

Budget Workshop-May 5, 2015

The Mayor and the Board of Trustees of the Village of Tularosa met in a Budget Workshop on Tuesday, May 5, 2015 at 1:30 P. M. in the Court Conference Room of the Public Safety Facility located at 609 St. Francis Drive, Tularosa, New Mexico.

Present: Mayor Ray S. Cordova
Trustee Patrick Garcia
Trustee John 'Ray' Telles
Trustee Robert Sainz

Absent: Trustee Ronald Cooksey

Also present was Village Clerk Dianna Brusuelas-Guilez and Finance Officer Valarie Delgado.

At 1:35 P. M. Mayor Cordova called the workshop to order.

1. Consideration of Agenda

Trustee Robert Sainz moved to consider the agenda. Trustee John 'Ray' Telles seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Trustee Telles, aye. Trustee Sainz, aye. Motion carried with all members present voting aye.

2. Budget Hearings-Department Heads

Community Center-Ralph Otero said he was happy with his budget as presented except that he would like to request a \$1.00 increase for Patrick Wooten and a 50¢ increase for Frank Young. Mr. Otero also said he was in need of a new lawn mower which would run about \$8,000.00.

Solid Waste-Michael Gaston said the village needed to get moving on servicing the schools stating that that would make money for the village. Mayor Ray Cordova asked what the school currently had. Mr. Gaston said that at the elementary school they use three 4 yarder's which is equivalent to three 300's. The Board said they would need nine of the villages 300's at the elementary and that does not look to good. Mayor Cordova said he would have Rick Gutierrez check the prices on 450 gallon containers.

Library-Randi Northrup requested more than the \$100.00 budgeted into her office supply line item and asked for a book budget of approximately \$300.00.

Public Safety-Chief of Police Charles Wood mentioned that the Office Contractual line item was budgeted at \$7,800.00 and this year they had already spent \$12,000.00. This line item is used to pay Sleuth's contractual services.

Animal Control-Chief of Police Charles Wood wondered why the miscellaneous line item was cut to \$500.00 when in nine months they had already spent \$2,144.00. The response from Finance Officer Valarie Delgado was that the village is currently paying utilities out of the miscellaneous line item and for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 a separate line item for utility's with \$1,000.00 was created.

Police Chief Wood mentioned to the Mayor and the Board that he spoke to a representative from Verizon interested in renting space on the police departments tower on Fresno Street. Village Clerk Dianna Brusuelas-Guilez said she also spoke to Mr. Les Gutierrez from Verizon and had make contact with the village attorney

as to what requirements Verizon would need to place their own tower inside the village limits. Ms. Brusuelas-Guilez conversation with Mr. Gutierrez was them (Verizon) placing an additional tower near the area of the Middle school, the Intermediate or Elementary school. Mr. Gutierrez said Superintendent Brenda Vigil was out of town and he would make contact with her next week

Judicial-Judge Billy Artiaga said he would like to add budget to the Repairs and Maintenance line item to paint his offices and part of the Court/Conference Room and replace the carpet in the Court/Conference Room. Judge Artiaga also asked if the village could up front about \$16,000.00 to purchase cameras and scanners for the court, the money would then be reimbursed back to the village through the court automation fund in Santa Fe. The Mayor and Board said that would be fine as long as the General Fund had the money at the time of the request.

Judge Artiaga also brought up leaving the doors to the restrooms in the Public Safety Facility building open for the public so that people using the park could have a restroom during their cookouts or birthday parties. Judge Artiaga said the village could ask the police department to lock the doors at 6.

Fire Department-John Montoya Fire Chief asked again about getting the fire hydrants repaired or replaced. Fire Chief Montoya said the hydrants have been turned over to the village and the liability lies with them. Fire Chief Montoya was asked to make a priority list of the hydrants and the village would see how many they could repair per month.

Fire Chief John Montoya also brought up the EMS service stating that since Paul Quaroli from the county revamped the lines of the county Chuck Hardesty and his wife are no longer able to respond to the village's emergency services. The Hardesty's belong to the Dungan Fire Department and that department does not respond to Tularosa. Fire Chief Montoya asked if he could investigate the cost of placing an ambulance in Tularosa full time since the village already has the ambulance bay. The response was yes.

Financial Administration-Village Clerk Dianna Brusuelas-Guilez said her staff was in dire need of raises. She mentioned that everything throughout the village ends up coming through her office and her office is the center of everything that goes on elsewhere. The only other request Ms. Brusuelas-Guilez asked for was permission to purchase a village car with Small Cities Assistance Funding. It was asked how much the village received in Small Cities Assistance. Village Clerk Dianna Brusuelas-Guilez said the village received a significant amount which is distributed through Taxation and Revenue, the amount was so significant that Ms. Brusuelas-Guilez emailed Taxation and Revenue to see if the calculations were correct. Taxation and Revenue emailed back and said yes their calculations were correct. The Clerk and Valarie Delgado, Finance Officer said that the village received \$700 and some thousand dollars but at their Budget meeting in Roswell the week before, Department of Finance and Administration cautioned villages and cities that received huge amounts about going on a spending spree because they also felt it was a mistake and figured that when the mistake is discovered cities and villages will have to pay back. DFA also said that three years ago a law was passed increasing the amount of the Small Cities Distribution for three years in a row and this year would be the final increase. The amount received this year (2015) was \$707,512 last year (2014) was \$372,937 and the year before that (2013) was \$199,482. It was decided to purchase a village vehicle and hold off in spending a portion of what was received in case there was an error in calculations.

Village Clerk Dianna Brusuelas-Guilez also advised the Mayor and the Board of Trustees that the Medical Insurance would be going up 8%. Members of the Board asked if that meant that the employees would then be taking home less on

their paychecks then they already were. The response was yes. After some discussion the Mayor and the Board decided to ask the Finance Officer and the Clerk to try to find money so that the employees takes home the same amount as they are currently taking home. The Mayor and the Board were advised that by the village paying 80% of the insurance premium instead of the 78% it would cost the village approximately \$6,000.00 more dollars per year and the take home pay for the employees would remain about the same. The Mayor and the Board decided to increase the village's portion of the premium to 80%.

There being no other Department Heads the motion to adjourn was made by Trustee John "Ray" Telles, seconded by Trustee Patrick Garcia. The Budget Hearings adjourned at 1:40

Ray S. Cordova, Mayor

ATTEST:

Dianna R. Brusuelas-Guilez, Village Clerk

The written minutes are the official minutes of the meeting. The recorded Compact Flash are part of the minutes only for interpreting any ambiguity in the written minutes. When the minutes are approved and signed the written minutes are the official minutes of the meeting.

Minutes approved by The Board of Trustees at the Regular Meeting of May 20, 2015.