

Regular Meeting Minutes– May 26, 2020

The Mayor and the Board of Trustees of the Village of Tularosa met in a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, May 26, 2020 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 Margaret Trujillo
Trustee Patrick A. Garcia
Trustee Robert L. Sainz
Trustee Janie Portillo
Trustee Jeni Alexander

Also present was Rebekah Bryant, Payroll Clerk, as well as Village Attorney Jefferson Rhodes

At 6:00 P. M. 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.** Consideration of Agenda and Consent Agenda
 - a. Minutes of April 15, 2020 regular meeting
 - b. Site & Sign Permits-April 2020
 - c. Village Bills List
 - d. Next Regular Meeting-June 17, 2020

Trustee Portillo motioned to remove item #5 from the agenda and moved to approve the agenda and consent agenda. Trustee Garcia seconded the motion to remove #5 from agenda. All trustees voted aye. Motion carried.

All matters listed under Item 1, Consent Agenda, are considered to be routine by the Village Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

2. Valarie Delgado, finance officer, asking to approve the 2020-2021 Interim Budget for the Fiscal year for the Village of Tularosa.

Valarie Delgado was not in attendance so Rebekah Bryant, payroll clerk, asked to approve budget and provided the trustees with edited budget sheets clarifying any changes that had been made from the previous budget meeting. Trustee Portillo motioned with Trustee Sainz seconding the motion. All members voted aye. Motion passed.

3. Rebekah Bryant, payroll clerk, asking to approve the 2019 Audit exit by Ashley Tierney from Beasley, Mitchell & Co.

Rebekah Bryant asked to approve budget and introduced Ashley Tierney to present to the board a power point presentation regarding the budget. Over-all the audit was good with only a few findings that needed work. Ashley explained that the policies and procedures have been implemented already to correct the findings. Trustee Portillo motioned with Trustee Alexander seconding the motion. All members voted Aye. Motion carried.

4. Mayor Margaret Trujillo asking for a one time incentive pay of \$100.00 for Covid-Relief for the employees at the Police Department and Jesse Payan from the Solid Waste Department.

Mayor Trujillo asked for a \$100.00 one time pay for P.D. employees and Solid Waste employee. She stated she was thankful for her essential employees coming into work under these conditions and just wanted to thank them for all their hard work and dedication. Trustee Garcia motioned with Trustee Alexander seconding the motion. All members voted Aye. Motion carried.

6. Mayor Margaret Trujillo asked to adopt an ordinance to fine customers \$25.00 for not bagging their trash or putting items not allowed in the trash can.

Mayor Trujillo explained that they are having issues with customers putting things other than household trash in the trash cans. Such things as tree trimmings, concrete, wood, construction waste, etc. Mayor Trujillo explained that all those items cause our Solid Waste truck damage. Trustee Sainz asked if we were able to fine for repeat offenders. Attorney Jeff Rhodes said he will make an ordinance they can adopt at the next meeting. Trustee Garcia motioned with Trustee Sainz seconding the motion. All members voted Aye. Motion carried.

7. Mayor Margaret Trujillo asked to approve a promotion and pay raise for Rebekah Bryant to Deputy Clerk.

Mayor Trujillo explained that Rebekah has been fulfilling the duties as deputy clerk while the Village Clerk has been absent. She said she has gone above and beyond what has been asked of her and she is deserving of a raise. Trustee Portillo motioned for a \$2.00 an hour raise with Trustee Alexander seconding the motion. All members voted Aye. Motion carried. Trustee Garcia removed himself from voting.

8. Executive Session as per section 10-15-1(H) to discuss the matter involving the Tularosa Creek.

Trustee Portillo motioned with Trustee Sainz seconding the motion. All members voted Aye. Motion carried. Mayor Trujillo along with Trustee Garcia, Trustee Sainz, Trustee Portillo, Trustee Alexander and Attorney Jeff Rhodes went into executive session for around 20 minutes discussing this matter. Board members removed no action taken.

9. Sofia Sandoval and David Salas requested the approval to place two mobile homes at 601 and 603 Higuera Avenue.

Sofia Sandoval and David Salas approached the board and explained they were purchasing two brand new mobile homes and would like to put them on these properties owned by them. No approval was done because the Mayor asked them to provide a few documents and once received that she would sign off on them.

10. Mayor Margaret Trujillo asked to approve the Village Clerks position from salary to hourly.

Mayor Trujillo asked attorney Jeff Rhodes if they were required to have the Village Clerk on salary. He explained to her that no they are not obligated to have the clerk on salary and she could be hourly. Trustee Portillo motioned to change pay rate to \$21.07 hourly with Trustee Sainz seconding the motion. All members voted Aye. Motion carried.

11. Unscheduled Correspondence and Public Comments (3 Minutes)

Robert Danke president of the Ditch Corporation introduced his new board members Kathy Tyler and Arlene Newhart. He explained that they are looking forward to working together with the Village of Tularosa and this is the perfect opportunity to come together in making decisions regarding the Tulie Creek and any other matters. He also requested a tour of the water treatment plant. Mayor Trujillo said that would be fine and to just call and let us know when and we would be happy to

An audience member name Mark stood up thanking the Mayor and Board of Trustees for their help with the Tulie Creek situation. He stated he loves Tularosa and does not want to take anything away from the town but the trash and alcohol bottles and clothes etc. are ruining the creek. He also stated that he would volunteer his time with any help needed in keeping up with the creek and things of that such.

Trustee Garcia thanked the Ditch Corporation and the Mayor for their efforts in resolving the matters of the Tulie Creek.

The Mayor thanked Trustee Garcia and Robert Danke for working together to resolve the issues with the Tulie Creek and also informed the audience that they are working on getting something going for our residents but it will take time.

An audience member asked why our recycling center has been closed. Mayor Trujillo informed them that due to the Covid-19 outbreak the county had picked up all recycling bins in the entire county. They will be looking into when they will be returned. Also mentioned was that residents are still dropping their recycling stuff off even though the bins are not there.

Trustee Portillo announced that there will be Covid-19 testing for Tularosa residents on Monday June 8, 2020 and the Tularosa WIC office from 9am-11am but must call health office for appt.

Vivian Lueras asked about our Village Website not being up to date and Rebekah Bryant informed her that it is now up to date with current minutes and announcements.

Residents also agreed that our Parks should be shut back down even though we had just re-opened them due to the Covid-19 outbreak in our neighboring reservation.

12. Old Business: none

13. New Business: none

14. Adjourn:

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Trustee Portillo at 7:09pm. All voted in favor. Meeting was adjourned.

Margaret Trujillo, Mayor

ATTEST: (seal)

Margaret Lucero, Village Clerk