

Regular Meeting Minutes–September 21, 2022

The Mayor and the Board of Trustees of the Village of Tularosa met in a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, September 21, 2022, 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
Trustee Deborah Cooksey

Also present was Rebekah Bryant Village Clerk and Attorney Jeff 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. Trustee Janie Portillo made a motion omit agenda items #11 & #12 as they would not be present and to accept the agenda, Trustee Sainz seconded the motion. All members voted aye; motion carried.

2. Unscheduled correspondence and public comments.
None.

3. Christopher McGuinness, Chief of Police asked to approve the appointment of Tara Calderera as a Police Officer at a pay rate of \$16.50hr and a probationary period until she has completed the police academy. Trustee Portillo made a motion, Trustee Sainz seconded the motion. All members voted Aye; motion carried.

4. Rebekah Bryant, Village Clerk requested to approve reimbursement policy for public officers and employees travel expenses for FY2022-23, Resolution #2022-23-5. Trustee Sainz made a motion, Trustee Portillo seconded the motion. All members voted Aye; motion carried.

Roll Call was taken: Cooksey-present, Garcia-present, Portillo-present, Sainz-present, Trujillo-present.

5. Rebekah Bryant, Village Clerk requested to approve Resolution #2022-23-7, a policy for the acceptance of Debit/Credit cards or electronic payments of Utilities and Related Services. Trustee Sainz made a motion, Trustee Portillo seconded the motion. All members voted Aye; motion carried.

Roll Call was taken: Cooksey-present, Garcia-present, Portillo-present, Sainz-present, Trujillo-present.

6. Rebekah Bryant, Village Clerk requested to approve Resolution #2022-2023-8 to adopt the FY 2024-2028 Infrastructure Capital Improvement. Trustee Garcia made a motion, Trustee Cooksey seconded the motion. All members voted Aye; motion carried.

Roll Call was taken: Cooksey-present, Garcia-present, Portillo-present, Sainz-present, Trujillo-present.

7. Rebekah Bryant, Village Clerk requested to approve the Professional Services Agreement for On-Call Engineering Services with Bohannon Huston. Trustee Sainz made a motion, Trustee Portillo seconded the motion. All members voted Aye; motion carried.

8. Rebekah Bryant, Village Clerk requested to open and accept the sealed bids for the property on 501 1st St. Two bids were turned in, the first one opened was from Daniel Barrett bidding \$3,726.00 and the other one was from Angela Tyler bidding \$5,000.00. Angela Tyler was the highest bidder so she will be the one to purchase the property. Trustee Portillo made a motion, Trustee Cooksey seconded the motion. All members voted Aye; motion carried.

9. Janie Portillo, Trustee requested to get an animal transport license to go out of state to transport animals from the Village of Tularosa Animal Shelter. Trustee Portillo explained that they had a meeting with Animal Control Officer Deborah Hernandez and Individual Debbie Lewis about obtaining an animal transport license. Trustee Garcia made a motion, Trustee Portillo seconded the motion. Trustee Sainz asked if this license would be for one individual or for anyone with the Village. Deborah Hernandez spoke and said that she has tried to contact the rescue in Colorado, and she had not received a call back and her thought is that until we have someone on the receiving end to take these animals that the transport license should be put on hold. Trustee Portillo asked if we could have the transport license just to get it and Deborah said that it's expensive about \$400.00 and that the animals will need a health certificate to go up there. Trustee Sainz asked if the license was a yearly thing and Deborah confirmed that yes it was. Trustee Cooksey asked about how much are we looking at per animal. Deborah said that they would have to be taken to a vet and have a health check and be up to date on shots and may need to be spayed or neutered which will be around \$400.00. If they can get someone to help and pay for it that would help. Trustee Garcia asked if the city of Alamogordo uses the same facility. Deborah

said she does not believe so that they may ship theirs to Arizona. Trustee Garcia asked if the Colorado situation does not work out would she be willing to use the Arizona one. Deborah said that if we can get facilities in Arizona she's willing to use any place that would take our dogs. Trustee Garcia made a motion to postpone, Trustee Portillo seconded the motion. All members voted Aye; motion carried.

10. Janie Portillo, Trustee requested to make Granado St. a one-way street from St. Francis Dr. to 3rd St. Trustee Portillo said that this has been brought up before and not passed, but she has spoke with a few people who have been complaining about how dangerous it is and if they could bring this issue up to the board again. Trustee Cooksey made a motion, Trustee Portillo seconded the motion. Trustee Garcia asked how many businesses approved this or do they have a tally of who wants it. Trustee Cooksey spoke on behalf of Horse Feathers a business on the corner of Granado that sees the traffic all day long. She said that they see when someone is at the stop sign and another vehicle is coming onto the street from the highway, but they can't because the vehicle at the stop sign is taking up the whole road. This happens many times and is a problem. Trustee Cooksey explained that they need to put safety first for our people and she does not think that this will hurt any business, as they still have parking on both sides of the street. Trustee Portillo said that if it doesn't work than they can go back and change it to a two way. Trustee Sainz mentioned that the last time they had this discussion that they had talked about when they start doing the construction on 1st St. that they were going to put the project together and widen the street. Sainz said that he understands the safety issue, but he doesn't think that making it a one way is going to cut back on the accidents because even before the road was done there were still accidents. Sainz said he spoke with Mr. Chavez and he had a paper in his business with signatures from people who do not want the street changed. Sainz stated that he doesn't think that they should change it to a one-way but instead put signs up to be cautious and in turn widen Granado St. Trustee Cooksey said she understands but they are trying to attract outside business for the businesses other than our residents that know about it. Sainz said that if they are trying to make a street one way it should be Padilla Lane. Trustee Garcia said that he has witnessed this for months and he sat there and watched two trucks trying to access the street and it was two narrow, he is not opposed and none the less he wants to see how the board feels about it and if it's going to solve that issue for a while he is willing to see how it works out. Sainz said that it probably won't, and somebody will forget. Mayor Trujillo said that she believes that if it is going to make it a safer way down that street that she thinks that they should go that way. Trustee Sainz said that he thinks they are going about it in the wrong way and drivers need to be more careful. 3 members (Cooksey, Garcia, and Portillo) voted Aye and Sainz voted nay. Motion carried.

11. Omit

12. Omit

13. Peter Kauffman, Individual requested to connect Tularosa Distillery to the Village of Tularosa Sewer System. Mr. Kauffman explained that they are trying to decide what to do with their sewer system and he would love to connect to the village wastewater system. Mayor Trujillo asked how far he was from the sewer system, and he said 750 ft. He said that he would have a lift station at his property to connect to the sewer system. Trustee Cooksey asked what the problem is with getting a septic tank put in. Mr. Kauffman said that he does not want to maintain the septic tank and it would simplify his operations greatly. He said that the only thing entering the wastewater system would be toilets and wash bases, all the wastewater from distilling would be captured into tanks. Trustee Garcia said that he needs more time to think about this. Trustee Garcia made a motion to postpone, Trustee Portillo seconded the motion. All members voted Aye; motion carried.

14. Old Business: Trustee Sainz inquired about the Maverik gas station. Rebekah Bryant Village Clerk said that Maverik is still in the process of getting plans together on a different piece of property.

15. New Business: Trustee Sainz addresses and issue regarding micromanaging employees, he said that up to a certain point he might agree with the village personnel, but he said that they as a board are trying to make sure that we are doing things the right way per audit requirements. Mayor Trujillo said that there has never been an audit finding regarding the gas tickets and that she does know what he is talking about regarding the micromanaging issue but that was an internal issue, and she does believe that the staff has leaned from that and also them as leaders and her as the supervisor as well as they are just trying to make the village better. Sainz said that he agrees and that they have one heck of a crew from the office down to the water crew and everyone else. Trustee Cooksey said the protection is there for the village, but we have vendors who make mistakes, so it is for the good of the village to make sure everything is done properly.

16. Adjourn: Trustee Portillo motioned to adjourn; Trustee Cooksey seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 6:42pm.

Margaret Trujillo, Mayor

ATTEST: (seal)

Rebekah Bryant, Village Clerk