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**VILLAGE COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
DRAFT MINUTES
INN AT TAOS VALLEY, 1314A STATE ROAD 150
TAOS SKI VALLEY, NEW MEXICO
THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 2019 4:00 P.M.**

1. CALL TO ORDER & NOTICE OF MEETING

The special meeting of the Village of Taos Ski Valley Council was called to order by Mayor Brownell at 4:10 p.m. The notice of the special meeting was properly posted.

2. ROLL CALL

Ann Wooldridge, Village Clerk, called the role 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

Village Staff Present

Administrator John Avila
Clerk Ann Wooldridge
Police Chief Sam Trujillo
Planning Director Patrick Nicholson
Building Official Jalmar Bowden

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: To approve the agenda as written

Motion: Councilor Wittman Second: Councilor Kern Passed: 4-0

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 12, 2018 VILLAGE COUNCIL WORKSHOP, the FEBRUARY 12, 2019 VILLAGE COUNCIL WORKSHOP and the FEBRUARY 12, 2019 VILLAGE COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: To approve the three sets of minutes, as written

Motion: Councilor Wittman Second: Councilor Stagg

Some members of the audience asked the Council to not adopt the draft minutes of the December 12, 2018 Village Council Workshop, as they said that certain objectionable language used at that meeting had not been included in the minutes. Discussion took place.

Councilor Stagg said that the Council policy has been to adopt summary minutes, not verbatim minutes, and that verbatim minutes may not be desirable. Other audience members had comments. Video recordings of Council meetings, if they were to occur, would not substitute for a written copy of Council proceedings.

The Mayor called for a vote. Passed: 3-1 (Councilor Pattison dissenting)

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. Consideration to Approve the Appointment of Planning & Zoning Commissioners
According to Village Ordinance No. 1997-15, Creating a Planning and Zoning Commission, the Commission shall consist of seven (7) members who shall be appointed by the Mayor with the consent of the Village Council. On the first Commission, the members shall be appointed for one-year or two-year terms, and each subsequent term of a member on the Commission shall be for two years or less in order to maintain the original staggering of terms of membership. Four members of the Planning & Zoning Commission have two-year terms which began in January 2017.

Mayor Brownell explained that there had been five applicants for the four open Commission positions. He listed his concerns with Planning & Zoning Commission appointments, including training needed for Commissioners, consideration of term limits for Commissioners, the real possibility of conflict of interests, having Councilors on the Commission, the need for full disclosure by Commissioners when certain projects could affect them personally, either positively or negatively, and the problem of requiring Commission decisions under a forced timeline on occasion. Mayor Brownell asked whether it was perhaps a timely matter to consider requiring just 5 Commissioners instead of the 7 specified in the Ordinance.

Mayor Brownell said that he had considered many factors, but that in order to maintain continuity, he recommended appointing the previous 4 members: Commissioners Caldwell, Duffy, King, and Stagg.

MOTION: To approve the Mayor’s appointments

Motion: Councilor Wittman Second: Councilor Kern

Councilor Kern said that he would like to see better communication between the P&Z Commission and the Council. Mayor Brownell said that that presented a problem, because 2 Council members were on the P&Z Commission. If all of the Councilors and Mayor were to attend P&Z Commission meetings, then there would be a quorum. This often occurred anyways, but it’s advisable for the Councilors and Mayor to not comment. The Council is the appeals board for P&Z Commission decisions. There was a suggestion that perhaps there should not be any shared members between the Council and the Commission.

Homeowner Fitzpatrick asked whether the new Village Complex activities should each be brought before the Commission for approval.

The Mayor called for a vote. Passed: 3-1 (Councilor Pattison dissenting)

B. Discussion and Consideration to Approve Submittal of an Application to NCRTD for a Summer Pilot Program and to Apply to the Village Lodger’s Tax Board for Funding

The North Central Rural Transportation Department Resolution No. 2009-13 provides a methodology for assessing new routes and services and allows the Mayor as a Board Member to request a new route be investigated for implementation.

The Village would benefit from increased visitor numbers in the summer months outside the ski season, and the bus route would provide additional support to the efforts for summer activity in the Village.

The Village may ask for support from the Village Lodger’s Tax Board for funding for a pilot service between the Town of Taos and the Village of Taos Ski Valley, in order for the NCRTD to conduct the service on a trial basis. This would consist of three round trips each Friday, Saturday and Sunday, during June, July and August 2019.

The investigation of a summer pilot program route can be initiated this summer if the funding is provided to NCRTD to help cover expenses of no more than \$40,000. Should the pilot project prove successful, the NCRTD could consider a longer term arrangement that could include more partners and funding sources.

Staff recommends approval to apply for the NCRTD Pilot Summer Transit Route, and to secure funding before the fiscal year budget deadline through application to the Village Lodger's Tax Board.

MOTION: To approve the submittal of an Application to NCRTD for a Summer Pilot Program

Motion: Councilor Stagg

Second: Councilor Wittman

Councilor Stagg said that it wouldn't be necessary for the Council to make a request to the Lodger's Tax Board, as the Council was the fiscal agent for those funds. The Lodger's Tax Board is in favor of supporting the NCRTD Summer Pilot Project.

The Mayor called for a vote.

Passed: 4-0

6. MISCELLANEOUS

7. ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL

The next regular meeting of the Village Council is scheduled for Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. at the Edelweiss Lodge Club Room.

6. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: To Adjourn

Motion: Councilor Wittman

Second: Councilor Kern

Passed: 4-0

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Christof Brownell, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Ann M. Wooldridge, Village Clerk