

Minutes of the Public Safety Committee and Firewise Board Meeting for the Village of Taos Ski Valley, New Mexico held at 10am on Monday, February 3th, 2025, via Zoom.

The meeting was called to order by Henry Caldwell at 10:01am. Notice of the meeting was properly announced. Members present were Henry Caldwell, Bob Thomas, Kent Kiehl and Ben Pitz.

The agenda for today's Public Safety Committee and Firewise Board Meeting was approved with the addition of an NFL and CWPP presentation by Garrett Hanson. The minutes for the January 6, 2025, Public Safety Committee and Firewise Board Meeting were also approved after the correction of a typo. (Motion: Kent Kiehl, Second Bob Thomas, Unanimous)

Public Safety Committee:

Smart Water Meter Pilot Status

Rick Bellis stated that the Village has decided to replace the software responsible for water billing. The Zenner meters will be installed in the Spring as they provide the Village a remote turnoff capability and homeowners real time water use data. However, the Village will go out for bid on new software to read the meters. Rick is tentatively planning on an information session for the Village Council this Month. The Public Safety Committee will be invited.

Recycling/Partnership with TSVI

Rick stated that TSV will start recycling in two phases. First, starting in the Spring, VTSV and TSVI will begin working together to transport some recycling items to the County for recycling. The bins will be on

trailers which can be hauled to the Landfill with a pickup. Second, the New Mexico Governor has accepted a proposal by TSVI, the Village and Regional Landfill Board to build a recycling facility to support a recycling program in the small communities in Northern New Mexico. The Grant will be for \$8M which is probably enough for the facility, but marketing will still be an issue. Recycling of cans, cardboard and perhaps plastic bottle should soon be available in Taos Ski Valley.

Kachina Park Road

Rick stated that grading, cleanup and gate replacement at Kachina Park will be done in concert with the PARC Planning Grant, if approved, since these are items are part of Cost Sharing for the Grant. Work will hopefully start in July and be completed by Fall.

ATV Usage on Village Roads

Prior to the meeting Rick shared both the current Village ATV Ordinance and the Corrales ATV Ordinance. There is a desire to ban ATVs on village roads do to resulting road damage, dust and noise, however there may be issues with restricting ATVs with a NM Off Road Permit. More legal work to do on that issue.

Trash Compactor Electrical Issue

Henry thanked Gabe for putting in a work order with Waste Management and getting the broken conduit fixed.

No Passing Signs for Hwy 150 in Amizette.

Rick stated that No Passing Signs from the NM DOT should be installed in Amizette soon.

Gondolita Crossing on Upper Sutton Place

Rick, Virgil and Gabe spent some time looking at the vehicle and pedestrian traffic at the Gondolita crossing. The area will be modified

and regraded as part of the hotel construction, so no major work will be done this winter. They have some ideas for addressing the issues and Jalmar Bowden stated that there is also a proposed fix that was worked out last year. This winter gravel and improved signage would probably help for this winter.

Signs

Rick said there was a meeting scheduled including the Forest Service, TSVI, the Village and the Chamber in which he will identify and get agreement on a sign standard for use within the Village.

Marijuana Shop/Event Permits

Prior to the meeting Rick shared the current and draft Event Permits for Outdoor activities. Rick would like to use an event permit process to control and manage noise, traffic, security and parking associated with Outdoor Events including potential Marijuana Shop events. Rick plans to bring this before the Village Council soon.

Miscellaneous Items

Firewise Board:

NFL and CWPP Grants

The relatively warm and dry weather has allowed more NFL Grant progress on the Amizette North track than expected. Further, there are approximately 20 private lots ready for treatment in the Spring.

However, some of the homeowners who applied for the NFL program have not responded to requests for information and signatures. There are 3 three contractors on the State Pricing List as well as the Rocky Mountain Youth Corp lined up for the spring season. There is concern that the dry winter could result in chain saw restrictions that would slow the NFL Grant work. Garratt has been making connections and

preparing to update the VTSV CWPP. It has been 10 years since the Village prepared a CWPP, 5 years past the recommended update date. The Village has applied for a CWPP Grant which would pay for the update. There is some concern the Federal Funds Freeze could impact both the NFL and CWPP Grant payout process. There is also a nation-wide freeze on burning slash piles so the slash along Hwy 150 may be with us for a while.

Natural Gas Line Extension of Upper Twining

Bob Thomas reported that he had sent out an e-mail to the Upper Twining Rd residents and had received very strong support for bring Natural Gas up Upper Twining Rd. At least 13 out of the 21 residents have responded, all positively. The next step is to get applications filled out for those interested and set up a meeting with Chris Baca, the New Mexico Gas Co representative for the Village. Rick stated that the Village wanted all Twining Rd underground work done before the Twining Road improvements begin.

Real Exercise Planning

Virgil stated the Planning Exercise was still planned for Summer in Questa.

Miscellaneous

Bob Thomas requested that the Public Safety Committee be brought up to date on the Village plans for Underground, Microgrid and Battery Power in the Village at the March PS/FW Meeting. Rick agreed that would be a good time for an update.

Adjournment/Next Meeting

The Meeting was adjourned at 11:25am.

The next meeting will be at 10am on March 3rd, 2025, via Zoom.

James B Woodard