day at the capitol during the session (January 22). The budget has been divided by percentages. The Village portion is \$425. Other meetings included the VTSV Audit Summary in September and an October meeting of the Governor's DWI Grant Council.

**9. MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor King reported a \$500 donation to the EMS Department from the grateful husband of a patient who was rescued/treated while camping in La Cal Basin. The participation surveys are being returned. He re-analyzed the water/sewer/trash rates using 1200 per EQR vs. 1500 per EQR gallons. For the first time the Forest Service is suddenly requiring an application for a burn permit of the slash pile by the Fire Department. Due to the government shutdown, the permit may not be processed in time for the scheduled burn. Dave Wallace will pursue this.

**10. STAFF REPORTS**

Administrator Fratrack reported that the ICIP has been submitted. A resident received a letter about water rights in conjunction with the Abeyta water settlement. Attorney Romero believes this does not affect the Village and will research the issue. Utility projects have faced some challenges due to the amount of rain, but all projects are moving forward. There has been no movement or update on the Townsite Act even though Senator Tom Udall had contacted the Forest Service. The Community Navigation Tiger Team (CNTT) met with the Town of Taos on the bus schedule. They are working on a plan to utilize the van. Taos County and the Town of Taos have signed an MOU to create a new JPA within 90 days for the regional dispatch/command center. A member Board will be created to oversee the organization.

Director Wallace reported that September was a busy month with the Barn Dance Weekend and Octoberfest. These events were very well attended and people were behaved. The annual Fire Academy and Enchanted Circle EMS Conference took place in Red River. A hiker on the Manzanita Trail had been reported missing, but showed up at his campsite later in the afternoon.

Councilor Bennett expressed her appreciation and thanks to Ray Keen and the Public Works Department employees for a job well done on Bull of the Woods Road and Snowshoe Road last week. There is a job opening in the Public Works Department and discussion was held as to how to get people to apply for the job.

**11. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Discussion: Rick Chancellor – Proposal to Change Fishing Regulations within the Village Limits to Catch and Release Fishing.**

Rick Chancellor was not at the meeting. Kei Braun gave his opinion and views on the subject of catch and release fishing. No decisions were made following discussion.

**12. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Consideration to Approve Memorandum of Agreement TT-14-98 in the Amount of \$30,000 between the Town of Taos and the Village of Taos Ski Valley for Ski Season Bus Service**

This is a memorandum of agreement renewed on an annual basis between the Village of Taos Ski Valley and the Town of Taos for the purpose of providing transportation service for the 2013-2014 Ski Season which will commence on December 14, 2013 through March 30, 2014 and limited service March 31, 2014 through April 7, 2014. Discussion followed.

**MOTION: To approve the memorandum of agreement between the Village of Taos Ski Valley and the Town of Taos providing transportation during the ski season for \$30,000.**

**Motion:** Councilor Wiard

**Second:** Councilor Wittman

**Passed:** 4-0

**B. Consideration to Approve Resolution #2014-251, a Resolution Authorizing Staff to Apply for Funding through the Water Trust Board**

In an effort to continue the Village Water System upgrade, one of the next priorities is to construct the below grade two-hundred and fifty thousand (250,000) gallon water tank above the Kachina Village area. First and foremost, this tank and line system will provide the much needed fire suppression pressurization for the Kachina Village area. It will also allow for water chlorination contact time and water storage for the Village of Taos Ski Valley's entire water system.

**MOTION: To approve Resolution #2014-251, a resolution authorizing staff to apply for funding through the Water Trust Board.**

**Motion:** Councilor Stagg

**Second:** Councilor Wiard

**Passed:** 4-0

**C. Discussion: Volunteers Needed to Help Maintain USFS Bull of the Woods Restrooms for the Ski Season.**

USDA Forest Service, Carson National Forest, Snow Ranger, Richard Holmes, asked if the Village would volunteer to help maintain the USFS Bull of the Woods restrooms during the ski season. This would involve restocking toilet paper, cleaning the restroom and removing any trash. This would need to be done once a week, maximum. The Public

Works Department has confirmed they will pick up any trash at the restrooms and restock the toilet paper. Discussion followed. Staff will meet with the Parks and Recreation Committee to come up with a plan.

**13. MISCELLANEOUS:**

**A. Holy Cross Hospital**

Mayor Pro Tem Wiard reported that she and Councilor Stagg attended the joint meeting of the Town of Taos and Taos County for their discussion regarding Holy Cross Hospital. There were presentations by the hospital and also by the staff, followed by questions and discussion. While the County and the Town decided to create a joint oversight Board, Stagg stated that would not be possible because the hospital is run by a private company. Wiard voiced her disappointment that hospital staff was not included in the process of budget cuts, reorganization, and layoffs. Wiard stated that the Council has only heard one side of the situation (hospital) and there is another side.

**B. J.R. Ramming Nature Trail**

Mayor Pro Tem Wiard expressed her shock that a section of the J.R. trail had been destroyed, including the ADA boardwalk and platform. She and others are also upset by the amount of vegetation that was removed. Counselor Stagg defended the action because it is included in the plan in the EIS that was presented and made public. Wiard stated the path is not mentioned in the plan. Stagg presented the plan map showing the tubing lanes. Wiard pointed out that the trail is not even on the map for anyone to realize where or how the trail would be affected. None of the other Council members or Village staff knew the extent of the damage. After a lengthy discussion, it was decided that the Village staff, Parks and Rec Committee, and TSV, Inc. will need to collaborate on a plan to rectify the situation.

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

The next meeting of the Village Council will be held on Tuesday, November 5, 2013, at 2:00 p.m., at the Edelweiss Lodge and Spa Club Room.

**15. CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION – Pending Litigation: LCI2 vs. VTSV**

**MOTION: To move to Executive Session to discuss pending litigation.**

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

**MOTION: To return to Open Session. No decisions, actions, or votes were made in Executive Session.**

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

**16. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion: To adjourn the meeting.**

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