



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

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2013 2:00 P.M.

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

1. CALL TO ORDER & NOTICE OF MEETING

The regular meeting of the Village of Taos Ski Valley Council was called to order by Mayor Neal 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.

Those present were:

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

Also present were:

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

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Councilor Wiard requested that items A. *Power Point Presentation and Discussion by Taos Town Manager, Oscar Rodriguez, Regarding Draft JPA for Taos Central Dispatch* and B. *Presentation by Luis Reyes and Steve Fuhlendorf, Kit Carson Electric Cooperative, Regarding Update on Fiber Optic Trenching Project* under New Business be moved up in the agenda to follow the Citizen's Forum.

MOTION: To approve the agenda as amended.

Motion: Councilor Wiard

Second: Councilor Wittman

Passed: 4-0

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 8, 2013 VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING

MOTION: To approve the minutes from the January 8, 2013 Village Council Meeting

Motion: Councilor Wiard

Second: Councilor Stagg

Passed: 4-0.

5. CITIZENS FORUM

No one spoke at the Citizen's Forum.

12. A. Power Point Presentation and Discussion by Taos Town Manager, Oscar Rodriguez, Regarding Draft JPA for Taos Central Dispatch

Public Safety Director, Dave Wallace, introduced Oscar Rodriguez, Town of Taos Manager. The purpose of Rodriguez's presentation is to continue to engage the Village of Taos Ski Valley as a stake holder along with the Town of Taos, Taos County and the Village of Questa, in the financing of 911 Central Dispatch. Rodriguez discussed several issues with the current operation of the Central Dispatch, including 13 full time employees with not enough supervisors; no Director, bad working conditions, no one to deal with the antenna and a \$670,000 budget. He said it would cost \$345,000 to move the equipment to a new location owned by Kit Carson Electric. Rodriguez stated radios alone cost \$300,000 to move. A lengthy discussion followed. There were no decisions or positive outcome from the discussion or the presentation. Rodriguez said there would be another meeting on Tuesday morning, February 12, 2013, at the Taos County chambers.

B. Presentation by Luis Reyes and Steve Fuhlendorf, Kit Carson Electric Cooperative, Regarding Update on Fiber Optic trenching Project

Luis Reyes did not attend the meeting. Steve Fuhlendorf, Public Information Officer, gave a presentation regarding an update on the fiber optics trenching project. He said the cost per mile to do this is \$7.00/foot underground and \$2.00/foot above ground. He said the estimate for the grant money was for above ground installation to the Village of Taos Ski Valley, not underground. A question/answer session followed, with the Council members stating that power as it is now to the Village of Taos Ski Valley, is not reliable and the service is inadequate. There were no decisions or positive outcome from the discussion or presentation.

6. FINANCIAL REPORTS

Vanessa Chisholm presented the Council with the gross receipts tax collections and lodgers' tax collections for January. Chisholm reported that GRT (year to date) collections are \$297,183.71, pretty even with last year (up by \$356.00). Lodgers' tax is up slightly.

Chisholm also presented the Municipal Quarterly Report and Lodgers' Tax Quarterly Report, required by the Department of Finance and Administration. The quarter ending December 31, 2012 cash ending balance is \$1,047,058.00. The financial reports were accepted into the minutes.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Planning and Zoning Commission

Councilor Wittman stated the commission did not meet in February. The next meeting is scheduled for March 4, 2013, at 1:00 p.m., at the Edelweiss Lodge and Spa Club Room.

B. Public Safety Committee

Councilor Bennett stated the Public Safety Committee did not meet. Bennett reported that the committee will meet in March before spring break, date to be announced. An agenda item will be "adopt a fire hydrant".

C. Parks and Recreation Committee

No report.

D. Arts and Entertainment Committee

No report.

E. Lodgers' Tax Advisory Board

No report.

8. REGIONAL AND STATE REPORTS

Councilor Wiard reported that the IGC and Regional Landfill Boards did not meet last month and the next meetings are to be determined. Councilor Wiard attended the Water Trust Board, along with Mark Fratrack, on January 9, 2013. The Village's request of an extension for time regarding Loan/Grant #176-WTB was approved. January meetings attended by Wiard included the North Central New Mexico Economic Development District (NCNMEDD) and the opening of Legislature in Santa Fe. Councilor Wiard and Village staff, Mark Fratrack and Don Schieber, attended the NM Finance Authority Board meeting, where they approved the Water Trust Board time extension. Future meetings for Councilor Wiard include the NMML Municipal Day reception, meeting and board meeting in Santa Fe on February 19-20, 2013. She said the legislative session will last for 60 days and everything is up for grabs and discussion. Priorities are the Municipal revenues and autonomy.

Village Attorney, Dennis Romero, gave big "kudos" to Councilor Wiard for her statements at the Water Trust Board meeting.

9. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor King sincerely thanked Councilor Wiard and the Village staff for their extraordinary efforts in persuading the Water Trust Board and the NM Finance Authority in attaining the extension for the grant/loan so the Village can continue to improve its infrastructure.

10. STAFF REPORTS

Mark Fratrack reported on the Wilderness Area/Townsite Act (Congressional). Village representatives met with the Columbine-Hondo Wilderness Coalition during January and February to provide additional information, firm up our position and express the Village's support to the Senators and Representative of New Mexico. Fratrack and staff are putting together additional information for a Townsite Act application to secure the area of land that the wastewater treatment plant is located. This will be submitted directly to the Forest Service.

Fratrack also remarked about the Water Trust Board and NM Finance Authority meetings. The Village received twenty-two additional months to utilize the approximate \$625,000.00 in grant funding still outstanding for water system improvements.

Fratrack reported on a developers' meeting with Randy Hanebutt; he is the point person for the Beausoleil site. They discussed the realignment of Lake Fork Road; a possible easement with Sierra del Sol; and a two-way road with proper drainage.

Fratrack discussed the fact that there has been no movement on the optic line (natural gas line) trenching. He also reported the 15 passenger van was approved by the Town of Taos Council & the DFA. The Town of Taos will deliver the van to the Village of Taos Ski Valley, but the Village will still have to work through issues such as the insurance/liability, and who can drive and under what circumstances.

Fratrack read a very positive letter he received from Elliot Foucar (a resident) which thanked Olaf Mingo and the Public Works Department for a job well done. Fratrack congratulated the Public Works staff as they received the NM Water and Wastewater Association's President's award for the most improved facility in 2012. Ray Keen attended the awards ceremony in Las Cruces.

Dave Wallace, Public Safety Director, reported on fire/smoke incidents at the Edelweiss and the Alpine Village. He also said there were cars off the road during the recent storm. EMS volunteers have been active; the new gurney was used for the first time for a patient with a broken leg.

Don Schieber said he is dealing with some building code issues, for example lofts at condominiums, which are fire hazards. All rental units will be inspected in the coming months.

Ray Keen said the plant is working okay. Some lines have frozen up. The Kit Carson Electric power outage resulted in almost \$46,000 in damages, including electrical expenses and unplanned sludge hauling. The Village will be presenting an insurance claim to our providers with the NM Self Insurers Fund (NMSIF). The NMSIF will then seek reimbursement from Kit Carson Electric.

11. OLD BUSINESS

None

12. NEW BUSINESS

C. Discussion and Consideration to Approve: RESOLUTION #2013-243, a Resolution supporting the Columbine-Hondo Wilderness Designation.

The Columbine-Hondo Wilderness designation was not approved during the last Congress and Senate sessions. After the November, 2012 General Election there are many newly elected officials. It is felt that a new resolution supporting the Columbine-Hondo Wilderness Designation will reinforce the Village and Columbine-Hondo Wilderness Coalition's stance in favor of this designation.

MOTION: To approve Resolution #2013-243, a Resolution supporting the Columbine-Hondo Wilderness Designation.

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

D. Consideration to Appoint a Representative to the Holy Cross Hospital Nominating Committee.

Holy Cross Hospital is once again requesting the Village Council to appoint a representative to serve on the 9 member Nominating Committee. The Committee will meet several times to consider names and resumes of community minded persons willing to serve on the Hospital's 12 member Board. Councilor Bennett has agreed to be the representative on the nominating committee.

MOTION: To appoint Councilor Kathy Bennett to the Nominating Committee for Holy Cross Hospital.

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

13. MISCELLANEOUS:

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, March 5, 2013, 2:00 p.m., at~~ the Edelweiss Lodge and Spa Conference Room.

15. CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION:

MOTION: To proceed to closed executive session where discussion will be held on pending litigation.

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

MOTION: To proceed to open session and it is stated that no decisions or motions were made during closed session.

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

MOTION: To abandon the condemnation of the Terry Sports Building.

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

16. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: To adjourn the meeting.

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

Neal King, Mayor

Vanessa Chisholm, Village Clerk