

## Regular Meeting Minutes–October 2019

The Mayor and the Board of Trustees of the Village of Tularosa met in a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, October 16, 2019 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 Janie Portillo  
Trustee Patrick Garcia  
Trustee Robert Sainz

Also present was Margaret Lucero Village, Village Clerk and Attorney Jefferson Rhodes

Absent: Trustee Jeni Alexander

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. Trustee Portillo made a motion to accept the agenda and consent agenda with the adding of the Village Bills list to the agenda. Trustee Garcia seconded the motion. All members voted aye. Motion carried
  
2. Mr. Pollack addressed the board to express his concerns about Ms. Norman and the Senior Center. Mr. Pollack challenged the board to go to the senior center to see how it is being run. He stated he believed the food was poor, there were no activities and that Ms. Norman treated the seniors like children. He stated that he was banned from the senior center by Ms. Norman however, she did not do her research and investigate any issues. He stated she was slandering his name, he did not cuss at anyone, he did not hit Luis Pino or the older lady with the bowl. He feels like MS. Norman has it in for him.
  
3. Ms. Jefferies, stated that she knew Mr. Pollack and he was not abusive in any way. She stated she felt like the meals have gone downhill, she feels there are not enough activities and the activities they do advertise are incorrect.
  - A.** Phillip Beck, senior center patron, wanted to say that Violet has a rough and tough job trying to please everyone. He feels like the center is 100% better than it was, and he appreciates everything she has done for him.
  - B.** Margie Coates, employee at senior center, stated that Mr. Pollack has said some comments about the food and helping with the tea and coffee.

She feels like he can be a bully. She also feels like Ms. Norman listens to her employees and treats them like a family. She stated she loves working at the center.

- C.** Vern Auten, senior center patron, stated that he has been going to the center for a while and sometimes the food is good and sometimes it is bad. He feels like Ms. Norman treats him like a kid and she has thin skin and doesn't know what she was doing at the center. He came in and talked to the Mayor, and she stated during that meeting that she believed him. The Mayor stated, yes Mr. Auten, I do believe what you are telling me.
- D.** Barbara Silva, was not ever hit by Mr. Pollack
- E.** Jen Gruger stated she use to run the senior center, and this was a totally inappropriate place for this to happen. Violet is taking the high road and is trying her very best, considering all the rules and regulations that govern the senior center. She is trying her hardest to please everyone.
- F.** Kevin Norman, husband to Violet. She came to Tularosa to run the senior center after working in Alamo. He told her to come and help the one in Tularosa. He and his father are from Tularosa and they have deep roots here. He stated she has done an amazing job. In the time she has worked there, the center is off probation with the state.

4. Trustee Portillo motioned to go into executive session to discuss the limited personnel matter. Trustee Garcia seconded the motion. Roll Call was done. All members voted aye and entered executive session at 6:31pm. The Board returned at 6:57pm. Mayor Trujillo stated that only the items mentioned were discussed. No Motion

Mayor Trujillo stated that she would like to have a meeting with both Ms. Norman and Mr. Pollack to see if mediation about this issue will help. Mr. Pollack agreed, and Ms. Norman stated she had followed all policies and procedures as given by the state, but that she would have a meeting.

5. Margaret Trujillo, Mayor asking to approve the appointment of Darrell Chavez to the position of Police Chief, with a one-year probation period at a salary of \$21.50/hour. Trustee Portillo motioned, Trustee Sainz seconded the motion, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

6. Margaret Trujillo, Mayor, asking to approve the appointment of Albert Barela to the position of non-certified police officer. Mr. Barela will have a one-year probation and must successfully complete the police academy. Trustee Portillo motioned to approve the appointment; Trustee Garcia seconded the motion. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

7. Margaret Trujillo, Mayor, asking to approve a pay raise for Jesse Payan in the amount of \$1.00/hour. She stated that Jesse does a wonderful job and really cares about the trash! Trustee Garcia motioned to approve the pay raise, Trustee

Portillo seconded the motion, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

8. Margaret Trujillo, Mayor, asking to approve the appointment of Darius Ward to the position of Police Officer with 6-month probation at a pay rate of \$17.50/hr. Mr. Ward comes to us from Roswell. He is federally certified. Trustee Portillo motioned to approve the appointment; Trustee Garcia seconded the motion. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

9. Richard Guilez, Maintenance Supervisor, asking to approve the appointment of Tobias Carrillo to the position of water operator at a pay rate of \$10.00/hr. with 6-month probation. Trustee Portillo motioned to approve the appointment, Trustee Sainz seconded the motion. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

10. Richard Guilez, Maintenance Supervisor, asking to approve the appointment of Brett Saenz, to the position of sewer operator at the pay rate of \$11.00/hr. with 6-month probation. Trustee Garcia motioned to approve the appointment. Trustee Portillo seconded the motion All members voted aye. Motion carried.

11. Removed

12. Removed

13. Margaret Lucero, Village Clerk, asking to approve the closure of the Village Offices for November 29, 2019 and December 26, 2019. Leave will be taken by employees for those days. Trustee Portillo motioned to approve the closure. Trustee Sainz seconded the motion. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

14. Margaret Trujillo, Mayor, asking to approve the Tularosa Art and Music Festival at both the community center and Veterans Park on or around November 9<sup>th</sup>. She stated that Bent does a festival and the Village does not have anything like that and she has been approached by several residents who would love to see something like that here. She stated she knows some local bands and artist who would participate. Trustee Garcia motioned to approve the festival. Trustee Portillo seconded the motion. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

15. Jim Danley, resident asking permission to place a 2019 mobile home and to connect to water and sewer at 1701 Fairview. Mr. Danley brought up a plat map to show the Trustees where the property was and where the mobile home would be placed. Trustee Portillo motioned to allow a 2019 mobile home with the connection to water and sewer at 1701 Fairview. Trustee Sainz seconded the motion. All members voted aye. Motion passed.

16. Jen Gruger, TAHC, asking to use Courtroom as a meeting place for the guest traveling in from Spain. She also asked that the Board members also be there to greet the group as well as the Mayor making some remarks. The Mayor stated that if the building is available that would be fine, the Community center is another option if they need. Trustee Portillo motioned to approve the use of

either the municipal building or the community center as a meeting place. Trustee Sainz seconded the motion. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

17. David Shields, Bohannon Huston and Margaret Lucero, Grants Coordinator stated there were issues with the bid for the Water Transmission Line project. Per NMED and DFA the Village is approving the bid to the lowest base bid to File Construction. Trustee Sainz motioned to approve the bid to File Construction with concurrence from NMED and DFA. Trustee Garcia seconded the motion. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

18. Unscheduled correspondence and public comment (3 minutes)

1. Tom McKeon, would like an update on both the website and the water payment box. Margaret stated the website should be up and running by end of week and that they are still determining and where to put up another payment box. Margaret stated that a box in front of police station sounds good but are they still going to "lose" payments with the box being over there as well. Trustee Portillo said that people could still mail in the payments, but the board would look at other options as well.

19. Old Business:

20. New Business:

21. Adjourn: 7:54

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Margaret Trujillo, Mayor

ATTEST: (seal)

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Margaret Lucero, Village Clerk