



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

7 Firehouse Road
Post Office Box 100
Taos Ski Valley
New Mexico 87525

(575) 776-8220
(575) 776-1145 Fax

E-mail: vtsv@vtsv.org
Web Site: www.vtsv.org

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, NOVEMBER 5, 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 Works Director Ray Keen
Community Development Director Don Schieber
Public Safety Director David Wallace
Village Attorney Dennis Romero

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was decided to move item 12A, New Business, to follow Citizen's Forum.

MOTION: To approve the agenda as amended.

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

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 1, 2013 VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING

MOTION: To approve the minutes from the October 1, 2013 Village Council Meeting.

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

5. CITIZENS FORUM

No one spoke at the Citizen's Forum.

12. NEW BUSINESS

A. Presentation by Peter Hofstetter, CEO Holy Cross Hospital, Update on Changes in Healthcare and its Impact on Holy Cross Hospital

Hofstetter introduced Dr. Loretta Ortiz y Pino, Holy Cross Hospital Chief Medical Officer. Dr. Ortiz y Pino stated that 44 people were not laid off, as reported in the

Taos News. 44 were impacted with 18 actually laid off. The reduction in ICU beds was explained. Hofstetter addressed the issue of staff involvement in the decision making process. Councilor Stagg, a Holy Cross Hospital Board Member, talked about the hospital losing money due to less State and Federal funding.

6. FINANCIAL REPORTS

Clerk/Treasurer Chisholm reported Clerk/Treasurer Chisholm reported that the quarterly Lodgers' Tax report and the Municipal Report have been sent to the Department of Finance Authority. Expenses were \$38,000 above the previous year. The audit report was accepted and the auditors will report their findings at the December Village Council Meeting. The Village's Profit and Loss Previous Year Comparison report was presented to the Council. Chisholm explained several of the line items, such as the Lodgers' Tax revenues increase of about \$13,875 which is due to a delinquent payment. Legal services are over by \$38,902 due to pending litigation.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Planning and Zoning Commission

Councilor Wittman reported on the November 4, 2013 Planning and Zoning Commission meeting. Discussion included:

- Snow storage – Possible land purchase or other options for snow storage, including forest Service land designated in the Townsite Act. Information will be compiled for the Council P&Z may add project on the ICIP
- Snow Removal/Safety Ordinance – An agreement for snow removal by contractors was discussed. The Commission voted unanimously to recommend approval of the Snow Removal/Safety Ordinance by the Village Council. A decision on this ordinance will be made at the December Village Council meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 6, 2014, 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.

E. Committee Appointments – P & Z Commission

The Mayor would like to appoint April Bender and Henry Caldwell to the P & Z Commission.

MOTION: To approve the Mayor's appointment of April Bender and Henry Caldwell to the P & Z Commission.

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

8. REGIONAL AND STATE REPORTS

Mayor Pro Tem Wiard reported on the Taos Regional Landfill Board meeting. Final (third) notices for illegal dumping are being sent, plus five or six new ones. The Uncovered/Unsecured Loads Resolution was approved. The first offense is \$40, or it can be waived if a tarp is purchased for \$15-\$25 depending on the size. The second offense is \$40 fee and third offense is \$40 fee plus citation. Fees and prices will be reviewed annually. She updated information about the permit modification process and timing for the Landfill accepting sludge. Wiard and Mark Fratrack met with Rep. Bobby Gonzales regarding legislative requests. Gonzales supported requesting funding (phased) for the wastewater treatment plant.

9. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor King talked about the notice to the public that the Council would be attending court proceedings on Wednesday, October 30 with a possible quorum present. No other Village matters would be discussed or decided upon. Motions were heard all day by the judge and she said there would be a decision in about a month. The Mayor has a blog on the Village's website. The most recent blog posting discusses water usage. He is reading one customer's meter daily looking for problems and possible leaks. The Mayor, Administrator Fratrack, and Chief Wallace will attend a NM Self Insurer's class in Albuquerque on November 7. The Forest Service has just started enforcing an existing policy and will not issue a burn permit for the slash pile. Per policy, USFS employees have to burn the pile.

10. STAFF REPORTS

Administrator Fratrack gave a preliminary report on the cost estimate for utilities installation at the Bull of the Woods subdivision. Bob's Yard is not comfortable going to the Hiker Parking lot during the ski season to maintain and pump the port-a-potties. Staff will look into the possibility of building a permanent facility, possibly similar to the Forest Service SST (Sweet Smelling Toilet) at the Bull of the Woods trailhead. Staff is pushing hard to close out utility projects. Trenching at Kachina needs to be filled in. Fratrack reported that Senator Heinrich is going to present the Wilderness Act to the Energy and Land Use Hearing Board on November 20, 2013. Senator Udall has also contacted the Forest Service regarding the Townsite Act. Fratrack discussed investments, possible funding, and solar initiative, better interest rates and possible bonding for the new wastewater treatment plant at a meeting with George K. Baum representative Mark Valenzuela. The Community Navigation Tiger Team has agreed to use the van for an early morning and late evening employee shuttle. TSV, Inc. will operate this shuttle run. The Chamber will put together the preliminary information on daily excursions. TSV, Inc. will provide the insurance, driver and labor for maintenance on the van. Fratrack said he would draft a Van MOU between TSV, Inc., the Chamber, and VTSV. He has made the Village's requirements known to the EOC (Emergency Operations Center) including keep payments approximately the same, a vote/position on the Board, and review of the preliminary final draft. There was a short discussion about purchase of 19.3 acre feet of water rights from a Questa resident.

Schieber reported that a letter has been sent to the PRC requesting electric rates not go up.

Keen spoke about roads projects. Councilor Stagg thanked Ray and his department for a job well done on Big Horn Hill.

Chisholm, HR Director, said the Village has hired two new full time staff for the Public Works Department and one seasonal employee. John Miller has completed ERSI Geographic Information System (GIS) training and Ann Marie Wooldridge attended the Certified Municipal Clerk Institute and will attend the NMML Election School next week.

11. OLD BUSINESS

None

12. NEW BUSINESS

B. INTRODUCTION: ORDINANCE #2014-30 Zoning Regulations Ordinance. Amendments to Ordinance #2013-30 Addition to Section 7.4 Snow Safety, Snow Removal Requirements and Replacement of any References in the Ordinance to a Hearing Officer

Councilor Wittman introduced new wording to Ordinance #2014-30 replacing the wording in Ordinance #2013-30, which addresses snow removal, snow safety, and a contractor/Village plowing agreement. This was an introduction to Ordinance #2014-30, reviewed and modified by the P&Z Commission. A public hearing and consideration for approval by the Village Council will occur at the December Council meeting.

C. Consideration to Approve RESOLUTION #2014-252 A Resolution Authorizing and Approving Financial Assistance from the New Mexico State Highway and Transportation Department FY2013-14, NMLGRT DOT Project SP-5-14 (197).

The State Highway and Transportation Department requires a resolution for funding be approved by the Village Council. The Highway Department will be drafting a contract for Village approval for the 2014 road project. The State has committed to funding in the amount of \$43,332 with the Village contributing 25% of total project costs, or \$14,441.00 for a total project cost of \$57,763.00. Monies for the project will be used for full construction with drainage improvements of various local streets.

MOTION: To approve Resolution 2014-252, a resolution authorizing and approving financial assistance from the New Mexico State Highway and Transportation Department.

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

D. Discussion: Notification to Customers not Connected to the Village Sewer System or Village Water System Where Connection is Available per Ordinance.

Staff would like to send letters to those customers with access that have not yet connected to the Village sewer or water system and encourage them to connect. Staff submitted minutes of the October 2, 2007 Council Meeting as well as a list of the customers that would be affected. Discussion was held concerning connection charges. It was the consensus of the Council that it was time to enforce the customer hook ups where possible and that the letter should be sent to these customers.

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 will be held on Tuesday, December 3, 2013, at 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.

Neal King, Mayor

Vanessa Chisholm, Village Clerk