

Special Meeting Minutes–June 30, 2023

The Mayor and the Board of Trustees of the Village of Tularosa met in a Special Meeting on Friday June 30th at 10:00am in the morning at the Municipal Building located at 609 St. Francis in Tularosa New Mexico.

Present: Mayor Margaret Trujillo
Trustee Robert Sainz
Trustee Patrick Garcia
Trustee Deborah Cooksey
Trustee Mark Garwood

Also present: Rebekah Bryant, Village Clerk
Absent: Attorney Jeff Rhodes

At 10:00am. Mayor Margaret Trujillo called the meeting to order asking that all rise and join her in the Pledge of Allegiance and the Salute to the Flag of the State of New Mexico.

1. Mayor Trujillo asked to move a few agenda items to the beginning, so they do not have to wait. #13 to #3 and #14 to #4. Trustee Garcia motioned to accept the agenda. Trustee Cooksey seconded the motion. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

2. Unscheduled Correspondence and public comment (3 minutes)

13. Rusty Helton, Keep Tularosa Beautiful asked to consider funding to keep the organization going. This agenda item was a continuation from a previous regularly scheduled meeting on June 21, 2023. Mayor Trujillo addressed Mr. Helton and stated that she knows that they have had this discussion at a previous meeting and since then she has inquired information regarding non-profits and unfortunately the Village could not help with any money to be given to the organization because it is against the anti-donation clause. Another thing she inquired about was a permit with NMDOT allowing only village employees to do work on the medians.

14. Michael Brinkmeyer, Individual asked for an approval letter to the State of New Mexico stating that the Village agrees to provide water services for his cannabis microbusiness. Mayor Trujillo stated to Mr. Brinkmeyer that they could not approve the letter as there is an ordinance stating that no water is to be used for cannabis cultivation. He asked if that ordinance could be modified, and the mayor said that any ordinance could be modified but they are not going to modify a brand-new ordinance as they had a reason for that to begin with. Mr. Brinkmeyer asked if there were any other alternatives to water like irrigation or wells. Mayor Trujillo informed him that there is but you have to live in a certain area to obtain water rights. Trustee Cooksey informed that the only way he could get a well would be commercially. She also told him that if they let him have water than they would have to let others do that. Mr. Brinkmeyer said that he will figure an alternative route. No action taken.

3. Brandon Boyle, Chief of Police asked to approve the appointment of Matthew Magana for the position of an uncertified officer at a pay rate of \$18.50. Trustee Cooksey made a motion; Trustee Sainz seconded the motion. All members voted Aye; motion carried.

4. Rebekah Bryant, Village Clerk asked to approve the employee family health insurance from BCBS at a rate of 80% paid by village and 20% paid by the employee, the same as the employee insurance. This will be health insurance only, not including vision and dental which is optional for the employees to be paid fully on their own. Rebekah explained that they are just adding family options to have a better incentive to keep employees as we would be providing an option for families to obtain insurance. Trustee Garcia made a motion; Trustee Cooksey seconded the motion. All members voted Aye; motion carried.

5. Richard Guilez, Utility Supervisor asked to approve the pay raises for the following employees: Brett Saenz \$1.50, Nathan Bentancur \$2.00, Nash Kowatch \$1.00, Dakota Dorame \$.59. Richard was unavailable so Rebekah Bryant Village Clerk spoke on his behalf. Rebekah explained that is was self-explanatory and all dept heads did their performance evaluations to have justification for their raises. Trustee Cooksey was curious as to why the difference in pay and wanted to hear from Richard. Mayor Trujillo stated that the performance evaluations were done by the dept. heads in accordance. Trustee Garwood stated that he feels that if that's what the supervisor wants than we should go by what they request. Trustee Garcia made a motion; Trustee Cooksey seconded the motion. All members voted Aye; motion carried.

6. Brandon Boyle, Chief of Police asked to approve the pay raises for the following employees: Patrick Maturino \$1.00, Diadra Dugger \$1.00, June Carrillo \$1.00, Albert Barela \$1.00. Chief Boyle asked for Patrick Maturino to be put up for \$1.50 as it was a transcribing error. Chief Boyle explained that ever since he arrived at TPD Patrick has been a great help and anything he asks for he gets it done and also runs a very good dispatch team. Patrick Maturino spoke as supervisor for his dispatch team and said that he never gives 100% on evaluations because there is always room to improve but they all do an amazing job. He stated that on the evaluations he didn't know he had to put a certain amount so he is asking if he could bump the \$1.00 up to \$1.50 for his dispatch team. He is trying to stay competitive with surrounding areas and we are way below what other companies are paying so he has a whole crew of certified dispatchers and does not want to lose them. Trustee Cooksey made a motion; Trustee Garwood seconded the motion. All members voted Aye; motion carried.

7. Ralph Otero, Custodian Supervisor asked to approve a pay raise of \$1.00 for Randall Horton. Trustee Garwood made a motion; Trustee Garcia seconded the motion. All members voted Aye; motion carried.

8. Rebekah Bryant, Village Clerk asked to approve pay raises for the following employees: Sonya Gililand \$1.00, Valarie Delgado \$1.50, Judith Aguirre \$.56. Rebekah asked if she could change the amount of Sonya and Valarie to \$1.50 as she feels like she low balled the amount based on the figures she was given for salary but would like to give them \$.50 more than she asked for as they are doing an amazing job and wants to keep Judith the same as her salary amount is capped off reason being she only got \$.56 pay raise. Trustee Cooksey made a motion; Trustee Sainz seconded the motion. All members voted Aye; motion carried.

9. Rebekah Bryant, Village Clerk asked to approve the appointment of Trisha Brewer to payroll clerk/deputy clerk at a rate of \$18.00hr. Rebekah explained that she is moving Trish from Utility Billing Clerk to Payroll so she can give her payroll duties up to focus more on clerk duties and grants. Trustee Garwood made a motion; Trustee Cooksey seconded the motion. All members voted Aye; motion carried.

10. Margaret Trujillo, Mayor asked to approve pay raises for the following dept heads: Ralph Otero \$1.50, Patrick Wooten \$1.50, Linda Vigil \$1.50, Richard Guilez \$1.50, Rebekah Bryant \$1.50. Mayor Trujillo explained that although she requested all her dept. heads \$1.50 Rebekah Bryant does way more than her other dept. heads although she did give all her dept heads a great evaluation because anything she asks them to do they do it with no questions asked. Mayor explained that Rebekah goes above and beyond and wears 4 to 5 hats. Mayor explained that according to the finance officer she was only allowed to give \$1.50 but that did not sit with her well and she stated that if they have to move money around to get her paid what she deserves than that has to be done. Mayor Trujillo stated that she wanted her to make \$28.00hr. She explained that she knows it is a big amount but she believes that Rebekah deserves it. Trustee Cooksey said how about \$27.50. Trustee Garwood explained that clerks all over that state get paid way more than that and he thinks that is appropriate. He also stated that he sees her car at work past work hours and she is always working so he believes that \$28.00hr is good. Mayor Trujillo stated that she thinks that it is still low compared to what she deserves. Trustee Cooksey made a motion; Trustee Garwood seconded the motion. All members voted Aye; motion carried.

11. Mark Garwood, Trustee asked to approve a grant application for the T-Mobile Parks and Recreation Grant. Trustee Garwood stated that he is going to bring this up later as he missed the deadline for the quarter and would re-submit next quarter. No action taken.

12. Deborah Cooksey, Trustee asked to approve the contract associated with the background checks for the police dept. Trustee Cooksey stated that the new Chief of Police has been doing everything that needs to be done as far as getting background checks done so she was good with not needing this contract as long as the Chief was getting the appropriate information regarding background checks etc. No action taken.

13. Old Business: Trustee Cooksey asked about getting more signage for Granado St. as people are still not paying attention that it is a one-way street.

7. New Business: Work orders for trees covering stop signs throughout the village need to be done. Iris St. needs a new stop sign.

8. Adjourn: Trustee Garcia made a motion to adjourn, Trustee Cooksey seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 11:16am.

Margaret Trujillo, Mayor

ATTEST: (seal)

Rebekah Bryant, Village Clerk