

Regular Meeting Minutes–MARCH 20, 2024

The Mayor and the Board of Trustees of the Village of Tularosa met in a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, March 20, 2024, at 6:00 P. M. in the Court Conference Room of the Public Safety Facility located at 609 St. Francis Drive, Tularosa, New Mexico.

Present: Mayor Deborah Cooksey
Trustee Patrick Garcia
Trustee Robert Sainz
Trustee Manuel Brusuelas
Trustee Mark Garwood

Also present was Rebekah Bryant Village Clerk
Attorney Jeff Rhodes

At 6:00 P. M. Mayor Deborah Cooksey 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. Trustee Garcia made a motion to accept the agenda. Trustee Sainz seconded the motion. All members voted aye; motion carried.

2. Unscheduled Correspondence and public comments.

Stephanie Dubois- Stated that she was looking at the mobile home park and she thinks we need to keep an eye on it because it is a source of vandalism.

Kirk Crawford- Wants to know why when the senior center collects money for the food why they can't make change.

Joan Price- Thanked the board for the special meeting with the Ditch Corp. that was very much needed. She wanted to focus on one of many topics as in the Ditch Corp wanting to monitor turnout flow volumes just upriver from the Ditch Corp. turnout to assess payments to the ditch. The Village has several water rights and should be at the table as a voting member of the ditch corp. I am paying village water services, and I am a member of the ditch corp. I am very grateful for a voice with the village. She stated she gave each board member a copy of the long-range drought cycles issued by soil and water conservation so that you can see the dominant moisture cycles in this basin for the Rio Tularosa are way over a year but at least you have the data to look at. The village needs to consider its needs for lack of a better phrase a shadow draw. One widespread response to drought conditions is to turn to the village service at the municipal lookouts, you have posted the hours to use their water for outdoor purposes for years. This is up to individuals to cooperate, and it is not monitored, and

violations are rampant. Watering for community conservation needs is already a widely individualized experience decision according to seasons, new trees, old trees, new lawns, gardens and swimming pools are just some of the examples. As the ditch corp. begins never before restrictions there very well an increased use of municipal water. You are the default water system, and this happens all the time. The village should not commit to any kind of legal agreements with the ditch corp. until more factors for data collection can be discussed and collected to learn all the factors that are involved and in use amongst the village payers for water.

Teresa Luevano- Stated that she was interested in the police officers that were going to be hired as she didn't see that on the agenda, so she was wondering about that. Mayor Cooksey stated that they are working diligently but she told the crowd last night that this is a nationwide thing, and nobody wants to be a police officer anymore. It's not that we are not trying, we have advertisements out nationwide, locally and she knows that every time she talks to a police officer in Alamogordo or the state police captain, she makes it a point to see what she can do to get more police officers. The mayor also stated that they have had police officers apply but doing background checks and making sure everything is good eliminates some applicants. Once they apply it will take two to three weeks to get them through the necessary process to see if they are eligible. Teresa stated that she was all for that.

3. Warren Candelaria, Chief of Police asked to approve the appointment of Aviana Garcia to part-time animal shelter attendant at a pay rate of \$13.50. Trustee Sainz made a motion, Trustee Brusuelas seconded the motion. Trustee Garcia abstained from voting and all other members voted Aye; motion carried.

4. Mark Garwood, Trustee requested to get a handicap push button for the door at the PMS facility. Trustee Garwood stated that the reason he put that item on the agenda is because under the disabilities act of 1994 any medical facility that has an entry way needs to have an entry way for all handicap such as someone in a wheelchair, someone that's physically disabled and such. And right now our building which is owned by the village right now and we have a contract with PMS. So right now we are not within standards of the American Disabilities acts of 1994. Some residents came to me a few times already and asked if we were going to be able to accommodate the handicap because a lot of times the handicap person goes over there and they are waiting at the front door. So it is very vital that we comply with the American Disabilities acts and that is why I put that on the agenda for tonight. Mayor Cooksey asked Rebekah Bryant the village clerk if that is something they can order or get in and she responded yes. Trustee Garcia asked if we might have a cost for this. Rebekah stated that she can look into this and see how much it would be. Trustee Garwood stated that the door isn't wide enough and it needs to be a certain width for a wheelchair it is not wide

enough right now so we need to rectify that situation to be in compliance with the ADA. Rebekah stated that she would have Ralph go over and measure and see what we need to do. Trustee Brusuelas made a motion, Trustee Garcia seconded the motion. All members voted Aye; motion carried.

5. Baxter Pattillo, Alamotero Land Surveyors LLC asked for a lot line adjustment for Richard C. and Nancy M. Intres. Baxter stated that he was bringing a plat before you this evening for a lot line adjustment survey which is in the extra territorial jurisdiction off of Bulldog Lane and Sue Trail. He stated that on the face of the plat which has been signed by the owners and accepted by Otero County, the situation here is that Richard Intres and Nancy Intres own the large track that you see the adjusted track 2A that's the largest parcel shown here, they also own the adjusted portion of track two. North is up on the west side you have that rectangular shaped parcel labeled adjusted portion of track 2, they also own 11 Bulldog Lane which is adjacent to Sue Trail so what they are asking to do is on the west side of adjusted track 2A label for vacated lot line, what they're looking to do is swing that vacated lot line down to where it says 119 and that would allow adjusted track 2A to have access to Sue Trail and all three parcels are owned by Richard and Nancy Intres. Baxter stated that he has reviewed this with Stephanie Dubois and you can talk to her about any recommendations for that. Trustee Garcia asked Stephanie what she thought about this. Stephanie stated that she does not see a problem with it and it's all owned by the same owners and he just wants to change that line to have and doesn't see a problem since it's all their property. Trustee Garcia made a motion, Trustee Sainz seconded the motion. All members voted Aye; motion carried.

6. Michael Gruger, Tularosa Arts and History council asked for street closure of Encino St. at 1st and 3rd also 2nd St. at Durazno and Fresno for their 2nd annual Tularosa Duck Race Saturday June 8, 2024, from 11am to 4pm. Mr. Gruger stated that the Tularosa Arts and History council is once again planning their summer event that is a free event for the community with music, food vendors, arts and crafts vendors, kids games, educational displays, prizes. They had a really good response from the community last year and were even picked up by the channel 7 news in Albuquerque and the Albuquerque Journal did an article on them and it was really good exposure not only for the event but for Tularosa as well. This year's event is going to be on June 8th from 11am to 4pm and they are asking the village to help them out with some road closures. Trustee Garwood made a motion, Trustee Brusuelas seconded the motion. All members voted Aye; motion carried.

7. John Cano, Individual asked for a second water meter at his property 125 Sioux Trail. Mr. Cano stated that a few years back he purchased this property with the hopes of being able to build a site home on there and also creating a home for my mother in law who's in Kansas and they are moving her down so it's

not on the agenda yet but he does have surveyors working on actually subdividing out that two acres where he wants to put the meter at, so hopefully by next month they'll have that together so he can try to get that approved. In the meantime, we're still developing and going to put the trailer on order, so they are hoping to get a second meter, so they'll have their own meter for their 2-acre property that he is dividing out and hopefully in a couple of years he'll be starting to work on his site-built home on the back of the property. Trustee Sainz asked if the property according to the current water meter is on the corner of Sioux Trail. Mr. Cano stated that that's just the drive coming into the back part of the property, so I got a current meter there and water lines ran to the back before we purchased the property the past residents had trailers back there and utilized that water meter. So hopefully he will get the subdivision approved and then the two acres he just kind of wanted it to be its own entity and wanted it to have its own meter. Trustee Sainz asked if the pipes were already hooked all the way around. Mr. Cano stated that the existing meter has water lines running to the back but for the new location for the modular home there's no water there yet. Trustee Sainz asked if he will be responsible for the pipeline up to the new water meter. Mr. Cano stated that he didn't know he needed to or what's supposed to happen or how does he make that happen because this was his first step but is willing to do what's necessary to help facilitate. Mayor Cooksey stated that if she is wrong, but she thinks the steps are out of order here and she thinks that if you wanted to divide the land that you would do that first and then get your site ready for your modular home and then come and ask us for the water meter. Mr. Cano stated that the trailer would be here by the end of May as they had already ordered it. Mayor Cooksey asked if he had his land subdivided yet and he responded that it is in the process. He stated that he is hoping they will have the paperwork ready for next month's meeting. No Motion made.

8. Old Business:

Dave Shields from Bohannon Huston gave an update on our projects and where they are at. As far as street projects, Willow, Hunter and Santa Fe the survey and Geotech are done and we are about halfway done with design that should be coming up very soon. We've got clearances and we're going to make the request for disbursement of funds on that one with Elouise as well so that they'll disburse those funds and we've got the clearances on those so those are moving forward. The DOT TPF project this year which was again 1st St. that we applied for this and the third year that we have been told that we have missed the deadline to apply by one day. We turned in the application on the 8th and they said it was due on the 7th and last year we turned it in 13th and it was due the 12th. Trustee Garwood worked with us on that and the Sertpo is saying they set they're own dates for turn in not their regular turn in date of March 15th. So both Diana and Nora are going to Artesia tomorrow for that Sertpo meeting and talk to the RTPO there and see like can they make that more you know publicly known when these turn in dates are because statewide it's March 22nd and for whatever each district

kind of different days and we just never know which funds they are. Unfortunately, we missed out on first st. again and we probably won't get it back but for sure next year we'll apply again and just keep pushing and get it sooner or later. As far as the wwtp they have a couple of guys going out tomorrow and they have to get some measurements on the drop pipe and the influent lift station so we could get those replaced and the pumps as soon as we get that we should be able to move forward and get that out to bid. The task order for the supplemental water is turned in and is up for their review and approval. We did get written notice from DFA that the quality of life and regional recreational grants did get extended to June 2026 for the splash pad that had a termination date of June 2024. We're also working on the lead and copper galvanized pipe service line inventory that's due and again that one is kind of unofficial. They say that they are not going to fund the inventory survey until after the template is turned in complete. Then for the meters that you have to identify the water meters they they'll fund it after that and give you five years so it's kind of a moving target but we're trying to stay in front of it because they have the due date for everywhere in America is October 16th 2024 to identify every service line in your system on the customer side not even on your side.

9. New Business: New Planning and Zoning Committee that have already been voted in and some members were present which were Stephanie Dubois, Rusty Helton, Angel Voorbach, also not present are Chris Rupp and John Montoya.

10. Meeting adjourned at 6:34 pm.

Deborah Cooksey, Mayor

ATTEST: (seal)

Rebekah Bryant, Village Clerk