VILLAGE OF QUESTA
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 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 6:05 pm.

II. ROLL CALL

Mayor Gallegos asked Village Clerk Renee Martinez to take roll.

Present:
Councilman John Anthony Ortega
Councilman Charlie Gonzales
Councilwoman Louise T. Gallegos arrived at 6:06pm.

Councilman Brent Jaramillo was not present. (2018 NLC Conference)

Also Present:
Administrator Nicholas Maestas
Village Clerk Renee Martinez
Finance Director Karen Shannon
Police Chief Nicolas Lamendola
Utilities Clerk Nadine Herrera
Administrative Assistant/CPO Dina Coleman
Attorney Lance Hough

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilwoman Louise T. Gallegos led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Councilman John Ortega
Second: Councilman Charlie Gonzales

In Favor: All
Opposed: None

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

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Judge Michael Rael congratulated the all the candidates who ran for office and hopes everyone will be able to work together to move the Village of Questa forward.
Mr. Maestas gave a brief update on the water line break that was caused by a contractor doing some work off of state road 522. The public works department are currently out working on the break in order to restore water to our customers.

Councilman Charlie Gonzales stated that he stopped at the area of the break and was informed that a 2 inch water line was hit. An extension was put on the line; however they did not have sleeves. They did not have any extra sleeves and the hardware did not have any in stock. He stated that he is not sure what the inventory is but this is something we need to work on being prepared for. He stated that the public works employees are still out there working on getting the sleeve tightened so that they can get the water restored.

VI. ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING:

A. EXECUTIVE SESSION - The Governing Body will convene into Executive Session at this time to discuss limited personnel matters regarding the appointment of the four appointive offices of the Village of Questa pursuant to the NMSA 1978 10-15-1-H.2.

A motion to enter into Executive Session was made by Councilwoman Louise Gallegos, seconded by Councilman Charlie Gonzales.

Roll Call:
Councilman John Ortega  YES
Councilwoman Louise Gallegos  YES
Councilman Charlie Gonzales  YES

Mayor Gallegos stated that the Governing Body will go into Executive Session to discuss only the items listed. The Governing Body entered into Executive Session at 6:12pm.

A motion was made to reconvene from Executive Session at 6:17pm by Councilman Charlie Gonzales, seconded by Councilman John Ortega.

Roll Call:
Councilwoman Louise Gallegos  YES
Councilman Charlie Gonzales  YES
Councilman John Ortega  YES

Mayor Gallegos stated that only the item listed were discussed during closed session. There was no action taken. Attorney Lance Hough concurred.


Mayor Gallegos made the recommendation at this time to keep the following appointed employees:

Administrator, Nicholas Maestas
Municipal Clerk, Renee Martinez
Finance Director, Karen Shannon
Chief of Police, Nicolas Lamendola

Mayor Gallegos then asked for a motion to his recommendation.

Motion: Councilman John Ortega
Second: Councilwoman Louise Gallegos

Roll Call:

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

To approve the Mayor’s appointment of employees who shall fill the appointive offices of the Village of Questa as presented. All voted yes. Motion carried.

C. **Swear-In of Appointive Offices by Municipal Judge Michael G. Rael:**

Administrator, Nicholas Maestas
Municipal Clerk, Renee Martinez
Finance Director, Karen Shannon
Chief of Police, Nicolas Lamendola

Municipal Judge Michael Rael administered the oaths of office to the above appointed employees.

C. **APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2018-04** - Mayor Pro-Tem Schedule 2018-2020

Mayor Gallegos read the proposed Resolution aloud.

Motion: Councilman John Ortega
Second: Councilwoman Louise Gallegos

Roll Call:

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

To approve Resolution 2018-04, Mayor Pro-Tem Schedule for the years of 2018-2020. All voted yes. Motion carried.

VII. **MATTERS FROM ADMINISTRATOR** – Mr. Nicholas Maestas

Mr. Maestas stated that he will be submitting a report in the meeting packets for review. He requested contact information from the Council and stated that we are working on getting the IPADs for the Council set up in order to receive their village e-mail as well as meeting packets on them.

Councilman John Ortega asked if we could revisit the selection of the member for the nominating committee for the board at Holy Cross Hospital. He stated that the Council voted to appoint Mr. Maestas at an earlier meeting but was wondering if one of the new council members would be interested. Councilwoman Louise Gallegos stated that she has served on this committee in the past and does not have the time right now to devote to it. She also expressed to Mr. Maestas that she did appreciate the format of the report; she appreciates knowing things ahead of time and it will also take up less time at the meetings. Councilman Charlie Gonzales inquired about the EPA meeting scheduled for March 16th and if it is just more of a formality; he requested a meeting be set up in the latter part of April to have a public meeting for all citizens to attend; also the Village Attorney’s and Dr. Deb Miller should be present. He believes it should be a full-blown discussion with Chevron as to what they are
doing and what they have done. He has the Record of Decision (ROD) available electronically if anyone would like to review it. He stated that we need to get the public engaged in this conversation.

VIII. MATTERS FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Councilman John Ortega requested we revisit the Open Meetings Resolution at the next meeting, in regards to the meeting time.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Councilman Charlie Gonzales
Second: Councilman John Ortega

In Favor: All
Opposed: None

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:34pm.

ATTEST:  
Renee Martinez, CMC

APPROVED:  
Mark Gallegos, Mayor

Village of Questa Regular Meeting
March 13, 2018