

Minutes of the Public Safety Committee and Firewise Board Meeting for the Village of Taos Ski Valley, New Mexico held at 10am on Monday, June 3rd, 2024, via Zoom.

The meeting was called to order by Henry Caldwell at 10:02am. Notice of the meeting was properly announced. Members present were Henry Caldwell, Ben Pitz, and Jim Woodard.

The minutes for the May 6th Public Safety Committee and Firewise Board Meeting (motion: Jim, second: Ben, unanimous) and Agenda for the May 6th Public Safety Committee and Firewise Board Meeting (motion: Jim, second: Ben, unanimous) were approved.

Public Safety Committee:

Underground Power Project Status

Robert stated that he had quotes from one contractor but was expecting up to three total this week. KCEC has told Robert that they have the necessary transformers to finish the underground power connections this summer. There are 10 or 11 meter-pods connected to an underground supply that are ready for homeowners to initiate the process to connect from the meter to their houses underground. Letters should go out to them this week starting the clock. There was a discussion about a very low power line across the mine slide area which provides power to three homes on Snowshoe. Robert said he would look at that area.

Water Meter Pilot Project Status

Gage related that the Village Council has approved the Zenner contract for smart water meters. Approximately 24 smart meters will be installed with some in the upper, middle and lower part of the residential area of the Village. The preference will be to using the smart

meters to replace meters in the village that are not working correctly. Zenner representatives are expected to visit the Ski Valley this week. It is expected that the installation will begin in July. It is not known if the residents will have access to any of the smart meter features provided by the new meters.

Bear Safety

A Bear Safety writeup has been prepared and is in the process of being distributed via the water bill and an e-blast.

Trash Drop-off Area Signs

Gabe stated that Public Works has plans for two new signs in the trash drop-off area: one to replace the 6x6ft sign stating what can and cannot be dropped off and one giving instructions for how to operate the compactor.

Statement of Purpose for the Public Safety Committee

Jim reviewed a slightly modified draft ordinance defining the role of the Public Safety Committee (removing the limit on the number of terms a member or officer could serve). The committee recommended the document be approved by the Village Council. (Motion: Jim, second Henry, Unanimous). The new draft is presented below.

House Number Status

Matt stated that he was having some trouble with the local suppliers for the larger house numbers. He will redouble his efforts to acquire the new 4" numbers and begin installing them.

Recycling

Gabe said he had not had time to investigate recycling options for the Village.

Miscellaneous Items

Matt stated that he had hired a new paramedic and an assistant fire chief in the last month. He also stated that he was investigating the purchase of a ladder truck which can reach the multi-story buildings in the core.

Firewise Board

Update on the NFL Grant

Jalmar stated that Matt and Garret are taking over management of the operations of the NFL Grant. There are three contractors being considered for the three areas to be treated this summer. All the necessary homeowner's signatures have been obtained. They expect treatment to begin this month.

Real Exercise Planning

Chief Vigil stated that the Taos County Real Exercise was scheduled for June and is planned to take place in Questa. The focus will probably be wildland fire related. Virgil stated that it might be helpful if residents attended the next meeting to provide support for an exercise focusing on the Hwy 150 corridor.

Review of CWPP Status

Matt said the response on the \$200,000 grant request to write a new CWPP has not yet been received.

Miscellaneous

Burn Boss

Matt stated that the Burn Boss has been recertified with the state. And the slash pile was opened June 1st.

Adjournment

The Meeting was adjourned at 10:56am.

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



Village of Taos Ski Valley
Resolution No. 2024-
Public Safety Committee
Scope, Roles, & Relations

WHEREAS, the Village of Taos Ski Valley is served by a Public Safety Committee,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Public Safety Committee is appointed by the Mayor and approved by the Village Council to **review and advise upon matters of policy assigned by the Village Council** involving public health, welfare, and safety; including issues related to police, emergency management, public defense and prosecution, municipal court, nuisance abatement, and code enforcement issues.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Taos Ski Valley Public Safety Committee shall operate as follows:

The Public Safety Committee serves as a conduit for communications between the Police Department, Fire Department, Village Supervisory Staff, and the citizens of the Village of Taos Ski Valley. As the title implies, the Committee is dedicated to the public safety of the Village of Taos Ski Valley. The Committee works by having a representative from the Village Public Safety Department meet with members of the Public Safety Committee once a month to discuss current safety issues and possible resolutions to them. Representatives from other Village Departments that relate to Public Safety are welcome to attend. In addition, members of the community are also welcome to attend.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Membership, Officers, and Terms shall be as follows:

Membership of the committee is comprised of 5 to 8 members appointed by the Mayor and approved by the Village Council. The members will be chosen from interested applicants to meet desired skills and experiences and representing diverse perspectives. Any member of the committee can be removed by the Mayor with approval of the Village Council. The Mayor will appoint, with the Council approval, the chair, vice chair and secretary. The officers will serve for two-year terms, with Council approval. Members will serve for two years terms. A quorum is greater than 50% of the membership.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Meeting Schedule shall be as follows:

The Public Safety Committee shall meet monthly, and the meeting announcement and agenda will be posted at least 3 days prior. The meetings will be conducted via Zoom or with a Zoom teleconference option. All records of the meetings, agendas, and minutes are submitted to the Village for custody.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Relationship with Village Staff shall be as follows:

The Committee works at the pleasure of the Village Council collaborating with Village Staff to conduct the work of the Committee. Representatives from all Village Departments that relate to Public Safety and other citizens are welcome to attend the meetings.

Emergency Services Status for the Village of Taos Ski Valley

Police Coverage

Multiple Police Officers are on duty during the day. A police officer is in Taos Ski Valley and on call off-hours 7days per week.

EMT Coverage

During the Ski Season and June thru September

EMT and Ambulance coverage is available from 8am to 5pm 7days per week.

Off-hours EMT and ambulance coverage is provided by volunteers.

Taos County is a backup.

Other Months

EMT and Ambulance coverage is provided by volunteers.

Taos County is a backup.

Public Safety KCEC Underground Electrical Presentation

- The goal of this project is to eliminate overhead electrical power in the Village of Taos Ski Valley. Overhead electrical power presents a very real fire hazard to our municipality. When electrical power lines and transformers are hit with high winds or inclement weather they pose the risk of falling and igniting flammable materials. In order to mitigate this risk the Village has created an ordinance requiring residence in the Village to connect to underground electrical power if present near their residences.
- Currently in the Village there are approximately 41 houses that can connect to underground electrical power. These houses lie primarily on Zaps Road, Upper Twining Road, Chipmunk Lane and in the Amizette area.
- 31 of these houses require the installation of meter boxes
- At least 10 transformers are required to route underground line to these 41 residents.
- The Village is planning to install transformers and meter boxes that residents can hook up to. The Village will be responsible for running conduit from the meter boxes through any right of ways to the edge of residents property.
From this point residents are responsible for running underground line from the edge of their property to their residences.
- The Village is currently assessing bids from multiple contractors in order to find the most economically viable, and applicable option.
- Once this contractor is selected residents will have the opportunity to contact the contractors and assess the possibility of them continuing work from the edge of their property to their buildings.
- As this project moves forward residents will be informed of when, and where the contractors will be installing underground line and give the opportunity to discuss the project with contractors and project management.