



VILLAGE OF HATCH BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Minutes

Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at 6:00 pm

Attendees: Mayor Whitlock, Mayor Pro Tem Torres, Trustee Crist, Tim Thornton, Brigitte Fuller, David Shields, Selina Cabrera, Jessica Cuevas, Kyle Ibarra, Jorge Au, Lisa Neal, Travis Jones, Richard Garcia, Mike Castillo, Elizabeth Porras

Trustees Chambers - 133 North Franklin St, Hatch New Mexico

1. Call to Order/ Roll Call/ Pledge of Allegiance/ Moment of Silence

Minutes:

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Hatch was held in the Trustees Chambers located at 133 N. Franklin Street, Hatch, NM, on the above date. Mayor Whitlock, asked the Clerk Treasurer for roll call as follows: Mayor Whitlock – Present, Mayor Pro-Tem Torres – Present, Trustee Atencio – Absent, Trustee Crist – Present, and Trustee Martinez – Absent. There being a quorum, Mayor Whitlock called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Torres led all in attendance in the pledge of allegiance and Trustee Crist gave the opening prayer.

2. * Approval of Agenda

Minutes:

Mayor Pro Tem Torres moved to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Trustee Crist. Motion carried.

3. * Consent Agenda (Police, Fire, Museum, Planning & Zoning, Parks & Rec, Library, Cemetery, Court Reports, Approved Bills List, Delinquent List, Utility Applications, Travel & Training, Regular Meeting Minutes August 8, 2023).

Minutes:

Mayor Pro Tem Torres moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Seconded by Trustee Crist. Motion carried.

4. Public input

Minutes:

Selina Cabrera, Community Health Worker Coordinator, provided a brief update on the ongoing work supported by the COVID base grant. They have been actively engaged within the

community, recently completing two murals: one at the Library and another at the Little Footprints Daycare Center. As a token of appreciation, thank you plaques will be presented to those who participated in these projects. The theme of the murals centered around the question: "What would you like your children's children to remember about COVID?" It has been a rewarding experience collaborating with the community. Furthermore, we would like to inform the public that we still have COVID kits available. If anyone is interested in obtaining one, please don't hesitate to reach out."

5. Bohannon Huston Report

Minutes:

Dave Shields provided a status update for all ongoing services provided by Bohannon Huston.

6. Wilson & Company Report

Minutes:

Brigitte Fuller provided a status update for all ongoing services provided by Wilson & Company.

7. *Consideration and approval to award RFP 2023-01 Engineering Services for Hatch Municipal Airport.

Minutes:

Trustee Crist made a motion to award RFP 2023-01 for Engineering Services for the Hatch Municipal Airport to Bohannon Huston. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Torres, and the motion carried.

8. *Consideration and approval to award RFP 2023-02 On-Call Engineering and Architectural Services.

Minutes:

Trustee Crist made a motion to award RFP 2023-02 for On-Call Engineering and Architectural Services to Bohannon Huston. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Torres, and the motion carried.

9. *Resolution No. xxx - Adopting a Budget Adjustment for FY 2023-2024

Minutes:

Mayor Pro-Tem moved to approve Resolution No. 1065 Adopting a Budget Adjustment for FY 2023-2024. Seconded by Trustee Crist. The Board was polled as follows: Mayor Pro-Tem Torres-aye, Trustee Crist-aye, Trustee Atencio - absent, Trustee Martinez-absent. Motion carried.

10. Ordinance No. xxx - Amending Title 13 Public Services, Chapter 13.04 Water System Regulations, Section 13.04.060 Water Rates

Minutes:

Mayor Pro-Tem Torres moved to approve Ordinance No. 422 Amending Title 13 Public Services, Chapter 13.04 Water System Regulations, Section 13.04.060 Water Rates. Seconded by Trustee Crist. The Board was polled as follows: Mayor Pro-Tem Torres-aye, Trustee Crist-aye, Trustee Atencio - absent, Trustee Martinez-absent. Motion carried.

11. Ordinance No. xxx - Amending Title 13 Public Services, Chapter 13.08 Sewer Connections

and Service Charges Sections 13.08.010 and 13.08.030

Minutes:

Trustee Crist moved to approve Ordinance No. 423 Amending Title 13 Public Services, Chapter 13.08 Sewer Connections and Service Charges Sections 13.08.010 and 13.08.030. Seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Torres. The Board was polled as follows: Mayor Pro-Tem Torres-aye, Trustee Crist-aye, Trustee Atencio - absent, Trustee Martinez-absent. Motion carried.

12. *Personnel

- a. Ratify the approval to hire Donald C. Cheney as full time Police Officer at \$18.00 hourly rate with a six month probationary period effective August 11, 2023.**

Minutes:

Trustee Crist motioned to ratify the approval to hire Donald C. Cheney as a full-time Police Officer at an hourly rate of \$18.00, with six-month probationary period. The effective date of employment is August 11, 2023. Mayor Pro-Tem Torres seconded the motion, and it was carried.

- b. Ratify the approval to hire Mayra Arianna Martinez as a full time Customer Service Representative at \$15.00 hourly rate with a six month probationary period effective September 11, 2023.**

Minutes:

Trustee Crist motioned to ratify the approval to hire Mayra Arianna Martinez as a full-time Customer Service Representative at an hourly rate of \$15.00, with a six-month probationary period. The effective date of employment is September 11, 2023. Mayor Pro-Tem Torres seconded the motion, and it was carried.

13. Department Head Input

Minutes:

Jorge Au Fire Chief, provided a concise update on the current activities at the Fire Department. The recent hose testing, which was carried out by the newer department members, has been successfully completed. They are also in the process of ordering new equipment, and his gratitude to the board for approving the budget adjustment necessary to acquire the essential equipment. Mike Castillo Public Works Director, provided a brief report on the Utilities Department. R29 is currently working on the transfer of the water line to the new one, and they are in the process of scheduling this transfer, aiming for midnight to minimize water loss for residents during the day. Additionally, it was noted that two of the public works vehicles are over ten years old and will require replacement in the near future. Furthermore, there is an issue with the air conditioner at the museum, and Stadjuhar's Heating and Cooling is investigating the possibility of repairing it. Lisa Neal, Library Director, provided an update on the Library. The DAC Programs hosted at the library included Senior Health Programs, Medicare and Health Insurance Assistance, with Senator Heinrich's staff assisting local residents with their needs and concerns. Additionally, Lisa reported that the Hatch Public Library has submitted its annual report. However, she also mentioned some challenges with the recent Chile Festival. There were issues with sound and other matters, and unfortunately, an incident occurred at the carnival. Due to health reasons, Lisa will be stepping down from the Chile Festival Committee, and the committee will be seeking new members, which

can be challenging in today's environment where volunteers are less common. One of the festival's main complaints this year was a lack of control over vendors in town, with some operating without permits. The Chamber of Commerce will convene this Thursday at noon. Mayor Whitlock took a moment to express his gratitude to Lisa for stepping up to lead the Chile Festival Committee when no one else would, and for her years of dedicated work. Chief of Police Thornton presented an overview of the Police Department's recent activities. All officers performed well, and it was a busy month. The Department successfully conducted a narcotic raid, and the officers executed their duties admirably. Chief Thornton mentioned that judges often do not keep felons locked up for long periods and it's disappointing. Regarding this year's festival, it went well, except for an incident on the evening of September 2nd when a targeted shooting occurred in the Village of Hatch. Fortunately, there were no injuries or harm to anyone, and our security officers apprehended the suspected shooter, who was subsequently arrested by our department. It's important to note that this was a targeted shooting, and there is no ongoing threat to the public stemming from this incident. Chief Thornton concluded by mentioning that there are no further updates or reports at this time.

14. Mayor & Trustees Input

Minutes:

Mayor Whitlock provided an update on various meetings he attended throughout the month and highlighted some important issues facing the Village. He discussed the challenges associated with the Canal Bridge project on the siphon. Furthermore, Mayor Whitlock mentioned that the DAC has contacted the Village regarding the installation of a charging station for electric vehicles near our ponding area. He also intends to reach out to Harold Love with NMDOT to inquire about the process for obtaining the Veteran's Park property to ensure its maintenance. In addition, Mayor Whitlock shared that Dr. Steven Acosta has expressed interest in bringing an urgent care facility to the Hatch Community. Dr. Acosta, having previously worked in the emergency department in Las Cruces, recognizes the need for such services, particularly on weekends when many residents must travel to Las Cruces for emergencies. He is seeking a letter of support for this initiative.

15. * Adjourn

Minutes:

There being no further business Trustee Crist moved to adjourn at 7:15 p.m. Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Torres. Motion carried.

Signed: _____, Mayor

ATTEST: _____

Date: _____

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MAY CONVENE IN CLOSED SESSION to discuss limited personnel matters; threatened or pending litigation, as authorized by the Open Meetings Act 10-15-1(H) (2), 10-15-1 (H) (7) and 10-15-1 (H) (5) respectively.

If you are an individual with a disability who is in need of a reader, amplifier, qualified sign language interpreter, or any other form of auxiliary aid or service to attend or participate in the hearing or

meeting, please contact the Village of Hatch office at (575)-267-5216 at least one (1) week prior to the meeting or as soon as possible. Public documents, including the agenda and minutes, can be provided in various accessible formats.

Contact: Elizabeth Porras (eporras@villageofhatch.org 575-267-5216) | Minutes published on 10/12/2023, adopted on 10/10/2023