



VILLAGE OF HATCH BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Minutes

Tuesday, October 8, 2024 at 6:00 pm

Attendees: Mayor Torres, Mayor Pro Tem Atencio, Trustee Crist, Trustee Martinez, Trustee Franzoy, Richard Garcia, Aurora Hernandez, Kim O'Byrne, Michael Chavez, Mike Castillo, Elizabeth Soto, Angel Soto, Jessica Smith, Bernadette Acosta, Brandy Holguin, Lisa Neal, 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 Torres asked the Clerk Treasurer for roll call as follows: Mayor Torres-Present, Mayor Pro Tem Atencio-Present, Trustee Crist-Present, Trustee Martinez-Present (via phone), Trustee Franzoy-Present. There being a quorum, Mayor Torres called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Trustee Crist led all in attendance in the pledge of allegiance and Trustee Franzoy gave the opening prayer.

2. * Approval of Agenda

Minutes:

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

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0

3. * Consent Agenda (Police, Fire, Museum, Planning & Zoning, Parks & Rec, Library, Cemetery, Court Report, Approved Bills List, Delinquent List, Travel & Training, Utility Applications, Regular Meeting Minutes September 10, 2024).

Minutes:

Trustee Franzoy moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Seconded by Trustee Crist. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0

4. Public input

a. HVPS Presentation - Mike Chavez, Superintendent and Kim O'Byrne, Agriculture Instructional Specialist

Minutes:

Mike Chavez, Superintendent, and Kim O'Byrne, Agriculture Instructional Specialist, gave a brief presentation on the Freight Farm initiative and the upcoming Veterinary Clinic. They shared that the Hatch FFA is learning "full circle" through its Freight Farm and Animal Science Center.

O'Byrne's vision for agricultural education emphasizes hands-on, experiential learning while also making the FFA programs self-sustaining. The Freight Farm currently utilizes hydroponic technology, producing crops on 3 to 5 acres while using 97% less water. As part of the program's business plan, high school students will earn their Safe Food Handlers Certification and gain experience in raising fruits and vegetables for sale through local business partners, including grocery stores, cafeterias, restaurants, and a local food bank. The upcoming Veterinary Clinic, which has garnered national interest, is still in the planning, building, and collaborative stages. Meanwhile, the Animal Science Center has already secured support from veterinarians and universities. Students from New Mexico State University have completed a marketing plan and designed a logo for the center, which will be presented to the Hatch Valley Public School Board this Wednesday.

"This is what education should look like," O'Byrne stated. "It's about collaborating and problem-solving

Bernadette Acosta, representing both the Chamber of Commerce and the Chile Festival Committee, reported to the board that plans are underway for participation in the Trunk or Treat event, the December concert, and the Tree Lighting Ceremony. She mentioned that efforts are ongoing to organize these activities.

5. Wilson & Company Report

6. Bohannon Huston Report

7. *Approval of Transportation Project Fund Grant Agreement Control No. HW2LP10069 between the New Mexico Transportation (Department) and Village of Hatch (Public Entity) along with Exhibit B Resolution as part of this agreement.

Minutes:

Mayor Pro Tem Atencio moved to approve Transportation Project Fund Grant Agreement Control No. HW2LP10069 between the New Mexico Transportation (Department) and Village of Hatch (Public Entity) along with Exhibit B Resolution as part of this agreement. Seconded by Trustee Franzoy. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0

8. *Personnel

a. *Approval to remove Chief Hernandez from probationary status to non-probationary and raise her salary by fifty-cents effective September 4, 2024.

Minutes:

Mayor Pro Tem Atencio moved to approve the removal of Chief Hernandez from probationary status and to increase her salary by fifty cents per hour, effective September

4, 2024. Seconded by Trustee Franzoy. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0

9. Department Head Input

Minutes:

Lisa Neal, Library Director, gave a brief report on ongoing library activities, including a Spooky Contest on October 17th, Trunk or Treat on October 25th, and "Cookies with 4-H" events planned for November and December.

Chief Hernandez reported eight arrests, nineteen penalties, twenty-seven court appearances, and seventy-six warnings. The department is collaborating with Animal Control, and the new citation system is now operational. Additionally, two new units were purchased, and the department continues regular patrolling of the Village.

Mike Castillo, Public Works Director, reported that the well went down, and DR Electric is working on repairs. He mentioned that while the backhoe was fixed, it's still experiencing some issues that the mechanic is currently investigating.

Mayor Torres announced that a final walk-through of the Rodey Lift Station is scheduled for October 16th. He also noted that he will be out of town for the next week.

10. Mayor & Trustees Input

Minutes:

Mayor Torres announced that a final walk-through of the Rodey Lift Station is scheduled for October 16th. He also noted that he will be out of town for the next week.

11. * Adjourn

Minutes:

In the absence of further business, Trustee Franzoy moved to adjourn at 7:10 p.m. The motion was seconded by Trustee Crist, and it carried.

Signed: _____, Mayor

ATTEST: _____

Date: _____

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0

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.

Next Regular Meeting November 12, 2024

Contact: Elizabeth Porras (eporras@villageofhatch.org 575-267-5216) | Minutes published on 10/22/2024, adopted on 11/12/2024