



Village of Taos Ski Valley
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**VILLAGE COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
DRAFT MINUTES
VIA ZOOM TELE CONFERENCE
TAOS SKI VALLEY, NEW MEXICO
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23 2021 2:00 P.M.**

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. 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 Neal King
Councilor Chris Staggs
Councilor Tom Wittman, Mayor Pro Tem

Staff present:

Village Administrator John Avila
Village Clerk Ann Wooldridge
Finance Director Nancy Grabowski
Building Official Jalmar Bowden
Public Works Director Anthony Martinez
Fire Chief Roberto Molina
Planning Director Patrick Nicholson
Village Attorney Susan Baker

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: To approve the agenda with the amendment to move item 12. A. to follow item 5., and also to add discussion of the German School in Miscellaneous.

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

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 26, 2021 VILLAGE COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: To approve the minutes with two typo corrections

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

5. PRESENTATION FOR POLICE CHIEF SAMMY TRUJILLO

A moment of silence was held in honor of the passing of Chief Sammy Trujillo.

12. NEW BUSINESS

A. Consideration to

The fiscal year 2021 audit was submitted to the State Auditor's office on October 1, 2021 and the audit has been approved and finalized by the Office of the State Auditor. A letter from the auditors with a discussion of the financial status of the Village of Taos Ski Valley was given to Council. Burt & Company representative Robert Piexotto told the Council that the Village is not meeting its debt service with utility revenue and is not in compliance with the debt covenants on the new treatment plant. The Village received an unmodified opinion.

Much discussion followed.

MOTION: To Approve Resolution No. 2022-493 A Resolution Requesting Acceptance and Approval of the FY2021 Final Audit

Motion: Councilor Stagg

Second: Councilor King

Passed: 4-0

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

A. TSVI CEO David Norden announced the plans for ski season opening on November 25, 2021. He said that on Thursday, Pioneer Glade would be open and Lift #1 would be added on Friday for skiing on Powderhorn. The ice rink will be open starting Wednesday. TFK will be open for breakfast and lunch, Rhoda's will be open for lunch and après ski, and The Blake will be open for dinner daily.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. **Planning and Zoning Commission** –Commission Chair Wittman reported that the Commission met on November 1, 2021. Agenda items included discussion and consideration to recommend to Council adoption of the 2021 update to the Capital Infrastructure Plan, which was approved by a vote of 5-2. Also on the agenda was a presentation by TSVI David Norden and Drew Chandler of Russell Engineering on the proposed new Village entry road on Bison parking area.

The next P&Z meeting is scheduled for January 10, 2022.

B. **Public Safety Committee** – Chairman Neal King reported that lots of activity had been taking place but that not meeting had been held. The next meeting is scheduled for January 10, 2022. Building Official Bowden has been working on Firewise grants.

C. **Firewise Community Board of Directors** -see above

D. **Parks & Recreation Committee** – The Village's AmeriCorps intern reported that the Committee had met on November 11, 2021 to conduct a memorial walk of the JR Trail and Twining Campground. Plans are being made for trail upgrades and expansion.

E. **Lodger's Tax Advisory Board** – No meeting had taken place, but discussions are taking place about potential funding for Covid testing, and for transportation. No meeting has been scheduled.

F. **Capital Infrastructure Advisory Committee** – Director Nicholson said that no meeting had taken place and no meeting is scheduled.

7. REGIONAL REPORTS

8. MAYOR'S REPORT

A. Interim Police Chief Appointment

Mayor Brownell would like to appoint Officer Virgil Vigil to Police Chief.

MOTION: To appoint Officer Virgil Vigil as interim Police Chief

Motion: Councilor Stagg

Second: Councilor Wittman

Passed: 4-0

9. STAFF REPORTS

Staff reports were included in the Council packet and were posted to the Village web site. Administrator Avila highlighted parts of his report. He noted that the Village Plan of Finance is due to be discussed at a workshop on December 17, 2021. (Note: this was later cancelled.) A Special Council Meeting will take place on November 30, 2021 for the proposed Village entry way design approval. The Consortium from last year is working on Covid protocols. There are many concerns about the continuation of postal service to Taos Ski Valley.

Clerk Wooldridge reported on the results of the recent TIDD Board Member election, with Tom Wittman and Chaz Rockey gaining the most votes to obtain the Board seats. Details of the Municipal Officer Election will be reviewed at the November 30, 2021 meeting.

10. OLD BUSINESS

A. PUBLIC HEARING: Consideration to Adopt Amended Ordinance No. 2022-30 Approving Rezoning of Bull of the Woods Lots B & C from Special Use Zone to Residential Zone

Per application of the new property owner, a zone change is requested from Special Use Zone to Residential Zone to better conform with the zoning and use of surrounding properties and align with future development intentions. Under the current Special Use Zone, residential construction is not permitted. During the P&Z October 4, 2021 meeting, the Village Planning and Zoning Commission voted to recommend approval of Amended Ordinance 2022-30. At the October 26, 2021 Village Council meeting, the item was recommended to be formally published and a public hearing scheduled for the November 23, 2021 Council meeting.

The subject properties are located North of Bull of the Woods Road between Bull of the Woods Road and the Rio Hondo. These properties are two of three lots in the area presently zoned Special Use (SU). They are the two uppermost properties.

PUBLIC HEARING: Mayor Brownell opened the Public Hearing. Speaking in favor was property owner Alex Whitten who said that he looked forward to building his house. No one spoke against. The Public Hearing was closed.

MOTION: To Adopt Amended Ordinance No. 2022-30 Approving Rezoning of Bull of the Woods Lots B & C from Special Use Zone to Residential Zone

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

11. NEW BUSINESS

B. Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2022-492 Approving Application and Funding for a Village Contract Postal Unit

Much discussion took place on this issue.

MOTION: To Approve Resolution No. 2022-492 Approving Application and Funding for a Village Contract Postal Unit

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

C. Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2022-494 Approving the FY2022 Legislative Priority

The Village Administration hopes to seek legislative funding during the 2022 Legislative Session. For support of the request for funding it is prudent that the Village Council pass a Resolution supporting the request for priority Capital Projects.

This action does not preclude the Legislature funding other Village projects but directs Staffs' efforts for the application process.

The Village's 2022 legislative capital improvement project priorities, in rank order are:

- 23.1 Kachina Distribution Lines,
- 23.3 Water Line Upgrades and Expansion,
- 23.10 Wastewater Line Upgrades and Expansion for Amizette,
- 24.1 Waterline Upgrades and Expansion for Amizette,
- 23.4 Renovate and Expand Primary Fire Station #1,
- 23.6 Multipurpose Trails,
- 23.9 Renovate and Expand New Village Hall Complex Public Safety,
- 23.7 Acquire Snow Storage Area/Land

MOTION: To Approve Resolution No. 2022-494 Approving the FY2022 Legislative Priority

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

D. Consideration to Approve Memorandum of Agreement between the Village of Taos Ski Valley and the Town of Taos for NMRTD Bus Service for the 2021/2022 Winter Season

The North Central Rural Transportation Department has proposed to the Village of Taos Ski Valley, Town of Taos, Taos County a cost allocation to resume Winter Service to the Taos Ski Valley. The NCRTD proposed the expanded winter service for \$ 150,000, with cost allocation of \$60,000 for NCRTD, \$45,000 for the Village, \$25,000 for the Town and \$20,000 for the County.

The Village and NCRTD have previously made the agreement for service for the Winter Ski Season supported by Lodgers Tax and contributions from the Town and recently the County. The MOU with the Town of Taos allows their financial support of \$25,000 to go towards the NCRTD winter service.

Should conditions not allow the service this Winter, the NCRTD can discontinue service and as in the past when not able to complete the program the Village receives a prorated credit. Should funding not be available to meet the commitment, the Village may terminate the agreement. *Notice of termination by either party shall be effective upon the date of receipt.*

MOTION: To Approve Memorandum of Agreement between the Village of Taos Ski Valley and the Town of Taos for NMRTD Bus Service for the 2021/2022 Winter Season
Motion: Councilor Wittman Second: Councilor King Passed: 4-0

E. Consideration to Approve Memorandum of Agreement between the Village of Taos Ski Valley and Taos County for NMRTD Bus Service for the 2021/2022 Winter Season
This MOA is the same as the previous MOA, only with Taos County.

MOTION: To Approve Memorandum of Agreement between the Village of Taos Ski Valley and Taos County for NMRTD Bus Service for the 2021/2022 Winter Season
Motion: Councilor Stagg Second: Councilor King Passed: 4-0

F. Discussion of P&Z Commission Appointments
Four members of the Planning & Zoning Commission had two-year terms which began in March 2019 and three members had two-year terms beginning in February 2020. In May 2020, Yvette Klinkmann was appointed to fill Neal King's place, one of the Commission appointments from 2019. No P&Z Commission appointments have been conducted in 2021, so appointments are behind by a year.
Commission Chair Wittman suggested that he and Mayor Brownell get together to discuss possible changes to P&Z appointments.

12. MISCELLANEOUS

- A. Councilor King asked how road names get placed. For example, he was asking whether Snowshoe was a Road, Lane, or Trail.
- B. Councilor Wittman relayed that the UNM German School had contacted him asking for help to identify locations for their German School next summer, such as lodging, dining, and classroom space.

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

The next meeting of the Village Council will be a Special Meeting scheduled for November 30, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom.

14. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: To Adjourn
Motion: Councilor Wittman Second: Councilor Stagg Passed: 4-0
The meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Christof Brownell, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Ann M. Wooldridge, Village Clerk