

Village of Taos Ski Valley

Council Agenda Item

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: **Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2016-299 Approving a Three Percent (3%) Increase to Water/Sewer Rates as per Fiscal Year 2016 Budget**

DATE: October 13, 2015

PRESENTED BY: Mark G. Fratrack

STATUS OF AGENDA ITEM: Old Business

CAN THIS ITEM BE RESCHEDULED: Not Recommended

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: At the July 14, 2015 Village of Taos Ski Valley Council meeting, Council approved Resolution No. 2016-286 FY2016 Final Budget adoption. As part of the FY2016 Final Budget, the FY 2016 Budget Summary is adopted, which stated in regards to Water/Sewer rates: "Based on a conservative forecasted usage and downward trend, to meet our budgeted billing goals, staff is recommending a 3% increase on fixed and variable rates. For variable rates this will equate to an increase of .12 of a cent increase per gallon. Our variable rate will go from \$.0408 to \$.0420 per gallon. For fixed rates this will equate to an increase of \$1.53 per EQR. Our fixed rate will go from \$51.00 to \$52.53 per EQR. Raising it by 3%, we are trying to keep up with the ever steady raising cost of goods and utilities while hedging against a downward usage trend." The attorney that is drawing up the loan paperwork is asking that the rates be approved through a resolution or ordinance. As part of the follow up paperwork for the WTB Kachina Water Tank project, the resolution will formally approve the water/sewer rates.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of Resolution No. 2016-299.

Village of Taos Ski Valley

Council Agenda Item

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Consideration to Approve a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the Village of Taos Ski Valley and the North Central Regional Transit District (RTD) to provide a bus route to Taos Ski Valley for the 2015-2016 Ski Season

DATE: October 13, 2015

PRESENTED BY: Mark G. Fratrack, Village Administrator

STATUS OF AGENDA ITEM: New Business

CAN THIS ITEM BE RESCHEDULED: Yes

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

This MOA is for an agreement between the Village of Taos Ski Valley and the RTD for the purpose of providing transportation service for the 2015-2016 ski season. The service will commence in mid-December 2015 and go through to end of March 2016. The RTD receives funding in the amount of a 1/8 (or .125) % GRT from the Village of Taos Ski Valley for services. The RTD is requesting to maintain the \$30,000.00 seasonal payment the Village of Taos Ski Valley had paid to the Town of Taos in previous agreements. The Town of Taos did not receive any GRT for busing services. The schedule will be the same schedule as last year's bus service. A change with this MOA is that roundtrip fare will go from \$2.00 to \$4.00, and the one-way fare will go from \$1.00 to \$2.00.

RECOMMENDATION: Discussion and approval of memorandum of agreement between the Village of Taos Ski Valley and the RTD to provide transportation during the ski season

Village of Taos Ski Valley (VTSV)

Council Agenda Item

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Consideration to Approve the Nature Conservancy Request for the Village of Taos Ski Valley to Sign the Rio Grande Wildfire and Water Source Protection Collaborative Charter

DATE: October 13, 2015

PRESENTED BY: Mark G. Fratrick

STATUS OF AGENDA ITEM: New Business

CAN THIS ITEM BE RESCHEDULED: Not Recommended

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The Nature Conservancy, New Mexico Field Office, would like to request that the Village of Taos Ski Valley sign onto the Collaborative Charter for the Rio Grande Water Fund (RGWF). This is a non-binding charter pledging general support for the initiative, which aims to accelerate the pace of forest restoration and wildfire risk reduction throughout the Rio Grande watershed. For more background, the RGWF 20-year comprehensive plan is available at <http://nmconservation.org/rgwf/plan.html>; the Landscape Restoration Strategy for the Taos area, including a focus on the Rio Hondo corridor and TSV, is available at <http://allaboutwatersheds.org/library/inbox/tvwc-landscape-restoration-strategy/view>.

Recommendation: Staff recommends signing on to the charter for the Rio Grande Water Fund (RGWF), the Rio Grande Wildfire and Water Source Protection Collaborative Charter.

Village of Taos Ski Valley (VTSV)

Council Agenda Item

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: **Consideration to Approve The Nature Conservancy request for a donation of \$5,000.00 to the U.S Geological Survey for a Fire History Study**

DATE: October 13, 2015

PRESENTED BY: Mark G. Fratrack

STATUS OF AGENDA ITEM: New Business

CAN THIS ITEM BE RESCHEDULED: Not Recommended

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The Nature Conservancy is planning to conduct a Fire History Study for the Taos area as part of our Rio Grande Water Fund (RGWF) project and in cooperation with the Taos Valley Watershed Coalition. The RGWF is an innovative program designed to accelerate ecological restoration of forests throughout the upper Rio Grande watershed to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire, protect water sources, improve wildlife habitat, and benefit local communities through job creation and economic development. The Fund provides a mechanism to facilitate public and private investment at an accelerated pace and scale of restoration, with the goal of generating \$21 million per year of sustainable funding over the next 20 years.

Any contribution from the Village of Taos Ski Valley will be considered a government-to-government transfer to the U.S. Geological Survey, so will not create any anti-donation issues.

Attached is the current draft budget for the planned Fire History Study.

Recommendation: N/A

Village of Taos Ski Valley (VTSV)

VTSV Agenda Item

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Consideration to Approve Authorizing Staff to Initiate a Letter of Intent to purchase the Taos Mountain Lodge Property

DATE: October 13, 2015

PRESENTED BY: Mark G. Fratrick

STATUS OF AGENDA ITEM: New Business

CAN THIS ITEM BE RESCHEDULED: Not Recommended

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The Village of Taos Ski Valley offices are presently on the upper story of the Village of Taos Ski Valley Firehouse. The office space was adequate in the past, but the Village staffing requirement has grown as the ski valley has continued to develop and more activity is taking place. The Village has gotten to a point that most Village staff share office space. When privacy is required, some staff members are required to leave their own office to allow for others to utilize the office for private and/or sensitive discussions. With offices and the main office area being cramped, it does not lend to proper privacy, or to attend to discussions with citizens that should be held in confidence or kept private. The Village staff continues to look for property in the ski valley that would allow for reasonable office expansion, allot more appropriate office space and workspace for individuals and provide required storage area for files and documents, and Village growth in general. At present, the Village does not own any property that would allow for future expansion or that would give the Village options for future building, expansion and growth. The Mayor and staff were recently given a tour of the Taos Mountain Lodge property by ABI realtors.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approval and authorization for the Village to initiate a Letter of Intent in regards to the possible purchase of the Taos Mountain Lodge property.

Village of Taos Ski Valley (VTSV)

Council Agenda Item

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Consideration to Approve Entering into a Contract with a Realtor Firm to represent the Village as the Buyer in the possible purchase of the Taos Mountain Lodge

DATE: October 13, 2015

PRESENTED BY: Mark G. Fratrack

STATUS OF AGENDA ITEM: New Business

CAN THIS ITEM BE RESCHEDULED: Not Recommended

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The Village of Taos Ski Valley is looking at possibly purchasing the Taos Mountain Lodge. To help protect the Village's interests, it would be best for the Village to hire a Realtor Firm to represent Village as the Buyer.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approval and authorization for the Village staff to select and negotiate the Realtor Firm contract.

Village of Taos Ski Valley (VTSV)

Council Agenda Item

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Discussion and Consideration to Approve Sierra Del Sol (SDS) Condominiums request for reimbursement of approximately \$8,000.00 for legal and engineering fees concerning the Burroughs' Culvert Project

DATE: October 13, 2015

PRESENTED BY: Mark G. Fratrack

STATUS OF AGENDA ITEM: New Business

CAN THIS ITEM BE RESCHEDULED: Not Recommended

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: West Burroughs Crossing (also referred to as the Burroughs' Culvert Project) is a project identified on the TIDD Public Improvement Finance Plan. The project entails removing current culverts and replacing them with 100-year flood culverts, to also include some stream bank work, river work, and road work. The project is contained within two properties; the two property owners in question are Taos Ski Valley, Inc. and SDS Condominiums. Russell Engineering has met various times with SDS to discuss, and has adjusted the design of the project in question. SDS was not satisfied with the original engineering drawings done by Russell Engineering or the adjusted drawings, so it is our understanding that SDS hired legal and engineering services to help in their understanding and to satisfy concerns with the project in general. The Village of Taos Ski Valley staff hired a surveyor to mark the main points in question for reference and facilitated a meeting with all entities involved. The meeting was attended by TSVIs' CEO, a Russell Engineering representative, a SDS Board Member, SDS's engineering representative, and from VTSV, Mayor King, Public Safety Director, Community Planning Director, and the Village Administrator. SDS is now requesting approximately \$8,000.00 from the TIDD and/or the Village of Taos Ski Valley for reimbursement for said fees.

Recommendation: Staff does not recommend approval of SDS reimbursement request.