



**VILLAGE COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MEETING TO BE HELD VIA HYBRID - IN PERSON AND ONLINE
MEETING ROOM LOCATED AT 102, 9 FIREHOUSE RD.
TAOS SKI VALLEY, NEW MEXICO
FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2026 AT 1:00 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER AND NOTICE OF MEETING

The regular meeting of the Village Council was called to order by Mayor Chris Stanek at 1:00 pm. Notice of the meeting was properly posted.

2. ROLL CALL

Marlene Salazar, Village Clerk, called the roll and a quorum was present.

Governing Body Present:

Mayor Chris Stanek
Councilman Matt Myers
Councilman Chris Stagg
Councilman Doug Turner
Councilman Tom Wittman

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Councilor Wittman **SECOND:** Councilor Myers **PASSED:** 3-0

An amendment to the agenda was made by Councilor Wittman to move item 9B. (Public Comment) Specific Agenda Items to follow agenda item 5J.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. 03/20/2026-Regular Village Council Meeting.

MOTION: Councilor Wittman **SECOND:** Councilor Myers **PASSED:** 3-0

5. PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS

Village Administrator Hammond-Paul reported in regard to current and future agendas. The Village Clerk and Administrator would like to consolidate presentations and reports, and request that committee members who often comment send reports in advance for inclusion in the agenda. All reports are included in the Council Meeting Packet.

A. 2026-008-A Resolution of the Village Council of Taos Ski Valley Granting Emeritus Status to Katherine Kett

MOTION: Councilor Wittman **SECOND:** Councilor Myers **PASSED:** 3-0

Mayor Stanek honored Kat Kett for her decade of service to the Parks and Recreation Committee with an

emeritus member designation. Mayor Stanek and Parks & Rec Committee Chair Woodard praised Kat Ketts contributions, including securing grants for hiker parking improvements and overseeing the construction of restroom facilities, as well as her work with volleyball courts and maintaining flower baskets in the village.

B. Planning & Zoning Commission (Mayor Pro Tem Tom Wittman)

No reports

C. Public Safety Committee (Henry Caldwell)

No reports

D. Firewise Community Board (Henry Caldwell)

No reports

E. Parks & Recreation Committee (Joan Woodard)

Committee Chair Woodard discussed their recent meeting held on March 24, 2026, including a change in meeting time to 10 a.m.. Also discussed was the opening of Katina Vista Park for non-motorized vehicles (except e-bikes), and plans for a Spring Cleanup Day to be held on May 26th, 2026. And lastly Committee Chair Woodard reported the Committee decided to pursue a pilot "Adopt a Trail" program to encourage volunteer maintenance of trails.

F. Lodger's Tax Advisory Board (Councilman Chris Stagg)

Councilman Stagg reported on the Lodgers Tax Advisory Board. The board held a meeting on April 8, 2026, at 1:00 pm. The Lodgers Tax Advisory Board reviewed their budget for an upcoming presentation to the Village Council.

G. Mayor's Report (Mayor Chris Stanek)

No report

H. Administrator and Staff Reports (Henri Hammond-Paul, Village Administrator)

All staff reports were included in the Council Packet.

I. Presentation and Discussion of 60-Day Wildfire Strategy Review

Village Administrator Hammond-Paul presented a comprehensive wildfire risk assessment and prioritization framework PowerPoint, outlining current mitigation efforts and recommending high-impact, low-cost initiatives. The review emphasized that preparation and mitigation are critical priorities given rising national risk trends and expanding development. The comprehensive analysis focused on four key areas including fuel reduction, grant acquisition, community initiatives, and response capacity improvements.

Prioritization Framework: Interventions will be prioritized using a scoring system based on cost, feasibility, timeline, and control, with a focus on high-impact activities.

Sustainable Funding: The Council discussed implementing a wildfire mitigation fee—similar to the model

used by Angel Fire—to provide more stable funding than Gross Receipts Tax (GRT) alone.

Next Steps: These findings will inform the update of the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP), which is expected to be finalized within approximately six months.

J. Other reports.

Mayor Pro-Tem Wittman praised the Public Works Dept for all the work being conducted on the Village roads.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

This item is placed on the agenda so that the Governing Body, by unanimous consent, can designate those routine agenda items that they wish to be approved or acknowledged by one motion. If any proposal does not meet with the approval of all Governing Body members, that item will be heard when reached under the regular agenda.

- A. 2026-011-A resolution requesting removals and additions of signers to the Village of Taos Ski Valley Centinel Bank accounts

MOTION: Councilor Wittman **SECOND:** Councilor Myers **PASSED:** 4-0

- B. 2026-012-A resolution concerning governing body meetings and Public Notice required for the Lodgers Tax Advisory Board

MOTION: Councilor Wittman **SECOND:** Councilor Myers **PASSED:** 4-0

- C. Council Acceptance of the FY2026 3rd Quarter Financial data due to the Department of Finance, Local Government Division by April 30, 2026.

MOTION: Councilor Wittman **SECOND:** Councilor Myers **PASSED:** 4-0

7. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

- A. 2026-013- A resolution accepting dedication of Village of Taos Ski Valley water utility system improvements, including repairs, water lines and equipment, by Taos Ski Valley Inc. to the Village of Taos Ski Valley, including assignment of warranties, permit rights, and associated documentation.

MOTION: Councilor Wittman **SECOND:** Councilor Myers **ABSTAIN:** Councilor Stagg **PASSED:** 2-1

Attorney Appel reported on this Resolution accepting the dedication of the Water Utility System Improvements. Attorney Appel reported that approving this resolution formally ratifies the underground infrastructure improvements. Most improvements are physical components of the water utility system. The Public Works Department has already taken over management and is actively reading and monitoring the system.

Documentation Transfer: Records verify that all warranties, permit rights, and instruction manuals have been transferred to the Village. Virtually all necessary documents and operational items are currently in the Village's possession. The Village has received official assurances from Taos Ski Valley, Inc. (TSVI) and the Tax Increment Development District (TIDD) that any additional items or documentation not originally

provided will be promptly turned over

B. Proclamation Recognizing International Dark-Sky Week in the Village of Taos Ski Valley

MOTION: Councilor Wittman **SECOND:** Councilor Myers **PASSED:** 4-0

Village Administrator Hammond-Paul noted that numerous towns and municipalities throughout the state are moving to recognize the importance of their natural night environments. He highlighted that the Village is uniquely situated in a geographically beautiful region fortunate to have minimal light pollution, emphasizing the vital importance of cherishing and protecting this resource. Village Administrator Hammond-Paul introduced a formal proclamation to officially recognize and observe the annual International Dark Sky Week.

C. 2026-014-Resolution Ratifying Governmental Services Agreement with New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

MOTION: Councilor Wittman **SECOND:** Councilor Myers **PASSED:** 4-0

Village Administrator Hammond-Paul announced that the Village was successfully awarded a grant from the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD).

Agreement and Scope of Work: The Village will enter into a formal governmental services agreement with the state to accept and initiate work on the \$2.8 million microgrid battery storage system grant. Project tasks will commence immediately, including essential site preparation and direct technical coordination with the Kit Carson Electric Cooperative to integrate the system into the local grid infrastructure.

D. 2026-015-Resolution Ratifying New Mexico Forestry Division Project Work Plan for Wildfire Mitigation and Defensible Space Activities

MOTION: Councilor Stagg **SECOND:** Councilor Wittman **PASSED:** 4-0

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A.
1. Notice is hereby given of the following Public Hearing for: Liquor License Application for Business Daleee TSV.
 2. **Public Hearing Meeting** to be held on May 15, 2026, 1:00 p.m. in meeting room 102, 9 Firehouse Road, Taos Ski Valley, NM 87525

Mayor Stanek noted the Public Hearing as an announcement and stated public attendance is requested.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

- A. Discussion of non-agenda items only. Limited to 5 minutes per person. Please email msalazar@vtsv.org to sign up in advance so that you can be recognized.

Resident Mike Fitzpatrick spoke during Public Comment. Mr. Fitzpatrick proposed a resolution to support the Capital Improvement Advisory Committee's activities.

Resident Joan Woodard expressed appreciation for recent community work and volunteer efforts.

- B. Limit of 5 minutes per person related to a specific agenda item. Public comment during consideration of agenda items by the Council is only permitted at the discretion of the Chair and is limited and those directly affected.

10. CLOSED SESSION


The following matters may or may not be discussed in closed session under the NM Open Public Meetings Act under exemptions 10-15-1.H (8): meetings for the discussion of the purchase, acquisition or disposal of real property or water rights by a public body, 10-15-1. H (7): attorney client privilege pertaining to threatened or pending litigation in which the public body is or may become a participant, and 10-15-1.H (2) limited personnel matters.

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

05/15/2026-REGULAR MEETING. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Council of the Village of Taos Ski Valley will be held as a hybrid in-person and on-line meeting on May 15, 2026, at 1:00 pm in Room 102, 9 Firehouse Rd., Taos Ski Valley, NM and the Agenda, Agenda attachments, and Zoom Meeting link will be available to the public on the Village website at <https://www.vtsv.org>.

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Councilor Wittman **SECOND:** Councilor Myers **PASSED:** 4-0



Mayor Chris Stanek

ATTEST:



Village Clerk, Marlene Salazar