

Regular Meeting Minutes–December 18, 2024

The Mayor and the Board of Trustees of the Village of Tularosa met in a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, December 18, 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 accept the agenda, Trustee Garwood seconded the motion. All members voted aye; motion carried.
- 2.** Deborah Cooksey, Mayor asked to change public comments to the end of the agenda. Trustee Brusuelas made a motion, Trustee Garcia seconded the motion. All members vote Aye; motion carried.
- 3.** Warren Candelaria, Chief of Police asked for approval of the appointment of Latham Garnsey to uncertified police officer at a pay rate of \$20.50. Lt. Kimmons spoke for Chief Candelaria as he was not in attendance. Trustee Sainz made a motion, Trustee Brusuelas seconded the motion. All members vote Aye; motion carried.
- 4.** Anna Fresquez, Senior Center Director asked for approval of the appointment of Chloe Yankee as a part-time program aide at a pay rate of \$15.00hr. Trustee Garcia made a motion, Trustee Brusuelas seconded the motion. All members voted Aye; motion carried.
- 5.** Llyod Bigas, Individual asked to temporarily place a motor home on the property of 1st and Padilla Ln. while cleaning property. Mr. Bigas was given 90 days at the beginning of Jan 1, 2025. Trustee Garcia made a motion, Trustee Sainz seconded the motion. All members voted Aye; motion carried.

6. Chris Rupp, Planning and Zoning asked for approval for a building site permit for an added structure at 1204 Montclair for Yvonne Brusuelas. Rebekah Bryant Village Clerk swore in Chris Rupp. Chris Rupp stated that the address is 1101 3rd St. and not 1204 Montclair. Trustee Garcia made a motion, Trustee Sainz seconded the motion. All members voted Aye; motion carried. Trustee Brusuelas abstained from voting

7. Baxter Patillo, Alamotero Surveyors asked for approval of claim of exemption on 23/25 Baca Farms Rd. within the extra-territorial jurisdiction. Chris Rupp from planning and zoning stated that they had already reviewed this at their regular meeting with the information that was provided so they recommend approval. Trustee Sainz made a motion, Trustee Garwood seconded the motion. All members voted Aye; motion carried.

8. Jonathan & Deborah Harrell, Individuals requested a variance to ordinance #275 section 90.25 to allow for temporary (1 year) use of RV at 604 2nd St. while remodeling home. They were given 90 days and told to come back to the board after 90 days was up to show their improvements and ask for another variance. Trustee Garwood made a motion, Trustee Garcia seconded the motion.

9. Elena Gonzales, Individual asked for a variance to stay in her RV at 460 Central Ave. She was given 90 days. Trustee Garwood made a motion, Trustee Brusuelas seconded the motion.

10. Chris Rupp, Kiwanas Club of Tularosa wanted to give an update on the Christmas Festival. Mr. Rupp stated that they had their first Christmas Festival on December 7, 2024, and he thinks it brought a lot of awareness and smiles to the town while raising a little money for the youth in the community. He thanked many people that helped with putting this together for their tremendous support while trying to put this together and making the first Tularosa Christmas winter festival a success. This would not have been possible without the dedication to each and everyone. This festival marked a new tradition for our village, and we are incredibly proud of what was achieved together. Discussion only

11. Azori & Kody Sparks, Individuals asked for permission to vacate the underdeveloped roads in the Monterey Subdivision on both sides of West 2nd and West 3rd to allow them to build a fence around their property for livestock and a horse. Mayor Cooksey asked if that property had a utility easement and Azori stated that the roads are underdeveloped, and their neighbors have their own easement and would not be affected. Also, West 2nd and West 3rd streets have no access because the ditch is there.

12. Deborah Cooksey, Mayor asked to approve a one-time incentive pay in the amounts of \$350.00 for 5 employees, \$300.00 for 28 employees, \$150.00 for 5 employees, \$100.00 for 1 employee. Trustee Garcia made a motion, Trustee Garwood seconded the motion.

13. Unscheduled Correspondence:

Vivian Lueras- Stated that she had a few things she wanted to speak about. First one was the Granado St. one-way, and she was wondering if that was going to stay a one-way. Mayor Cooksey stated that they have ordered signs that the DOT recommended and approved, and they are ordered and on the way. She also stated that there were almost two crashes this past weekend because people are going the wrong way. She also stated that the markings on the road on Granado are painted black and should they be. She also asked if they were going to allow tiny houses on the property that people own. Mayor Cooksey stated that they have not looked into that yet.

14. Old Business: Trustee Garcia asked what the status was with the Ditch Corp. Mayor Cooksey stated that they are actively working on the water issues. The NMED has been asking to go up there and see it but there is no access to it, and they were told at the meeting that at anytime that we needed access to it they would let us and that has yet to happen. She stated that the Village has received a violation for not having access to the intake and having the fence that surrounds the intake. This situation is currently in legal status and that will be handled in court.

Trustee Sainz stated that he has seen improvements in the police dept. giving tickets and being present and he has seen the traffic slow down.

Trustee Garwood stated that him and Trustee Brusuelas go to every Sertpo meeting in southern New Mexico and we will host the next meeting on January 30, 2025 and they are going to ask to show them around the town and show them the traffic flow with the speeding and the drainage in the town.

15. New Business: None

16. Meeting adjourned at 7:18 pm.

Deborah Cooksey, Mayor

ATTEST: (seal)

Rebekah Bryant, Village Clerk