

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE AND FIREWISE BOARD MEETING
FOR THE VILLAGE OF TAOS SKI VALLEY, NEW MEXICO
HELD ON DECEMBER 5, 2022 (VIA ZOOM) at 10:00 AM**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 and notice of meeting announced.

Members present included Trudy DiLeo, Jim Woodard, Henry Caldwell, Mitch Daniels and Kent Kiehl. Ben Pitz was absent.

Trudy DiLeo made a statement before the meeting thanking the Director of Public Safety, Chief Virgil Vigil, for his continued good work in this last year. She also thanked the rest of the Police Department, the Fire Department and the EMS Department, and wished them happy holidays and a happy new year.

Public Safety Committee:

Mitch Daniels reported that Fire Engine #316 had been returned to the manufacturer for a full purchase price credit to be used for the future purchase of a water tanker truck. So, in addition to the new tanker truck, the village has Engine #314 and a 'brush truck' / utility truck (Engine #315). Engine #312 has been decommissioned.

Chief Vigil reported that he was working on getting replacement batteries and pads for AEDs around the village. All the AEDs in the village are up-to-date with their batteries and pads currently. He also stated that all 4 sirens in the village are installed and working.

No update on the package lockers for the post office.

A draft letter was created informing residents of the importance of placing house numbers in a prominent place on their property. This is necessary for emergency responders to easily locate a home quickly. The committee will send the letter out to residents after the holidays.

Trudy DiLeo asked the committee members to read the Planning and Zoning meeting packet from December 5, 2022. Specifically, the committee will be asked in the near future to weigh in on changes being made to Sutton Place. With demolition of the Hotel St. Bernard completed, construction for new multiple hotels has begun. When completed, Sutton Place will take on increased pedestrian and vehicular traffic. Please note Chief Vigil's notes after consulting with the Department of Transportation. Also note Patrick Nicholson remarks regarding present water supply, leak issues and his expectations of providing water to the new resort.

Michael Fitzpatrick, resident of Amizette, spoke of the continuing problems of people speeding and passing others on Highway 150 in Amizette. This is a dangerous situation with residents trying to enter the highway and slower-moving snow removal machines. Chief Vigil has made this a priority. After initially giving warnings, the police are now giving tickets. They have given out many tickets (up to 15 tickets a day) for speeding and passing. Chief Vigil said that many of the offenders are employees of TSVI, and he has communicated with TSVI about this problem.

Efforts have been made over the years to have the State Department of Transportation make this part of Highway 150 in Amizette a 'no-passing' zone. Mr. Fitzpatrick asked for more signs and bigger signs about no passing in the entire village of TSV, since the existing double yellow lines cannot be seen in the winter with the snow. Efforts will be made to ask DOT about this by Chief Vigil. The residents appreciate, and are in complete agreement, with the police department's efforts with this ongoing problem.

Henry Caldwell spoke to the efforts throughout the years to get power lines buried throughout the village. There are multiple agencies involved including Kit Carson Electric Cooperative, the Forest Service, private property owners, the village of TSV, and the NMDOT. The ordinance (2015-51) about this can appear confusing. To hopefully expedite getting this process moving along to completion, it was suggested a subcommittee be formed tasked with focusing on what needs to be done. If indeed, each property owner needs to send an application to Kit Carson for new service, the subcommittee can help with that effort. Also, Kit Carson is about 80 weeks out for securing the transformers needed for the project, but some of the work can be done while waiting for this.

Firewise Board:

Mitch Daniels gave an update on the CWPP, which is completed. It will soon be put on the 'sharepoint' folder with the village, so board members and others can review it and add information to it. Moving forward, new items / updates will be entered continually throughout the year. The Board will be

review the CWPP quarterly at meetings. Action items will be discussed and plans will be made to fulfill assigned stated goals of the CWPP on an ongoing basis.

Discussion was made about a statement in the CWPP that states "the Firewise Board will be updating the fire risk assessments for each property." The Firewise Board does not make these assessments per se. Jalmar Bowden stated that the GIS mapping done in the village for the NFL grant could be used for the CWPP in the future. Insurance companies assess each insured property individually. The language of this statement will need to be changed to accurately reflect the Firewise Board's responsibility in updating the fire risk assessment for each property, or it should be deleted.

There was discussion about committees being on the organizational chart of the village. The general feeling was that the committees report to the village council and should be on the chart to give a sense of legitimacy and responsibility of the committees to the public.

Kent Kiehl asked if the burn piles on the mountain will be removed or burned in the future. Trudy DiLeo will ask about this tomorrow when she meets with the Questa Forest Rangers.

The next meeting will be on January 2, 2023 at 10:00 via Zoom.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00.

Submitted by Trudy DiLeo on December 9, 2022.