VILLAGE OF QUESTA
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JUNE 26, 2018
VILLAGE OF QUESTA COUNCIL CHAMBERS
6:00PM

I. CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR MARK L. GALLEGOS

Mayor Gallegos called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

II. ROLL CALL

Mayor Gallegos asked Village Clerk Renee Martinez to take roll.

Present:

Councilwoman Louise T. Gallegos
Councilman Charlie I. Gonzales
Councilman John Anthony Ortega
Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo arrived at 6:18pm

Also Present:

Administrator Nicholas Maestas
Village Clerk Renee Martinez
Finance Director Karen Shannon
Village Attorney Lance Hough

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Lucas Rael led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Gallegos asked that the Council consider removing Item VII. A. Mr. Colonius is not able to attend.

Motion: Councilwoman Gallegos
Second: Councilman Gonzales

In Favor: All
Opposed: None

To approve the agenda as amended. All voted yes. Motion carried.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Regular Meeting, June 12, 2018

Councilwoman Gallegos stated that she did let Ms. Martinez know of some typographical errors.
Motion: Councilwoman Gallegos
Second: Councilman Ortega

In Favor: All
Opposed: None

To approve the June 12, 2018 meeting minutes with corrections. All voted yes. Motion carried.

- Joint Meeting with Taos County, June 18, 2018

Motion: Councilman Gonzales
Second: Councilman Ortega

In Favor: All
Opposed: None

To approve the June 18, 2018 meeting minutes as presented. All voted yes. Motion carried.

- Special Meeting, June 19, 2018

Motion: Councilman Ortega
Second: Councilman Gonzalez

In Favor: All
Opposed: None

To approve the June 19, 2018 meeting minutes as presented. All voted yes. Motion carried.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS - (It is the policy of the Governing Body to accept public comment. Because your particular issue is not on the agenda the Governing Body cannot respond immediately, but may direct staff to address issues at a future Council Meeting. Public comments are limited to a maximum of three minutes.)

There were no public comments.

VII. PRESENTATION -
A) Questa to Red River Trail - Mr. Carl Colonius

**Removed from Agenda.

B) Questa Economic Development Fund Board Update - Mr. Malaquias Rael, Board Chairman

Mr. Malaquias Rael updated the Governing Body on the following:
- Looking into Lodger’s Tax and how other small communities handle it.
- Scheduling meeting regarding the Business Park
- Village’s potential shortfall of match for EDA grant; QEDF is looking at ways to fill that gap.
- Work with Village in attracting businesses to the Business Park and possible ways of doing that. Mr. Christian Isely suggested a work session.
- Fishing Derby will be held on July 21st at Eagle Rock Lake
- Met with Mr. Terry Bruner regarding possible funding from USDA; for possibly the library extension.
- Met with RCAC to assist with moving our lodging project forward
The July edition of the local newspaper will be coming out soon; it will be 20 pages. It is growing because of the people contributing articles as well as the ads that are being sold.

Banner project – The QCC will assist with the banners.

Entry Signs – The QCC will also be assisting with 3 signs that will be located at each entry of town.

Welding Lab – working on this currently to get going later on this year.

Visitors Center is selling Questa merchandise.

VIII. ACTION ITEMS

A) Discussion, Consideration & Decision – Sewer Classification Change Request

Mr. Maestas stated that we are asking for guidance regarding this request. Councilman Ortega stated that if we are going to allow this request we should allow it for similar businesses such as the car wash. It is something we have to look into for other businesses. Mr. Maestas stated that he spoke with the owner of the car wash and let him know this avenue was available for him to come in and make a request from the Council. Councilman Ortega stated that we need to look at the Water and Sewer ordinance again to see how it is affecting businesses. Councilman Gonzales stated that if the owner of this property is going to sell it she is going to pass the issue to the new owner. Councilwoman Gallegos stated that she agrees with Councilman Ortega’s suggestion of reviewing the ordinance so it is fair across the board. Councilman Gonzales stated that if it is going to come back to the Council at a later time that it come back with a solution.

A motion was made by Councilman Ortega to table this item until the Council can review the Water and Sewer Ordinance. Seconded by Councilwoman Gallegos.

Roll Call:

Councilman Brent Jaramillo YES
Councilman John Ortega YES
Councilwoman Louise Gallegos YES
Councilman Charlie Gonzales YES

To approve the table of this item. All voted yes. Motion carried.

B) Discussion, Consideration & Decision – Request for Zoning Variance

Mr. Maestas stated that this request came to him from Mr. Martin Martinez, who is here this evening. The variance is for a new garage to be placed on Mr. Martinez’s property. The request is that the garage be placed 5 feet from the property line; the current ordinance calls for 25 feet. Mr. Martinez showed a map of the location of the proposed garage. The garage is 30x40.

Motion: Councilman Jaramillo
Second: Councilman Ortega

Roll Call:

Councilman Brent Jaramillo YES
Councilman John Ortega YES
Councilwoman Louise Gallegos YES
Councilman Charlie Gonzales YES

To approve the variance request for Mr. Martin Martinez. All voted yes. Motion carried.

C) Discussion, Consideration & Decision – Approval of Award for RFP 2018-01 / IT Services

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Motion: Councilman Gonzales
Second: Councilwoman Gallegos

Roll Call:

Councilman Brent Jaramillo    YES
Councilman John Ortega         YES
Councilwoman Louise Gallegos   YES
Councilman Charlie Gonzales    YES

To approve the award of RFP 2018-01 to Ambitions Consulting Group. All voted yes. Motion carried.

D) Discussion, Consideration & Decision – Approval of Award for RFP 2018-02 / Legal Services

Motion: Councilwoman Gallegos
Second: Councilman Gonzales

Roll Call:

Councilman Brent Jaramillo    YES
Councilman John Ortega         YES
Councilwoman Louise Gallegos   YES
Councilman Charlie Gonzales    YES

To approve the award of RFP 2018-02 to Robles, Rael & Anaya. All voted yes. Motion carried.

E) Discussion, Consideration & Decision – Approval of Award for RFP 2018-03 / Legal Oversight to Chevron Mining Operation and Economic Development Services

Councilman Ortega asked if the invoices for these services are similar to the ones for the regular legal services; as far as the breakdown. Ms. Shannon stated that the invoices that are submitted to her are not itemized. She receives them and submits them directly to Chevron who then sends the Village payment and we in turn pay the law firm. Councilman Ortega asked if it is ok that we don’t see the itemized invoices; can we ask to see them. Ms. Shannon stated that we can ask for them.

Motion: Councilman Gonzales
Second: Councilman Jaramillo

Roll Call:

Councilman Brent Jaramillo    YES
Councilman John Ortega         YES
Councilwoman Louise Gallegos   YES
Councilman Charlie Gonzales    YES

To approve the award of RFP 2018-03 to Robles, Rael & Anaya for Legal Oversight to Chevron Mining Operation and Economic Development Services. All voted yes. Motion carried.

F) Discussion, Consideration & Decision – Approval of Award for RFP 2018-04 / Geotechnical Engineering Consulting Services and Oversight

Motion: Councilman Gonzales – Having worked with Dr. Miller since 2003.

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Second: Councilwoman Gallegos

Roll Call:

Councilman Brent Jaramillo
Councilman John Ortega
Councilwoman Louise Gallegos
Councilman Charlie Gonzales

To approve the award of RFP 2018-04 to Miller Geotechnical Consultants. All voted yes. Motion carried.

IX. MATTERS FROM ATTORNEY

Attorney Lance Hough thanked the Council for attending the joint meeting with Taos County officials for the update from Attorney Marcus Rael and Dr. Miller.

Councilman Ortega asked if the lawsuit regarding Mr. Cintas v. Village of Questa and Police Chief Lamendola get resolved. Attorney Lance Hough stated that it is still at the early stages until it proceeds to litigation.

X. MATTERS FROM ADMINISTRATOR, MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Mr. Maestas submitted a report. Not on the report is that EMS is currently moving in to the public safety building next door.

Mayor Gallegos stated that regarding the business park, the governing body needs to make a decision about using a CES firm or go out for RFP regarding project management for the business park. Phase I build-out has been completed by Wilson & Co. CDBG is questioning how we are going to move forward with getting an engineer on board. Councilman Gonzales understood that going through CES would be quicker and suggests we use CES. Councilman Jaramillo asked Mr. Hough what matching source was identified as in the CDBG application. Councilman Jaramillo stated that his concern is that we cannot go with CES for EDA funds since we tied EDA to CDBG. Mayor Gallegos stated that we tied Chevron money to CDBG. Councilman Jaramillo stated that he believes that we have to go meet with Local Government Division to get the answer if it is all one pot of money. A discussion was held regarding all funding sources and their requirements. Councilman Gonzales asked Mr. Isely if he can get something in writing regarding as to what Chevron is committing to. Mr. Isely suggested that Councilman Gonzales take a look at the letter that was given to the Village last year regarding this. Councilman Ortega suggested we go through the RFP process so that there are no questions left on the table. Councilwoman Gallegos stated that there are questions she still has as far as the process or which is the better way to go. Mayor Gallegos stated that he and Mr. Maestas will go to Santa Fe and meet with Mr. Steve Lacey and get more information and come back and report to the Council.

Mayor Gallegos informed the Council that there is a water conservation ordinance that was adopted in 2011. Due to the drought conditions, how do we want to get this information out to the public? Councilwoman Gallegos stated that we need to remind the public about conserving water; either in the newspaper, on the water bills or post flyers or the marquee. Councilman Gonzales asked when the telemetry system was going to get fixed; he understood it was already being worked on. Mr. Maestas stated that we have not worked on the system, only assessed it. Mayor Gallegos suggested that we really look at enforcing the ordinance so that we are not sitting here in November with no water. Councilman Jaramillo suggested starting with a media campaign. A draft will be sent to the Council for review before it is put out to the public.

Mayor Gallegos stated that there is still some funding left over for road improvements. Councilman Ortega stated that since we are planning on paving Cabresto we should not put any more money into that road temporarily. We should fix the pot holes on Embargo Road. Councilman Gonzales agreed.
XI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Councilman Ortega
Second: Councilman Jaramillo

In Favor: All
Opposed: None

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:12pm.

ATTEST:

Renee Martinez, CMC

APPROVED:

Mark Gallegos, Mayor