



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, DECEMBER 14, 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 Stagg
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
Interim Police Chief Vigil
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 14. A,
Motion: Councilor Wittman Second: Councilor Stagg Passed: 4-0

**4. CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE APPOINTMENT OF THE VILLAGE OF TAOS SKI VALLEY
POLICE DEPARTMENT CHIEF**

Mayor Brownell appointed Interim Chief Vigil to Police Chief.

MOTION: To approve appointing Interim Chief Vigil to Police Chief

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

**5. CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE APPOINTMENT OF THE VILLAGE OF TAOS SKI VALLEY
FIRE/EMS DEPARTMENT CHIEF**

Mayor Brownell appointed Roberto Molina to Fire Chief.

MOTION: To approve appointing Roberto Molina to Fire Chief

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

**6. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 23, 2021 VILLAGE COUNCIL REGULAR
MEETING and the NOVEMBER 30, 2021 VILLAGE COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING**

MOTION: To approve the two sets of minutes

Motion: Councilor Wittman Second: Councilor Stagg

Passed: 4-0

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

A. Business owner Andrea Heckman spoke about the need for solidarity on getting a plan together for the post office.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. **Planning and Zoning Commission** –Commission Chair Wittman reported that the Commission had not met but would meet again on January 10, 2022.

B. **Public Safety Committee** – Chairman Neal King reported that the Committees had not met but would plan to meet again on February 7, 2022.

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

D. **Parks & Recreation Committee** – Chair Kett reported that the Committee had been working on mapping existing and possible future trails. The next meeting will be held on January 20, 2022 at 3:30 p.m. at the Village Office at 7 Firehouse Road.

E. **Lodger's Tax Advisory Board** – no report

F. **Capital Infrastructure Advisory Committee** – Director Nicholson said that no meeting had taken place and no meeting is scheduled. The Committee has completed its work at the present.

9. REGIONAL REPORTS

10. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Brownell reported that RTD Blue Bus service would not be available this winter to TSV since the RTD had not been able to find an adequate number of drivers.

11. 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 Covid testing is being conducted for free for employees on Tuesdays at the Taos Tent. Work is being done concerning the wastewater treatment plant inefficiencies, and also efforts towards maintaining some sort of postal service in the Village. Discussion took place about potential postal service possibilities.

12. OLD BUSINESS

A. Discussion of the Taos Ski Valley Postal Service Status, Options Available to the Village, and Direction to Convince the USPS to Maintain Postal Delivery Within the Village of Taos Ski Valley. Followed Closed Session.

13. NEW BUSINESS

A. **PUBLIC HEARING:** Consideration to Approve **Resolution No. 2022-495** Adopting the Village's Capital Improvements Plan Update Related to Development Impact Fees

A Capital Improvement Plan is required by the NM Development Fees Act, that identifies capital improvements or facility expansion which are needed to serve new growth and development. The CIAC reviewed the plan thoroughly. The Planning & Zoning Commission voted to recommend to the Village Council adoption of the 2021 Capital Improvement Plan Update.

PUBLIC HEARING: No one spoke for or against the proposed Resolution.

MOTION: To Approve Resolution No. 2022-495 Adopting the Village's Capital Improvements Plan Update Related to Development Impact Fees

Motion: Councilor Wittman

Second: Councilor King

Passed: 4-0

B. Consideration to Approve **Resolution No. 2022-496** Requesting a Permanent Budget Adjustment to the FY2022 Budget (BAR) Adding a New Police Officer Position, Increasing Salary and Benefits Expense in the Law Enforcement

(04) Fund, and Increasing the Transfer out from General Fund (03) into the Law Enforcement Fund to Cover the Additional Expenses.

Salary expenses in the Law Enforcement fund was originally based on three employees: a Police Chief, and two Officers. By direction from the Village Administrator, staff is requesting an additional Officer position for the Police Department.

MOTION: To Approve Resolution No. 2022-496 Requesting a Permanent Budget Adjustment to the FY2022 Budget (BAR) Adding a New Police Officer Position, Increasing Salary and Benefits Expense in the Law Enforcement (04) Fund, and Increasing the Transfer out from General Fund (03) into the Law Enforcement Fund to Cover the Additional Expenses.

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

C. Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2022-497 a Resolution to Amend Resolution No. 2009-176 Relating to the Reimbursement of Public Officers and Employees for Per-diem Travel Expenses

In 2020 the legislature passed an update to the State Per Diem and Mileage act. The change became effective in FY2022 and the rates which were reviewed and analyzed by the Department of Finance (DFA) have recently been released. Moving forward the DFA is required to provide agencies the per diem rates by May 1 for the forthcoming fiscal year for budgeting purposes. The Village will update its rates according to the State of New Mexico rates on a fiscal year basis.

MOTION: To Approve Resolution No. 2022-497 a Resolution to Amend Resolution No. 2009-176 Relating to the Reimbursement of Public Officers and Employees for Per-diem Travel Expenses

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

D. Consideration to Approve Resolution 2022-498 Concerning Governing Body Meetings and Notice Required

Clerk Wooldridge explained that this is the required annual notice of meetings for the Council. Meetings will be held on the fourth Tuesday of the month via Zoom unless otherwise noticed.

MOTION: To Approve Resolution 2022-498 Concerning Governing Body Meetings and Notice Required

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

E. Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2021-499 A Resolution Authorizing and Approving Financial Assistance from the New Mexico State Highway and Transportation Department FY2022, NM LGRF DOT CONTROL No. L500394

After passage of the attached Resolution, the NMDOT will be drafting a contract for Village approval for the 2022 road project. The State has committed to funding in the amount of \$60,000.00 with the Village contributing 25% of total project costs, or \$20,000.00, for a total project cost of \$80,000.00. Monies for the project will be used for full construction with drainage improvements of various local streets.

MOTION: To Approve Resolution No. 2021-499 A Resolution Authorizing and Approving Financial Assistance from the New Mexico State Highway and Transportation Department FY2022, NM LGRF DOT CONTROL No. L500394

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

F. Consideration to Adopt a 2022 Village Holiday Schedule

The Village's Personnel Policy, approved and adopted by Village Council Resolution 2017-332, identifies the legal holidays for employees of the Village of Taos Ski Valley. Each year the Resolution is updated with the approved holiday calendar.

MOTION: To Adopt the 2022 Village Holiday Schedule as presented

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

G. Twining Road Reconstruction Project - Preliminary Design Final Presentation

Scott Eddings from Huitt-Zollars presented an update of planning and design work to date. He said that some horizontal adjustments had been made as well as some vertical adjustments. He said that the Village has received adequate funding to prepare final drawings and to prepare specifications.

The project involves Twining Road upgrades from the skier parking lot to Zap's Road, in order to provide upgrades to drainage, safety, and utility improvements. Water lines will need upgrades, but wastewater lines are in good condition. Dry utilities are only six feet below grade so relocations will be necessary. The road would be paved with two-lane traffic and a sidewalk, as well as some street lighting. Intersections will be improved. Lighting would be only downward facing, he said.

The Huitt-Zollars scope of work was to complete 30% design plans. Constructing the Phase 1 portion will be approximately \$4 million, while paving and resurfacing will cost \$1.5 million.

Many questions were posed, especially about speed on the road and the narrowness of the throughway, as well as about ensuring that utilities are improved before any paving occurs.

H. Consideration to Approve Village of Taos Ski Valley Letter of Endorsement for the Taos Region Clean Energy Transportation and Recreation Corridor

Administrator Avila explained that there is an opportunity for Taos Ski Valley and the greater regional area to create economic diversity for the community which currently relies heavily on tourism. Historically, Taos County and Taos Ski Valley have attracted many business leaders and entrepreneurs who enjoy its unique rich culture and numerous recreational opportunities. Positioning the Taos area to provide a Taos Region Clean Energy Transportation and Recreation Corridor to support existing business development, attract new business development, and provide an improved quality of life for our residents, would open the door to many long-term benefits for the regional community and economy.

With state and local investment, including public-private partnerships, critical infrastructure would be provided resulting in job creation that would allow northern New Mexico to remain viable and competitive with other regional, national, and international destinations.

MOTION: To Approve a Village of Taos Ski Valley Letter of Endorsement for the Taos Region Clean Energy Transportation and Recreation Corridor

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

14. CLOSED SESSION

A. Discussion of Pending Litigation Concerning Ovivo Contract, and the USPS

This matter may be discussed in closed session under Open Meetings Act exemption 0-15-1(H) (7)

MOTION: To go to Closed Session

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

MOTION: To go to Open Session

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

15. MISCELLANEOUS

16. 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 and Workshop scheduled for January 10 2022 at 10:00 a.m. Via Zoom. (Note: An Emergency Meeting was held on December 20, 2021 because of an extreme weather event on December 15, 2021.)

17. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: To Adjourn

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

The meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Christof Brownell, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Ann M. Wooldridge, Village Clerk