



AGENDA

VILLAGE OF QUESTA

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2018

VILLAGE OF QUESTA COUNCIL CHAMBERS

2500 OLD STATE ROAD 3

6:00 P.M.

Mayor Mark L. Gallegos

Mayor Pro-Tem John A. Ortega

Councilmember Brent P. Jaramillo | Councilmember Louise T. Gallegos | Councilmember Charlie I. Gonzales

I. **CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR MARK L. GALLEGOS**

II. **ROLL CALL**

III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

IV. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

V. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- 1) Regular Meeting, October 23, 2018
- 2) Regular Meeting, November 13, 2018

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.)*

VII. **ACTION ITEMS**

- A) Discussion, Consideration & Decision – Local Election Act
- B) Discussion, Consideration & Decision – Resolution 2018-31 / 2019 Open Meetings
- C) Discussion, Consideration & Decision – 2019 Legislative Priorities

VIII. **MATTERS FROM ADMINISTRATOR, MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

IX. **ADJOURNMENT**

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 of service to attend or participate in the hearing or meeting, please contact the Village Clerk at least one week prior to the meeting or as soon as possible. Public documents, including the agenda and minutes, can be provided in various accessible formats. Please contact the Village Clerk at 575-586-0694 if a summary or other type of accessible format is needed.

217 Mayor Gallegos stated that a meeting with the EPA is scheduled for January 24, 2019. Councilman Jaramillo
218 suggested we hold it at the Youth Center. Councilman Ortega suggested we have a retreat before that
219 meeting. Mayor Gallegos asked if Ms. Shannon can have a draft of the mid-term budget by then.
220 Councilman Jaramillo stated that he would like to see the financials presented more as a conversation.
221 Councilman Ortega stated that we need to spend more time on our budget meetings and not rush through
222 them.

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224 IX. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** - (The Governing Body may convene into Executive Session at this time
225 pursuant to the NM Open Meetings Act NMSA 1978 10-15-1)
226

227 A motion to enter into Executive Session was made by Councilwoman Gallegos. Seconded by Councilman
228 Ortega.

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230 Roll Call:

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232	Councilman John Ortega	YES
233	Councilman Charlie Gonzales	YES
234	Councilman Brent Jaramillo	YES
235	Councilwoman Louise Gallegos	YES

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237 Mayor Gallegos stated that the Governing Body will now go into Executive Session. The Governing Body
238 entered into Executive Session at 7:47pm.

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240 A motion was made to reconvene from Executive Session at 8:04pm by Councilman Jaramillo, seconded by
241 Councilman Ortega.

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243 Roll Call:

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245	Councilman Brent Jaramillo	YES
246	Councilman Charlie Gonzales	YES
247	Councilman John Ortega	YES
248	Councilwoman Louise Gallegos	YES

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250 IX. **ADJOURNMENT**

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252 Motion: Councilwoman Gallegos

253 Second: Councilman Ortega

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255 In Favor: All

256 Opposed: None

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258 There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05pm.

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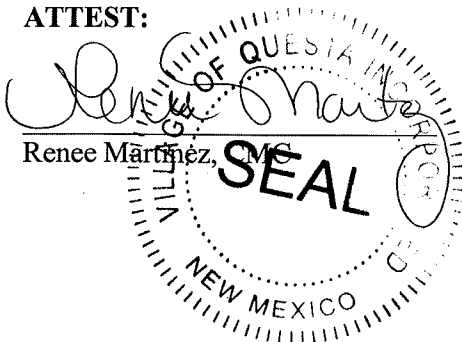
261 ATTEST:

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Renee Martínez, MS

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature of Mark Gallegos is written over a horizontal line. Below the line, the text "Mark Gallegos, Mayor" is printed.

1 **VILLAGE OF QUESTA**
 2 **SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**
 3 **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 04, 2018**
 4 **VILLAGE OF QUESTA COUNCIL CHAMBERS**
 5 **6:00PM**

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 7 **I. CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR MARK L. GALLEGOS**

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 9 Mayor Pro-Tem John Ortega called the meeting to order at 6:06 pm.

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 11 **II. ROLL CALL**

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 13 Mayor Pro-Tem John Ortega asked Village Clerk Renee Martinez to take roll:

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 15 Present:

- 16 Councilman Charlie I. Gonzales
- 17 Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo
- 18 Councilwoman Louise T. Gallegos

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 20 Not Present:

21 Mayor Mark Gallegos arrived at 6:10pm. **

22
 23 Also Present:

- 24 Administrator Nicholas Maestas
- 25 Village Clerk Renee Martinez
- 26 Finance Director Karen Shannon

27
 28 **III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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 30 Mayor Pro-Tem Ortega let the Pledge of Allegiance.

31
 32 ** Mayor Gallegos arrived at this time.

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 34 **IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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 36 Mr. Maestas requested an Executive Session item be added to the agenda.

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 38 Motion: Councilman Ortega
 39 Second: Councilwoman Gallegos

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 41 In Favor: All
 42 Opposed: None

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

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 46 **V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

47 1) Regular Meeting, October 23, 2018

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 49 Motion: Councilwoman Gallegos
 50 Second: Councilman Jaramillo

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 52 In Favor: All
 53 Opposed: None

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To approve the October 23, 2018 meeting minutes as presented. All voted yes. Motion carried.

2) Regular Meeting, November 13, 2018

Motion: Councilman Gonzales
Second: Councilwoman Gallegos

In Favor: All
Opposed: None

To approve the November 13, 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. **ACTION ITEMS**

A) Discussion, Consideration & Decision – Local Election Act

Ms. Martinez stated that Taos County Clerk Anna Martinez was supposed to be present but was not able to attend. She stated that a draft ordinance was provided to them with the two options that would need to be decided on in the event that the Village was to opt-in. If the Council decides to not opt-in, the Secretary of State’s Office is recommending that we pass a Resolution that states we will be continuing to conduct our own elections.

A motion to opt-in to the Local Election Act under Option 2 was made by Councilman Gonzales with discussion. The motion was then seconded by Councilwoman Gallegos.

Councilman Ortega asked if the Village chooses to continue to conduct their own elections, would Ms. Martinez continue to run the election. Ms. Martinez stated that she believes that she will continue to have most of the duties that she has now; but does not know for certain. Councilman Ortega asked where the elections would be held if we opted-in. Ms. Martinez stated that since the school board would be on the same ballot as the Village, there is a possibility that the elections would be held at the school. Councilman Ortega stated that to him, it is not about the length of the terms but about having our own election and not be intertwined with the other elections.

Councilman Jaramillo stated that he would rather keep our election separate from the school election. Councilwoman Gallegos stated that the reason she voted to opt-in at option 2 was the cost savings. Councilman Gonzales stated that he likes the work we are doing now with the group we have and would like to keep the continuity and with the situation we have going on with Chevron; that is why he would like to opt in with option 2.

Mayor Gallegos called for a vote on the original motion to opt-in under option 2.

Councilman Charlie Gonzales	YES
Councilman John Ortega	NO
Councilwoman Louise Gallegos	YES
Councilman Brent Jaramillo	NO

Due to a tie vote, Mayor Gallegos votes to break the tie:

109 Mayor Mark Gallegos NO

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111 Motion was carried to keep the continuation of Village of Questa elections in March of even numbered years
112 and not opt-in to the local Election Act.

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114 Mayor Gallegos stated we are a pivotal time and believes this group will make good strides. He hopes that
115 he and the Council can continue to work together.

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117 Councilman Ortega stated for the record that this is showing a vote of confidence for our Clerk in how she
118 runs our elections.

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120 **B) Discussion, Consideration & Decision – Resolution 2018-31 / 2019 Open Meetings**

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122 Motion: Councilman Jaramillo

123 Second: Councilwoman Gallegos

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125 Councilman Gonzales asked if there were any changes. Ms. Martinez stated that there were no changes
126 made.

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128 Roll Call:

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130 Councilman Brent Jaramillo YES

131 Councilwoman Louise Gallegos YES

132 Councilman John Ortega YES

133 Councilman Charlie Gonzales YES

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135 To approve Resolution 2018-31 / 2019 Open Meetings. All voted yes. Motion carried.

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137 **C) Discussion, Consideration & Decision – 2019 Legislative Priorities**

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139 Mayor Gallegos stated that the following items presented are listed as the top 5 priorities:

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- 141 1. Water System Improvements
- 142 2. Cabresto Road Improvements
- 143 3. Business Park / Economic Development Projects
- 144 4. New Fire department building
- 145 5. Library expansion

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147 If additional funding:

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- 149 • 50,000.00 public works department equipment
- 150 • Fencing and gates at well houses 2 and 4

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152 Councilman Gonzales stated that there is some property for sale next to the EMS building that can be used
153 for parking. Two lots are available; one for \$10,000.00 and one for \$18,000.00. We don't have the money
154 right now to purchase it but he would like to see if we can get it from the legislature this next year. It is a
155 safety issue.

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157 Councilman Gonzales also asked if the top 5 priorities will be needing matches and are if they will be phased.
158 Mr. Maestas stated that the Cabresto Road Improvements consists of a match. Water System Improvements
159 projects are phased.

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161 Councilman Jaramillo stated that he would like the Village to purchase that property also but would like to
162 wait and see if we have a good amount come in from Small Cities to purchase it. He stated that we also have

163 to be clear about the additional funding items and how they only get funded after the top five have been;
 164 unless there is a trade-off.

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166 Mayor Gallegos stated that we have to review our mid-term budget to see where we are with GRT's.
 167 Councilman Gonzales suggested that we meet with our legislators to see if they are being reported properly.
 168 This has to happen immediately.

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170 Councilman Gonzales again stated that he would like the purchase of the property next to the EMS building
 171 added to the priorities. A discussion was held regarding the current parking situation.

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173 A motion was made by Councilman Gonzales to approve the top five priorities and also add the purchase of
 174 property to the list.

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176 Motion dies due to lack of a second.

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178 A motion was then made by Councilwoman Gallegos to approve the top 5 priorities as originally presented.
 179 The motion was seconded by Councilman Ortega, with discussion. Councilman Ortega asked if we could
 180 go back to the secondary additionally funded list if necessary. Mayor Gallegos stated yes.

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182 In Favor: Councilman Jaramillo, Councilman Ortega and Councilwoman Gallegos

183 Opposed: Councilman Gonzales

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185 To approve the top 5 priorities for the 2019 Legislature as presented. Motion carried.

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187 **VIII. MATTERS FROM ADMINISTRATOR, MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

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189 • Councilman Gonzales stated that the Llano Ditch Irrigation Invoice has been on the Village records
 190 for some years now and would like to see it resolved. Councilman Gonzales also asked Mr. Maestas
 191 about the list of items he had turned in to him that still have not been addressed.

192 • Councilman Jaramillo stated that since Mr. Maestas takes direction from the Governing Body we
 193 need to have a retreat and bring out our issues there.

194 • Councilman Ortega stated that the budget needs to be a priority.

195 • Mayor Gallegos stated we should have a good retreat as well as review the mid-term budget in
 196 January. Also, the QEDF had their preliminary budget meeting. The proposal is to fund the Village
 197 at about \$130,000.00. Also, the local newspaper costs about \$30,000.00 a year for QEDF to run it.
 198 The QEDF is proposing to put in \$18,000.00 and hope that the remaining balance will come through
 199 advertisements. He believes it grew too big too fast. Councilwoman Gallegos stated that she believes
 200 too many copies are printed; if they are being put in every post office box, then they don't need so
 201 many copies at the stores and other public places. There are things they can do to cut back on the
 202 costs. She stated that she loves the paper and is a big supporter of it but does believe there is a lot
 203 of waste regarding all the copies that are printed and distributed. Councilman Ortega stated that he
 204 is not sure how much economic development is being generated by the paper. Also, he has heard
 205 concerns that the paper is not promoting Questa. Mayor Gallegos stated we could probably suggest
 206 that they minimize the amount of generated papers. Councilman Jaramillo stated that we could also
 207 have them offer a free subscription to the paper. Councilman Gonzales stated that he believes that
 208 paper has lost its original intent; it is too lengthy. Councilman Gonzales stated that the intent of the
 209 QEDF was to help the Village. Mayor Gallegos stated that a draft of the budget will be available
 210 tomorrow and he will get a copy out to the Council.

211 • Councilwoman Gallegos stated that she has a request from constituents that the police officers be in
 212 town earlier in the morning. There is a lot of speeding and passing on double lanes; it is a dangerous
 213 time.

214 • Councilman Gonzales stated that he will ask again about applying for a COPS grant; has it been
 215 looked into. Mr. Maestas stated that he has looked into it.

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