

## **Minutes of the Public Safety Committee and Firewise Board Meeting for the Village of Taos Ski Valley, New Mexico held at 10am on Monday, November 4th, 2024, via Zoom.**

The meeting was called to order by Henry Caldwell at 10:00am. Notice of the meeting was properly announced. Members present were Henry Caldwell, Ben Pitz, Michael Chandler, Bob Thomas, Kent Kiehl and Jim Woodard.

The agenda for today's Public Safety Committee and Firewise Board Meeting was approved. (Motion: Jim Woodard, Second: Kent Kiehl, Unanimous.). The minutes for the October 7th, 2024, Public Safety Committee and Firewise Board Meeting were also approved. (Motion: Kent Kiehl, Second Jim Woodard, Unanimous)

### **Public Safety Committee:**

#### **Underground Power Project Status**

Robert Wooldridge stated that KCEC has installed the transformers on Upper Twining Road, but no meter packs have been installed. Phoenix Mechanical has installed underground power to the lot line for all three houses on Zaps Rd. Phoenix Mechanical is also preparing to install underground power to two houses on Big Horn. Robert believes that KCEC is ready to start working on the north side of Amizette. Robert is coordinating a meeting between the Village Engineering Support and ANS to prepare for next season.

#### **Water Meter Pilot Project Status**

Zenner, the smart meter contractor, is coordinating with Quickwater, the Village billing software provider, to insure compatibility. The Village has meters and is ready to install the pilot program meters as soon as installation can be scheduled. However, the Village has not paid Zenner

anything yet. The Village was assured that the integration between the Zenner meters Quickwater billing software was possible during the contact negotiation phase. If the billing compatibility issue is not resolved soon the Village may cancel the contract and rebid. There is also a desire to integrate these meter readings with those of the main line valves installed this summer to get a better picture of the status of the water distribution system. At least some of the Zenner meters are to be installed inside homes or garages, so coordination with the homeowner is required. The Village is attempting to communicate with all affected homeowners. Zenner believes they can install 2 or 3 meters per day as soon as they can be scheduled. The meters to be installed inside could continue even as winter closes in.

### **Recycling**

An exploratory meeting was held with TSVI. TSVI began recycling aluminum, cardboard, glass and plastic 1&2 several years ago. They have a small baler and a food waste digester. They are willing to partner with the Village if it makes sense for both parties. It might make sense for the Village to start soon recycling aluminum, glass and perhaps plastic. Grants applications for recycling infrastructure are due in January should that be desired.

### **Kachina Park Road**

Gabe Vasquez stated the vehicle traffic will not be allowed on Kachina Park road soon, surely by Thanksgiving. Gabe also stated the Public Works staff has been working on all the village roads. The committee expressed a strong interest keeping the area cleaned up and available for use as a Public Park, even in the winter.

### **Hiker Parking Redesign**

Joan Woodard presented a potential redesign for Hiker Parking (see attached presentation associated with these minutes). She stated that

she will be presenting this to all the stakeholders in the Village and will be looking for Grants to improve Hiker Parking. Issues raised were handicap parking, RV parking, and an alternate entrance.

### **No Passing Signs for Hwy 150 in Amizette.**

Chief Vigil stated that he has requested two more no passing signs for the Amizette. Getting signs installed is a somewhat complicated process involving the NM DOT.

### **Trash Compactor Electrical Issue**

Michael Chandler raised an electrical issue (cracked cable) with the trash compactor. Gabe stated that Waste Management, who owns the compactor was aware of the issue, but he would remind them.

### **Miscellaneous Items**

### **Firewise Board**

#### **Update on the NFL Grant/CWPP Rewrite Status**

Garrett Hanson stated that the contractors had made a great deal of progress and were close to completing the three initial areas defined (Bull of the Woods, Kachina Vista, and Porcupine). Chipmunk and Coyote were delayed due to the water line work in the area. Garrett stated that work has begun on 21 individual properties, and they are waiting on landowner agreements from 12. New applications might also be accepted for work next Summer.

### **Natural Gas Line Extension of Upper Twining**

Bob Thomas reported the results of his investigation of the process of extending the natural gas line to the homes on Upper Twining. The process was outlined. The homeowners must underwrite costs of not only their own line and equipment conversion but must also collectively pay for extending the main line. Bob has prepared a letter to the 20 residents on Upper Twining. The Committee encouraged Bob to proceed and use Upper Twining as a prototype. Michael Chandler agreed to assist in moving the prototype to other areas in the Village not currently served by Natural Gas. Robert Wooldridge agreed to provide the current gas line locations.

### **Real Exercise Planning**

Chief Vigil stated that the exercise on a Questa Propane Tank explosion still scheduled for November.

Chief Vigil also added that the Village has installed traffic camera with face recognition and license plate id going in and out of the Village on 150. The cameras are working well, and the Chief is exploring other locations (e.g. Sutton Place, the Water Tank and Hiking Parking).

### **Miscellaneous**

### **Adjournment/Next Meeting**

The Meeting was adjourned at 11:15am.

The next meeting will be at 10am on December 2nd, 2024, via Zoom.

*James B Woodard*

