



VILLAGE OF HATCH BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Minutes

Tuesday, February 13, 2024 at 6:00 pm

Attendees: Mayor Whitlock, Mayor Pro Tem Torres, Trustee Martinez, Trustee Atencio, JR Ellis, Manuell Shreves, David Shields, Bernadette Acosta, Jorge Au, Tim Thornton, Mike Castillo, Alfredo Holguin, Joseph Mata, Richard Garcia, Stephanie Lopez, John Rubio, 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-Present (late arrival 6:05 pm), Trustee Crist-Absent, and Trustee Martinez-Present. There being a quorum, Mayor Whitlock called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Trustee Crist led all in attendance in the pledge of allegiance and Trustee Martinez gave the opening prayer.

2. * Approval of Agenda

Minutes:

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

Vote results:

Ayes: 3 / Nays: 0

3. * Consent Agenda (Police, Fire, Museum, Planning & Zoning, Parks & Rec, Library, Cemetery, Court Reports, Approved Bills List, Delinquent List, Group Health Insurance Renewal, Utility Applications, Regular Meeting Minutes January 9, 2024).

Minutes:

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

Vote results:

Ayes: 3 / Nays: 0

4. Public input

Minutes:

At the Board of Trustees meeting, Stephanie Lopez, FOP Labor Services Director, raised concerns regarding the negotiation process with our counsel. She expressed difficulties in working with our counsel and made negative remarks about the Village counsel. Bernadette Acosta, President of the Chamber of Commerce, provided an update on the fundraising activities planned for the Chile Festival. These include a membership drive, a Hatch Easter hunt featuring hidden rocks, a cash party, and a Fourth of July celebration, which may include a fireworks display at the Airport.

5. Planning & Zoning**a. *Consideration and approval of Case #2023-05-01 land subdivision for Watkins Holdings LLC .****Minutes:**

Trustee Atencio moved to approve Case #2023-05-01 Land Subdivision for Watkins Holdings LLC. Seconded by Trustee Martinez. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 3 / Nays: 0

b. *Appoint Gloria Molinar to serve as a member of the Planning and Zoning Committee.**Minutes:**

Trustee Martinez moved to appoint Gloria Molinar to serve as member of the Planning and Zoning Committee. Seconded by Trustee Atencio. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 3 / Nays: 0

6. Wilson & Company Report**Minutes:**

Alfredo Holguin provided a status update for all ongoing services provided by Wilson & Company.

7. *Consideration and approval to amend Ordinance No. 414 for the purpose of increasing the funding amount of the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Loan Number CWSRF Loan 106.**Minutes:**

Trustee Martinez proposed a motion to amend Ordinance No. 414 to increase the funding amount of the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Loan Number CWSRF Loan 106. However, the motion failed due to a lack of a second.

8. Bohannon Huston Report**Minutes:**

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

9. *Consideration and approval of the donation of a Retired Class A Engine owned by the Hatch Fire Department to Pinos Altos Volunteer Fire Rescue.**Minutes:**

Trustee Atencio motioned to approve the donation of a Retired Class A 1995 International Engine

with VIN 1HTSDAAR9SH613550 owned by the Hatch Fire Department to Pinos Altos Volunteer Fire Rescue. Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Torres. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 3 / Nays: 0

10. *Consideration and approval of Intergovernmental Agreement between Hatch Police Department and the Third Judicial District Attorney's Office.

Minutes:

Trustee Atencio motioned to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement between Hatch Police Department and the Third Judicial District Attorney's Office. Seconded by Trustee Martinez. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 3 / Nays: 0

11. *Consideration and approval of Site Lease Agreement between the Village of Hatch and T-Mobile West LLC.

Minutes:

Trustee Atencio motioned to approve the Site Lease Agreement between the Village of Hatch and T-Mobile West LLC., as revised by Counsel. Seconded by Trustee Martinez. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 3 / Nays: 0

12. Personnel

a. Ratify the hiring of Adrian Garcia as a Police Officer, effective January 12, 2024, with a six-month probationary period at an hourly rate of \$18.00.

Minutes:

Mayor Pro Tem Torres motioned to ratify the hiring of Adrian Garcia as a Police Officer, effective January 12, 2024, with a six-month probationary period at an hourly rate of \$18.00. Seconded by Trustee Atencio. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 3 / Nays: 0

b. *Consideration and approval to remove Donald C. Cheney from probationary status to non-probationary and move him into the compensation plan as per FOP contract effective February 11, 2024.

Minutes:

Trustee Atencio motioned to approve to remove Donald C. Cheney from probationary status to non-probationary and move him into the compensation plan as per FOP contract effective February 11, 2024. Seconded by Trustee Martinez. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 3 / Nays: 0

13. Department Head Input

Minutes:

Fire Department Update: • Jorge Au, Fire Chief, provided a brief overview of current activities within the Fire Department. • Radios have been received and are awaiting programming. •

Operations have been ongoing out of Hatch. • Dona Ana County is in the process of acquiring paid staff for Rincon. • Chief Au has resigned from Station No. 6.

Utilities Department Update (Presented by Mike Castillo, Public Works Director): • The fire hydrant at the Fire Department has been repaired. • Seventeen dead trees have been removed by the utilities crew and will be burned. • The pumps at the WIC Department building require replacement, and RT Electric will install wiring for the 220 pumps. • The backhoe in need of repair will cost approximately \$34,000 for a new transmission or \$11,000 to rebuild, as per the mechanic's assessment. • Mayor Pro Tem Torres requested the painting of speed bumps around town for better visibility at night. Mike assured that they will begin this once the weather improves.

Police Department Update (Presented by Tim Thornton, Police Chief): • Radios have been successfully installed. • Law Enforcement Protection Funds (LEPF) allocation is planned for expenditure. • Tyler will be installing computers for the recent Management System for reports. • The department is now fully staffed and continues to perform effectively.

14. Mayor & Trustees Input

Minutes:

Trustee Martinez extended an invitation to all present to attend the VFW fish fry fundraising event scheduled for Friday, February 16, 2024. This event aims to support the fundraising efforts of the VFW.

15. 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.

Minutes:

*7:24 pm Mayor Pro Tem Torres 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-aye, Trustee Atencio-aye, Trustee Crist-absent, Trustee Martinez-aye. Motion carried.

*8:20 pm Trustee Atencio moved to reconvene in open session from closed executive session where no decisions were made. Seconded by Trustee Martinez. The Board was polled as follows: Mayor Pro Tem Torres-aye, Trustee Atencio-aye, Trustee Crist-absent, Trustee Martinez-aye. Motion carried.

16. * Adjourn

Minutes:

In the absence of further business, Trustee Martinez moved to adjourn at 8:21 p.m. The motion was seconded by Trustee Atencio, and it 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 03/13/2024, adopted on 03/12/2024