

## **Minutes of the Public Safety Committee and Firewise Board Meeting for the Village of Taos Ski Valley, New Mexico held at 10am on Monday, March 4th, 2024, via Zoom.**

The meeting was called to order by Henry Caldwell at 10:05am. Notice of the meeting was properly announced. Members present were Henry Caldwell, Jim Woodard, and Ben Pitz.

The minutes for the February 5th Public Safety Committee and Firewise Board Meeting and Agenda for the March 4th Public Safety Committee and Firewise Board Meeting were approved, (Motion: Jim, Second: Ben, Unanimous).

### **Public Safety Committee:**

#### **Undergrounding of the Power Lines**

Henry stated and Ann Marie confirmed that the draft ordinance entitled: Regulations Requiring Underground Electrical Utility Service was approved by the Village Council during its meeting on 16 February 2024. Ann Marie stated that the Ordinance is now officially in place.

#### **KCEC Meetings**

Ben stated that there had not been any meetings with KCEC in the last month regarding underground power.

#### **Village Management Plan for Underground Power**

John stated that an RFP for an electrical contractor to connect homes to underground power had been issued. It is hoped that a contractor will be selected to coordinate with homeowners, KCED and a trenching contractor to connect homes to underground power this summer. Bids are due by the end of March.

### **Street Numbers on Houses**

Several homeowners have contacted the Village Office about house numbers. Matt Rogers is coordinating installation of the numbers with homeowners. The committee discussed sending out the House Numbers message on a regular basis, probably in the spring.

### **Grease Pickup Area**

Ann Marie found the grease pickup area. TSVI has selected a new contractor for grease pickup and has expanded the capacity of the area. Most restaurants have been using the area for grease disposal, but the committee discussed sending a note reminding everyone.

### **Water Meter RFP Status**

John Avila stated that the RFP for a trial of advanced water meters has been released. There has been some interest expressed and the Village has applied for a Water Trust Board Grant to pay for the trial.

### **Miscellaneous Items**

Chief Vigil stated that parking was working well even on the busiest ski days. He stated that citations had been issued for cars parked in the spots designated for Village Staff Parking.

### **Firewise Board:**

#### **Update on the NFL Grant**

Jalmar stated that the paperwork is ready for RFPs for fire mitigation in the Bull of the Woods, Kachina Vista and Porcupine Road areas. Homeowners in this area who have questions or concerns should contact Jalmar. Village homeowners affected in these areas have not yet been contacted.

### **Real Exercise Planning**

Chief Vigil stated that there was no meeting in the last month, but that this week he and the Taos County Office of Emergency Management were meeting to begin planning for a Full Scale, Real Exercise sometime this summer. The location and focus have not yet been selected. Taos Ski Valley and Questa are both in the running. Henry offered to provide a letter from the Village requesting the exercise be focused on a wildfire between Taos and Taos Ski Valley.

### **Review of CWPP Status**

Matt said the response on the \$200,000 grant request to write a new CWPP was due in March. Matt also said that they have received two grants totaling \$45,000 from the New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department to purchase equipment and hire a coordinator to prepare for fighting wildland fires.

### **Miscellaneous**

John stated that while the Firewise Board was established by resolution from the Village Council, he could find no official documentation establishing the Public Safety Committee. Jim agreed to draft a Public Safety Committee Statement of Purpose for the Village Council to make the Public Safety Committee official.

### **Adjournment**

The Meeting was adjourned at 10:00am.

The next meeting will be at 10am on April 1, 2024, via Zoom.