



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

TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 2012 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

I. CALL TO ORDER & NOTICE OF MEETING

Mayor King called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. The notice of the meeting was properly posted.

II. ROLL CALL

Mayor King, Councilors Bennett, Stagg, Wiard, and Wittman were present. Staff members present included Mark Fratrack, Vanessa Chisholm, Don Schieber, Dave Wallace and Ray Keen. Dennis Romero, Village Attorney, was also present.

III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Councilor Wiard requested that item XII. D. "Ordinance 2012-50, Authorizing the Issuance of a Bond..." be moved to follow Section V. "Citizens Forum".

MOTION: To approve the agenda as amended.

Motion: Councilor Wiard **Second:** Councilor Wittman

Passed: 4-0.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 27, 2012 VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING

MOTION: To approve the minutes from the March 27, 2012 Village Council meetings.

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

V. CITIZENS FORUM – Limit to 5 minutes per person (please sign in)

No one spoke at the Citizen's Forum

XII. NEW BUSINESS

D. INTRODUCTION TO ORDINANCE #2012-50, Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of the Village of Taos Ski Valley, NM Gross Receipts Tax Refunding Revenue Bonds, Series 2012.

George K. Baum & Company, the Village's contracted financial planning company, recommended that we restructure or refinance some of our outstanding debt. John Archuleta, Senior Vice President, of George K. Baum, addressed the Council. He said they would do all the figures and financial analysis for refinancing. They've identified that by refinancing NMFA loan #PP-2073, the Village could possibly save between 20 to 30 thousand dollars a year until the debt was set to be paid off, which is in 2017. The Village has a signed professional service agreement with Rodey, Dickason, Sloan, Akin & Robb, PA to act as our bond council.

Vanessa Chisholm stated that the ordinance will be published in the legal section of the Taos News on April 26, 2012. A public hearing will be held regarding this ordinance at a special meeting of the Village Council on Thursday, May 10, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. at the Village Administrative office.

V. FINANCIAL REPORTS

Chisholm reported that gross receipts collections were \$182,358.83 for April (reflecting February's revenues). Lodgers' tax collections were up, with collections at \$66,115.91 for March. Chisholm

reviewed, with the Council, the Cash Activity Summary which breaks down all of the Village's bank accounts and cash balances. The financial reports were accepted into the minutes.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Planning and Zoning Commission

Councilor Wittman reported the Commission did not meet this month. Wittman discussed the Master Plan.

B. Public Safety Committee - No report.

C. Public Works Committee

Councilor Stagg requested that the Mayor dissolve the Public Works Committee, as there is no requirement for this committee to be active any longer. Mayor King approved and stated that the Public Works committee is hereby resolved.

D. Parks and Recreation Committee – No report.

E. Arts and Entertainment Committee

Dianne McKenzie, Chair, was not present but a report on the status of the Committee was given to the Council. A survey had been distributed to see what kind of entertainment the community would like to see happen this summer.

F. Lodgers' Tax Advisory Board - No report

G. Committee Appointments

Mayor King reported that after receiving several requests from citizens that wanted to be on the Lodgers' Tax Advisory Board (LTAB), he met with Roger Mariani, Chairman of the LTAB. It was noted that no one from the Amizette area is represented on this committee. With this in mind, the Mayor appointed Henry Caldwell and Susie Geilenfeldt to the LTAB, effective immediately with approval of the Council. Keith Dowell and Louise Pasaka will be stepping down from the LTAB. The Council thanked Dowell and Pasaka for their commitment over the years to the LTAB.

MOTION: To support the Mayor's appointment of Henry Caldwell and Susie Geilenfeldt to the Lodgers' Tax Advisory Board Committee.

Motion: Councilor Wiard

Second: Councilor Wittman

Passed: 4-0.

VII. REGIONAL AND STATE REPORTS

Councilor Wiard reported on the Intergovernmental Council (IGC) of the Enchanted Circle and the Taos Regional Landfill Board and stated they will not meet until May. Councilor Wiard attended the Governor's DWI Grant Council meeting last week. Wiard reported on the District II meeting held in Red River. It was announced that the Village would receive a credit of \$11,619.00 towards the liability and property insurance.

VIII. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor King and Mark Fratrack and other supporters of the Columbine-Hondo Wilderness, met with Senator Bingaman to hear the Senator's plans for the Columbine-Hondo Wilderness area. Legislation should be passed by the end of the year to create the Wilderness area as well as create mountain biking trails in Taos Ski Valley that will connect with Red River.

IX. STAFF REPORTS

Mark Fratrack, Village Administrator, updated Council on his meeting with the Forest Service concerning the Town Site Act. He discussed the property for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. He spoke about Kit Carson Electric Coop's (KCEC) optic line trenching. KCEC have received an

extension on funding use. The Village of Taos Ski Valley's new website is up and running; additional information and data will be added as time permits. Staff is waiting for additional information regarding the Water Trust Board application. The Village has received several proposals to the advertised Health Insurance RFP and will review and select an Agent/Broker. Map funding for roads has been submitted. Fratrack said he should know by the July meeting whether funding is available. The recently passed Revenue Collection Policy was discussed. A customer wanted relief from high usage where two houses shared one meter. There is no credit unless you can prove that the water went into the ground and not into the sewer system.

Dave Wallace talked about the arrival of the new Polaris and the newly formed Search and Rescue (SAR) team.

Ray Keen gave an update on the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Staff has had to monitor the plant 24/7. Spring break presented its usual challenges. There were some infiltration problems but staff has been able to handle these. They will be working on the wall again on Twining Road and will be accepting bids for moving the substation.

X. OLD BUSINESS - None

XI. NEW BUSINESS –

A. Introduction to: FY2013 Budget

Fratrick introduced the FY2013 Budget. Prior to this meeting a budget workshop was held and the Council reviewed the budget. A Public Hearing will be held at the May 8, 2012 Village Council Meeting to hear any comments from our residents. The draft budget will be available on the website and at the Village office for any of the Village residents to review. No action is required at this meeting.

B. Introduction to: Ordinance #2012-33, Adopting Amendments to the Personnel Policy Ordinance #03-33 (Revisions suggested by the Personnel Policy Review Committee)

A review committee consisting of Tom Wittman, Mark Fratrack, Vanessa Chisholm, Sheila Duffy, Olaf Mingo and Sammy Trujillo has been working for several months reviewing the Personnel Policy Ordinance. Changes have been made to simplify the ordinance as well as protect both the Village and the employee. Many of the Town of Alamogordo's policies were adopted here. This is the introduction to the Ordinance. A public hearing will be held on May 8, 2012 at the Village Council Meeting at 2:00 p.m. at the Edelweiss Lodge.

C. Introduction to: Ordinance #2012-14, Adopting Amendments to Lodgers' Tax Ordinance #2004-14, Amending Section 9.A. (1) to add "a duly licensed attorney acting on behalf of the Village" to the section.

Dennis Romero, Village Attorney, introduced this Ordinance to add to Section 9.A. (1) wording that authorizes a duly licensed attorney to act upon delinquent Lodgers' Tax payments. A public hearing will be held on May 8, 2012. No action was taken at this meeting.

E. Consideration and Approval of Resolution #2012-226, A Resolution Declaring Support for the Columbine-Hondo Wilderness Study Area on the Carson National Forest to be Added to the National Wilderness Preservation System and Supporting the Additional Acres to be Included into the Wheeler Peak Wilderness as Proposed by Senator Jeff Bingaman.

Discussion was held and it was determined that this resolution is fair to all involved. The Village Council thanked Senator Bingaman and his office for their hard work and diligence in creating a plan that works for all supporters and includes a separate, designated mountain biking trail.

MOTION: To approve Resolution #2012-226, declaring support for the Columbine-Hondo Wilderness Area as proposed by Senator Jeff Bingaman.

Motion: Councilor Wittman

Second: Councilor Bennett

Passed: 4-0.

XII. MISCELLANEOUS:

None

XIII. CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION – Pending Litigation

MOTION: To go to executive session to discuss pending litigation.

Motion: Councilor Wittman

Second: Councilor Bennett

Passed: 4-0.

MOTION: To return to open session; nothing was discussed except pending litigation and no votes were taken.

Motion: Councilor Stagg

Second: Councilor Wiard

Passed: 4-0.

XIII. 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, May 8, 2012, at 2:00 p.m., at the Edelweiss Lodge and Spa Conference Room.

There will be a Special Meeting of the Village Council on Thursday, May 10, 2012, at 10:00 a.m., at the Village Administration Office, for consideration and vote on the Bonding Ordinance #2012-50.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: To adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Councilor Bennett

Second: Councilor Stagg

Passed: 4-0.

Neal King, Mayor

Vanessa Chisholm, Village Clerk