

Regular Meeting (Remote Meeting in compliance with NM Open Meetings Act)
October 13, 2020
6:00 P.M.

Members Present: Mayor Nuñez, Trustee Whitlock, Trustee Crist, Trustee Atencio, and Mayor Pro Tem Torres (late arrival)

Others Present: Mike Castillo, Tim Thornton, Jorge Au, Alfredo Holguin, David Shields, Linda Alvarez, Lisa Neal, Manny Sanchez, Elizabeth Porras

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Hatch was held remotely. In attendance through remote electronic communication were Mayor Nuñez, Trustee Whitlock, Trustee Crist, and Trustee Atencio. Mayor Nuñez asked everybody in attendance to join him in the pledge of allegiance, prayer and a moment of silence, then asked the Clerk Treasurer for roll call as follows: Mayor Nuñez – Present, Mayor Pro Tem Torres – Absent, Trustee Atencio – Present, Trustee Whitlock – Present, and Trustee Crist – Present. There being a quorum, Mayor Nuñez called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Nuñez requested to remove item #6C Regional Mutli-purpose Flood Control Project from the agenda. Trustee Whitlock moved to approve the agenda as amended. Seconded by Trustee Crist. Motion carried with all Trustees voting aye.

Trustee Whitlock moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Seconded by Trustee Crist. Motion carried with all Trustees voting aye.

County Commissioner Manny Sanchez reported on the CARES Act Grant now available for small businesses. Dona Ana County, Cities of Anthony and Sunland Park, the Town of Mesilla and the Village of Hatch applied for and received CARES Act Relief Funds from the state. To help small business owners with the COVID-19 pandemic. The Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce will accept applications.

Dave Shields gave an update on the different projects for the Village of Hatch. The Canal Road Low Water Crossing road portion is near complete and the Chile Capital extension is complete. The contractor is currently working on the Cemetery erosion control portion. We are adding a Drive pad to the Cabral and Silva properties. We are also extending the 4” piping to the Placitas Arroyo for discharge. I have also met with the contractor to discuss additional curb & gutter on Canal Road, additional concrete barriers to block access around the new ones at the crossing and possibly purchasing a larger pump for the drainage ponds. The Hatch Airport Pavement preservation work has begun, and we have turned in the first pay request to FAA. The Hatch Water Preliminary Engineering Report is due to turn in to NMED for review Oct. 16, 2020. The Hatch NMDOT LGRF Project is pending grant agreement. The Hatch Gateway Monument on I-25- Design has been turned in to NMDOT for preliminary review and awaiting comments. They have had it for about a month already. The Resolution for the project has also been sent. The last discussion with Trent Doolittle at NMDOT was that they are in the process of the design for work on the existing overpass and wanted to get that design done before they responded to the Gateway Monument project.

Alfredo Holguin, PE Senior Project Manager Water/Wastewater with Wilson & Company gave an update on the Village Capital Projects for the Rodey and Chile Lift Stations, and Placitas Waterline Replacement. On the Rodey and Chile Lift Stations the project includes the rehabilitation of the Rodey Lift Station and the installation of the new lift station on Chile Capital Lane. The Rodey Lift Station serves the community of Rodey, by collecting wastewater from approximately 110 homes and pumping it through a force main to the Village of Hatch gravity collection system. The Chile Capital Lane Lift Station will be installed to serve future development in the area and transferring wastewater collection from approximately 30 residential connections. Colonias Infrastructure Funding Approved 10% Loan for \$72,000; 90% Grant for \$648,000 for a total project amount of \$720,000. The Placitas Waterline Replacement Project will replace the main transmission line along Hwy 26 from the Hatch Village limits to Albidres Street in Placitas and along the entirety of Trujillo Street from Hwy 26 to the west end of the community. The project will eliminate old small diameter asbestos piping with larger capacity PVC pipe for increased flows and pressures, replace service lines for consistency of materials, and install valves with hydrants for proper system operations and reduction in water loss. Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund Approved 25% Loan in the amount of \$251,750; 75% Grant for \$755,250 for a total project amount of \$1,007,000.

Trustee Whitlock moved to approve Resolution No. 1001 Participation in Local Government Road Fund Program Administered by NMDOT Cooperative Agreement Control Number HW2 L100454. Seconded by Trustee Crist. The Board was polled as follows: Mayor Pro Tem Torres – Absent, Trustee Atencio-aye, Trustee Whitlock-aye, Trustee Crist-aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Whitlock moved to approve to donate old outdated gear from Village of Hatch Fire Department to Palomas MX Fire Department pending approval from State Fire Marshall. Seconded by Trustee Atencio. Motion carried with all Trustees voting aye.

Trustee Atencio moved to approve the ratification of Grant Agreement between the New Mexico Department of Transportation Traffic Safety Division and Village of Hatch Police Department to conduct the following project STEP in the amount of \$5,115.00. Seconded by Trustee Crist. Motion carried with all Trustees voting aye.

Trustee Whitlock moved to approve the ratification of hiring Diana Gonzales as MVD Clerk effective October 1, 2020 at \$13.00 hourly rate with a six month probationary period. Seconded by Trustee Crist. Motion carried with all Trustees voting aye.

Trustee Crist moved to approve to accept the resignation of Sajid Porras from the Utilities Department effective October 8, 2020. Seconded by Trustee Whitlock. Motion carried with all Trustees voting aye.

Trustee Crist moved to approve to advertise to fill the vacant Public Works position. Seconded by Trustee Atencio. Motion carried with all Trustees voting aye.

*6:25 p.m. Trustee Whitlock moved to convene in closed executive session to discuss threatened or pending litigation, employment matters as authorized by the open meetings act § (H)(7). Seconded by Trustee Crist. The Board was polled as follows: Mayor Pro Tem Torres-absent, Trustee Atencio-aye, Trustee Whitlock-aye, Trustee Crist-aye. Motion carried.

*6:33 p.m. – Mayor Pro Tem Torres entered the meeting at this time.

*6:39 p.m. Trustee Whitlock moved to reconvene in open session from closed executive session where no decisions were made. Seconded by Trustee Atencio. The Board was polled as follows: Mayor Pro-Tem Torres-aye, Trustee Atencio-aye, Trustee Whitlock-aye, Trustee Crist-aye. Motion carried.

Mike Castillo, Public Works Director reported the replacement of LED lighting for the Museum and the Community Center, to be able to qualify for the rebates that are being offered by El Paso Electric. Utility department has been busy with water breaks and maintenance. Have also been monitoring the sidewalks construction crew. Jorge Au Fire Chief reported on the recruitment and retention efforts ongoing but COVID-19 has interrupted and delayed some progress. The purchase of new HME Silver Fox Pumper Unit 19-01 was delivered September 12, 2020, have also been identifying and purchasing equipment for new pumper ongoing. Hydrant testing continuing in October 2020. Have also picked up accountability tags for all firefighters. Fire Department has also been working on obtaining SOG's from DACFES and working on modifying to fit Village of Hatch Fire Department needs. Tim Thornton, Police Chief reported no issues at the police department. Department continues to patrol and work as diligently as they possibly can. Lisa Neal, Library Director reported on the Library activities going on. STEM kits for kids are still being checked out, and more people are starting to visit the Library to use the computers and internet.

There being no further business Trustee Crist moved to adjourn at 7:11 p.m. Seconded by Trustee Whitlock. Motion carried with all Trustees voting aye.

Signed: _____, Mayor

ATTEST:

Date: _____