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VILLAGE COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING  
DRAFT MINUTES  
SNAKEDANCE CONDOMINIUMS HONDO RESTAURANT  
110 SUTTON PLACE  
TAOS SKI VALLEY, NEW MEXICO  
TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 2018, 2:00 P.M.

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**1. CALL TO ORDER & NOTICE OF MEETING**

The regular meeting of the Village of Taos Ski Valley Council was called to order by Mayor Brownell at 2:00 p.m. The notice of the meeting was properly posted.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Ann Wooldridge, Village Clerk, called the roll and a quorum was present.

**Governing body present:**

Mayor Christof Brownell  
Councilor Jeff Kern  
Councilor Roger Pattison  
Councilor Chris Stagg  
Councilor Tom Wittman, Mayor Pro Tem

**Staff present:**

Village Administrator Mark Fratrick  
Village Clerk Ann Wooldridge  
Public Works Director Ray Keen  
Police Chief Sam Trujillo  
Public Works Superintendent Olaf Mingo  
Planning Director Patrick Nicholson  
Building Inspector Jalmar Bowden  
Administrative Assistant Renee Romero  
Administrative Assistant Christina Wilder  
Village Attorney Dennis Romero  
Fire Chief Mitch Daniels

**3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**MOTION: To approve the agenda as presented**

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

**4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 15, 2018 VILLAGE COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING and the MAY 19, 2018 VILLAGE COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING**

**MOTION: To approve the minutes with an amendment on the May 15, 2018 Mayor's Report to say that the overhead electric lines going back down the canyon go to Taos East, not just to Amizette**

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

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

**A. Presentation by TSVI on Summer 2018 Updates**

David Norden, TSVI CEO, reported that work is on-schedule for the new detachable-quad lift. It will follow the path of the previous lift #5. The bottom terminal concrete is being poured now, and the helicopter will arrive in a month to pour the concrete for the top of the lift and for installation of the towers. Their plans are to load-test the lift on October 15, 2018.

Mr. Norden said that the Phoenix Grill has been gutted and work is being done to renovate, expand, and put the new plans in place. Work will begin next on the Bavarian Lodge & Restaurant's new kitchen. TSVI hopes to create an alpine meadow in the Kachina Basin. This will allow snow cats to groom from the bottom of Lift #4 to the Bavarian Lodge. The hiking trail system is being upgraded so that visitors can more readily find the Williams Lake Trail, the Wheeler Peak Trail, and the trail by the Kachina wetlands. TSVI will be creating a wedding venue near the wetlands with room for 80-100 people. The Williams Lake Trail is being relocated onto U.S. Forest Service land from private property. TSVI is trying to get some mountain bike trails constructed by August – September. These will be more gentle slopes, like green or blue level ski runs. TSVI is conducting a tree thinning project up above the Phoenix Spring area. There are also plans for tree thinning in TSVI's special use area with the U.S. Forest Service, though variances may need to be sought if forest closures were to occur. No one else spoke at the Citizens' Forum.

## 6. FINANCIAL REPORTS

Finance Director Grabowski reported that GRT remitted to the Village in May was \$243,419 compared to \$208,890 for May last year. Year-to-date GRT total is \$1,522,794 versus \$1,504,899 for last year. The TIDD received \$105,806 in GRT in May for March collections.

Lodger's tax collections in May were \$1,667 versus \$5,683 for last year. Year-to-date total is \$346,187 versus last year's \$313,754.

\$28,367 in Hold Harmless GRT revenues were received in May. Year-to-date total is \$151,844. These funds will be transferred to the Village bank account at Hillcrest Bank to keep the funds segregated for bond interest payments for the WWTP upgrades.

Advertising for a Wastewater Operator, Level II or II, has had limited results.

## 7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

**A. Planning and Zoning Commission** –Commission Chair Wittman reported that the June 4, 2018 P&Z meeting consisted of two public hearings for Conditional Use Permit applications for Parcels D and C, by TSV Inc. Each Permit passed unanimously by a vote of 6-0, with conditions placed on approval that had been recommended by Staff.

Commission Chair Wittman presented a certificate of appreciation for April Bender for her years of service on the P&Z Commission.

The next P&Z Commission meeting will take place on July 2, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. at the Snakedance Condominiums Hondo Restaurant.

**B. Public Safety Committee** –Committee Chair Pattison reported that the Committee met on June 4, 2018. Agenda items included:

- Village Staff sent out firewise thinning information and standards to all property owners in the Village.
- The Evacuation Plan, which had been included in the information sent out, is an important document. Homeowners are advised to keep it on hand. The Plan advises residents and visitors that, in the event of a wildfire, people should evacuate. If that is not possible, then they should take shelter in the Children's Center. The Kachina area may need an evacuation plan of its own.
- The Committee would like everyone to sign up for the Text Interactions text alert system which will be used in the event of an emergency.
- The Committee will assist property owners to self-evaluate for firewise planning.
- The Open Fires ordinance may be amended.
- The Public Safety impact fees were recently reviewed. The second siren will be returned and a new one ordered that has smaller electrical requirements. Impact fees will be used for the purchase.
- Fire restrictions are in place in the Carson National Forest, as well as in the Village. The Committee would like to see the Village mirror the U.S. Forest Service restrictions as much as possible. At this time, Stage 2 restrictions are in place. The use of chainsaws requires an exemption from the restrictions.
- Northside at Taos Ski Valley will close if further restrictions are implemented.
- The Committee is interested in reviewing the Village's plan for signs, especially parking signs. A comprehensive parking plan is needed, particularly in Kachina Village.
- The public is invited to the next Public Safety/ Firewise Community Board meeting since the Taos Soil & Water Conservation District will have representatives speaking about the grant funding program for firewise thinning on private property.



- VTSV Bull of the Woods Lot – The appraiser has looked at the lot. Staff provided well information to the appraiser. The appraisal report will be complete on Thursday, June 15, 2018. At the next Council meeting, the report will be reviewed in order for Council to discuss a possible land swap, a sale, or other options.
- Fire Substation Relocation Project – The preliminary work on the lot has been completed. The plans include building a slab for the existing Fire Substation building, and compacting a large area to allow for pouring a larger slab in the future.
- Wastewater Treatment Plant – The original bid opening date was May 31, 2018. Many contractors had questions and concerns and requested more time, so the bid opening is now scheduled for June 14, 2018. FEI and Village Staff will review the bids. FEI will recommend a selection to Staff; staff will in turn make a recommendation to the Council for approval of a contractor.
- Ernie Blake Road – The land sale and swap with Beausoleil was executed, and the Beausoleil site was then sold. Staff is waiting on 1st NM Title Company for the Sierra del Sol property closing. The MOU between the Village and TSV Inc. concerning parameters on the construction of Ernie Blake Road was signed. TSV Inc. is now proposing a 3-to-1 retaining slope for the road instead of building a retaining wall. There were concerns as to whether the sloped retainer would be as stable as a retaining wall, specifically if any digging into the slope were to occur in the future. Digging could de-stabilize the dirt and then alter the utility lines in the road, such as water lines, sewer lines, and natural gas lines. The sloped option would be far less expensive to build. It was noted that the previous owner had wanted the retaining wall, but perhaps the new owner does not. Staff thought that the new owner would need to assume the obligations outlined in the MOU.
- Gas Line – NM Gas Company informed the Village that they will have a bid showing on site June 15, 2018 as part of their proposal request process. Once NM Gas selects a contractor, they will conduct a pre-construction meeting.
- Firehouse Road – Firehouse Road and the parking area at the beginning of Firehouse Road have been paved.
- River Construction at the Brownell's Property – Councilor Kern and Administrator Fratrack met with the Brownells concerning the improvements to be made by their property. There are a few conditions to be included in the construction easement docs.

#### **Department Briefs**

- Chief Trujillo reported on recent activity. Residential Alarms (1), Suspicious Persons/Vehicles (2), Citizen Assists (22), Traffic Enforcement Hours (45), Traffic Stops (11), Verbal Warnings (16), Parking Citations (0), Assists to other Agencies (10), Foot Patrol Hours (21), Welfare Check (0), Animal calls (1). Fire Calls (8), EMS Calls (0), SAR Hours (3).  
Chief Trujillo met with Chief Daniels concerning the use of ATVs on Village roads, he reported.
- Fire Chief Daniels reported that further fire restrictions may be put in place soon. A new Fire Department Board was recently elected, with the President being Neal King, Vice President Christof Brownell, Secretary Robert Molina, and Katherine Kett and Pete Hanson, members-at-large.  
There have been several calls about campfires along State Road 150. Open fires are currently banned, under the Stage 2 fire restrictions set by the U.S. Forest Service. There have been some Search and Rescue and medical calls for hikers along the Williams Lake Trail. A propane leak at the Phoenix Restaurant was contained, with the help of the Fire Department and the Village's Police and Public Works departments. The Hondo-Seco Fire Department dispatched a truck to assist.  
U.S. Forest Service Fire Management Officer Ray Corral reported that they are not intending to elevate fire restrictions to the next stage at this time. The Ute Park fire has burned 36,000 acres. He said that there is always a concern about flooding after a fire occurs.
- Public Works Director Keen reported on recent activity, including a plan to use asphalt millings in July as a test for dust control on a stretch of Twining Road as part of the NM DOT road coop project. Director Keen said that Public Works Staff have been applying water to the roads for dust control at a rate of 16,000-20,000 gallons per day. Magnesium Chloride will be applied to the roads in July. Public Works Staff recently attended transfer station training. The Multi-hog equipment should arrive in July. The Source Water Protection Plan Committee has been making progress, Keen announced.
- Planning Director Nicholson has been investigating the Village's codes in regards to some "nuisance" properties that exist in the Village. He will be working on the Kachina Master Plan and looking at the new development planned for the Kachina area. GIS services may be contracted out in order to update the Village's data.
- Building Inspector Bowden said that the Village's ordinances need to be updated to link to the State and National building codes. He has been working closely with Rich Wiilson to learn about the Village's projects as well as the Village's codes.

## 11. OLD BUSINESS

**A.** Consideration to Approve Village Police Department Converting to the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) replacing Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) system

Staff recommends that Council vote to Approve Village Police Department Converting to the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) replacing Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) system.

**MOTION: To Approve Village Police Department Converting to the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) replacing Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) system**

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

**B.** Consideration to Approve Appointment of POMS & Associates as Broker of Record Relating to the Village Insurance Program

POMS & Associates Risk Services offers a program titled POMS Connects which provides training and consulting on human resource management, risk management, best practices, safety compliance, and more. POMS & Associates acts as an insurance broker and is able to provide services at no additional cost to the Village. The fee would be included as a portion of the insurance premium that the Village pays to the New Mexico Self Insurers' Fund for workers compensation, liability, property, and other coverage. No other companies were found when researching entities providing these types of services, able to access the insurance premium funding the Village is already paying.

An item that interests Village staff is updating the Village personnel policy. POMS would work with Village staff and lend guidance to keep the Village in good legal standing and to use best practices in its human resources management. The estimated cost for hiring an outside contractor to assist with an updated policy is \$25, 000 to \$40,000.

There was some concern that the New Mexico Municipal League does not appear to be in favor of this program.

**MOTION: To Approve the Appointment of POMS & Associates as Broker of Record Relating to the Village Insurance Program**

**Motion: Councilor Stagg                      Second: Councilor Wittman                      Passed: 3-1 (Councilor Stagg dissenting)**

## 12. NEW BUSINESS

**A.** Consideration to Approve **Resolution No. 2018-358** A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE OF TAOS SKI VALLEY AGREEING TO THE FORMATION OF AND PARTICIPATION IN THE ENCHANTED CIRCLE COUNCILOF GOVERNMENTS (ECCoG)

The members of the IGC recognize “that the Enchanted Circle functions as a single economic market in which the labor force, housing , employment, tourism, infrastructure, health systems, retail, utilities and agriculture of each of the individual Parties impacts the economic vitality of all of the Parties, individually and collectively.” (from the JPA)

As part of the JPA, a participating entity could participate in the projects of interest to the entity. Ideally all entities would participate in identified projects, but some entities might choose not to participate because of the direct benefit to their community. This would allow for pooling of resources and funds on common issues and projects. Any entity could bring forth a project for the committee to vote on and accept for ECCoG participation.

Administrator Fratrack explained that the organization would be similar to the current Intergovernmental Council, involving communities around the Enchanted Circle, except that with a JPA in place there would be a legal foundation for participation. An example of a community project would be support for the Enchanted Circle Trails Association.

**MOTION: To Approve Resolution No. 2018-358 A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE OF TAOS SKI VALLEY AGREEING TO THE FORMATION OF AND PARTICIPATION IN THE ENCHANTED CIRCLE COUNCILOF GOVERNMENTS (ECCoG)**

**Motion: Councilor Pattison                      Second: Councilor Kern                      Passed: 4-0**

## 13. MISCELLANEOUS

**A.** Councilor Pattison reported that David Norden with TSV Inc. had invited the Parks & Recreation Committee to participate in a discussion of the walking path around the Kachina wetlands.

**B.** Neal King announced the he and Kathy Bennett would be organizing a July 4<sup>th</sup> parade to start in the parking lot and proceed up Sutton Place. King said that he has some of the camps and schools ready to participate, as well as an Honor Guard and Jean Mayer. The fire trucks and police vehicles will be parked in the parking lot near the start of the parade, but this will be a walking-only parade.

**C.** The other July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration events include Mayor Brownell playing music on the Alpine Village deck, and later Out of Nowhere playing music at The Blake plaza. The Duck Race will start after the parade.

**14. ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DATE, TIME & PLACE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL**

A Special Council meeting will be held on Friday, June 22, 2018 at 10:00a.m. at the Snakedance Condominiums Hondo Restaurant, to vote on awarding the contract for construction of the Wastewater Treatment Plant. (Note: this meeting was later cancelled.) The next regular meeting of the Council will take place on Tuesday, July 10, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. at the Snakedance Condominiums Hondo Restaurant. An Emergency Council Meeting was called, pursuant to the State and Village requirements for noticing, for Wednesday, June 27, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. at the Snakedance Condominiums Hondo Restaurant to discuss and approve establishing fire restrictions in the Village.

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION: To Adjourn.**

**Motion: Councilor Wittman**

**Second: Councilor Kern**

**Passed: 4-0**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Christof Brownell, Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ann M. Wooldridge, Village Clerk