

Regular Meeting (Remote Meeting in compliance with NM Open Meetings Act)
February 9, 2021
6:00 P.M.

Members Present: Mayor Nuñez, Trustee Whitlock, Trustee Crist, and Trustee Atencio

Members Absent: Mayor Pro Tem Torres

Others Present: Mike Castillo, Tim Thornton, Lisa Neal, Geoff Mamerow, David Shields, Alfredo Holguin, Richard Garcia, Shirley Rice, 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 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.

Trustee Atencio led all in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance and Trustee Whitlock gave the opening prayer. Mayor Nunez then called for a moment of silence.

Trustee Whitlock moved to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Trustee Atencio. 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.

On behalf of Chief of Police Thornton and Board of Trustees Officer Garcia was presented with a plaque for his courage and valor resulting from his actions on December 16, 2020, where putting himself selflessly into the line of fire in an active gunfight. These actions no doubt aided in the survival of the agent, as well as the apprehension of the fugitive who was wanted for murder.

Judge Rice gave a brief report of the Municipal Court, operations continue some nights are very busy and other are not as busy. Also thanked all the officers for their continued service to our community and all their help with the court.

Dave Shields gave an update on the different projects for the Village of Hatch. On the Canal Road Low Water Crossing the initial project was substantially complete on 12/22/2020. BHI has sent notice of additional work to NMDOT for approval. If approved additional work on Canal Rd. will be incorporated into project through Change order #2 to expend remaining funds. The Chile Capital Lane Extension project is complete and 2019/20 LGRF funding has been closed out. The Hatch Airport Pavement preservation work is scheduled to begin in spring as temperatures rise. The Hatch Water Preliminary Engineering Report is complete and under review at NMED for final approval.

The Hatch NMDOT LGRF Projects 2021 grant agreement approved by NMDOT for \$30k grant \$10k match for work on Fajardo St. A resolution to move the funding from Fajardo St. to Chile Capital in order to cover the cost not allowed by NMDOT is on the agenda tonight. We will apply for 2021/22 funding for Fajardo St. this month. The Hatch Gateway Monument on I-25, since NMDOT will not approve the I-25 monument until they finish design for the work on the ramp, we have submitted permit application for the smaller Veterans Park sign. Environmental clearance has been requested and after that is approved, will send District 2 the permit application. From that point, it usually takes 2 to 3 months for approval.

Trustee Atencio moved to approve Resolution No. 1008 Participation in Local Government Road Fund Program Administered by New Mexico Department of Transportation. 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.

Geoff Mamerow with Southwest Accounting Solutions, LLC., gave a brief presentation on the FY 2020 Audit, and started out with congratulating the Village Staff for their exceptional work in preparing for this audit. Management of the Village is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles. This responsibility includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement.

Trustee Atencio moved to approve Resolution No. 1009 Acceptance and approval of the FY2020 Audit. Seconded by Trustee Whitlock. The Board was polled as follows: Mayor Pro Tem Torres-absent, Trustee Atencio-aye, Trustee Whitlock-aye, Trustee Crist-aye. Motion carried.

*6:43 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 Atencio. The Board was polled as follows: Mayor Pro Tem Torres-absent, Trustee Atencio-aye, Trustee Whitlock-aye, Trustee Crist-aye. Motion carried.

*6:47 p.m. Trustee Whitlock moved to reconvene in open session from closed executive session where no decisions were made. 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 Atencio moved to approve to remove Adam Powell Lem from probationary status to non-probationary status and a one dollar and fifty cents pay increase per hourly rate effective February 8, 2021. Seconded by Trustee Whitlock. Motion carried with all Trustees voting aye.

Trustee Whitlock moved to approve Officer Larry Bleimeyer's 2% pay increase on anniversary of date of hire effective February 1, 2021 as per FOP contract. Seconded by Trustee Crist. Motion carried with all Trustees voting aye.

Trustee Crist moved to approve to hire Francisco Lucero as a Utility Employee for the Public Works Department effective February 8, 2021 at \$10.50 hourly rate with a six month probationary period. Seconded by Trustee Atencio. Motion carried with all Trustees voting aye.

Mike Castillo, Public Works Director reported that the department has finished installing all the lighting at the Community Center and the Museum. The department has also begin construction of the french drain at the museum parking lot. Tim Thornton, Police Chief reported no issues at the police department, it's been a busy month and operations continue. Lisa Neal, Library Director reported that they continue to help people as much as possible, a lot of them are using the computers to do report unemployment claims, and tax return, also job seeking. Trustee Whitlock invited everyone to stop by the Fire Department and take a look at all the improvements that have been made to the facility kudos to the Fire Department.

There being no further business Trustee Crist moved to adjourn at 7:22 p.m. Seconded by Trustee Atencio. Motion carried with all Trustees voting aye.

Signed: _____, Mayor

ATTEST:

Date: _____