



## **AGENDA**

**VILLAGE OF QUESTA  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 25, 2020  
VILLAGE OF QUESTA COUNCIL  
CHAMBERS  
2500 Old State Road 3 Questa, NM  
**6:00 P.M****

~ NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC ~

Mayor Mark L. Gallegos

Mayor Pro-Tem Brent P. Jaramillo

Councilmember Charlie I. Gonzales | Councilmember John A. Ortega | Councilmember Louise T. Gallegos

**NOTE** This tele-conference meeting will follow the Attorney General's guidelines and observe the Governor and Secretary of Health's public health orders. This format will allow the Village Council to conduct the meeting without all Council members being physically present and in accordance with the NM Open Meetings Act. There will be no live audience present. Members of the public wishing to participate can do so by calling **1-877-309-2073** and entering access code **555-831-477** or from a computer, tablet, or smartphone at <https://gotomeet.me/ReneeMartinez1/village-of-questa-regular-meeting>. Those wishing to comment before or during the meeting may submit comments or questions to Interim Village Administrator Renee Martinez at [rmartinez@villageofquesta.org](mailto:rmartinez@villageofquesta.org)

- I. **CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR MARK L. GALLEGOS**
- II. **ROLL CALL**
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- IV. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- V. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – August 11, 2020 – Regular Meeting
- 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. **PRESENTATIONS**
  - A) Questa Economic Development Fund Board Update – Ms. Lynn Skall
  - B) Outstanding National Resource Waters (ONRWs) Presentation – Mr. Dan Roper, Trout Unlimited
- VIII. **ACTION ITEMS**
  - A) Discussion, Consideration & Decision – Permission for Destruction of Records
  - B) Discussion, Consideration & Decision – Approval of Voting Delegate and Alternate – NMML Annual Business Meeting
  - C) Discussion, Consideration & Decision – Moratorium to Village of Questa Zoning Ordinance #43
- IX. **DISCUSSION ITEM**
  - A) Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP) Fiscal Year 2022-2026
- X. **MATTERS FROM ATTORNEY** - Attorney Chris DeFillippo, Robles, Rael & Anaya
- XI. **MATTERS FROM ADMINISTRATION** - Renee Martinez, CMC / Interim Administrator
- XII. **MATTERS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL**
- XIII. **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.

**VILLAGE OF QUESTA**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**TUESDAY, AUGUST 25, 2020**  
**VILLAGE OF QUESTA COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
**6:00PM**

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

Mayor Gallegos called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Village Clerk Renee Martinez called roll where a quorum was present.

Those present in the virtual meeting were:

Councilman Charlie Gonzales arrived at 6:28 pm

Councilman John Anthony Ortega

Councilman Brent Jaramillo

Those present in person were:

Councilwoman Louise Gallegos

Staff:

Renee Martinez – CMC / Interim Administrator

Dina Coleman – CPO / Deputy Clerk

Chris DeFillippo – Attorney

Others present virtually:

Karen Shannon – VOQ Finance Director

Lynn Skall – Director, Questa Economic Development Fund

Dan Roper – Trout Unlimited

Axie Navas – NM EDD, Outdoor Recreation Division

**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Ms. Martinez led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion: Councilwoman Louise Gallegos

Second: Councilman Brent Jaramillo

**Roll Call:**

Councilman John Anthony Ortega YES

Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo YES

Councilman Charlie Gonzales NOT PRESENT

Councilwoman Louise Gallegos YES

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

**V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – August 11, 2020 – Regular Meeting**

Motion: Councilwoman Louise Gallegos

Second: Councilman Brent Jaramillo

**Roll Call:**

Councilman John Anthony Ortega	YES
Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo	YES
Councilman Charlie Gonzales	NOT PRESENT
Councilwoman Louise Gallegos	YES

To approve the August 11, 2020 Regular Meeting minutes as amended / corrected. Majority voted yes. Motion carried

Corrections to be made per Councilman John Anthony Ortega

**VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS - *(It is the policy of the Governing Body to accept public comment. Because your 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. PRESENTATIONS**

**A) Update presentation from Ms. Lynn Skall, Director of Questa Economic Development Fund Board**

Ms. Skall gave an update to the following

- COVID assistance to small businesses
- QBEN Meetings – Reconvening and held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of the month by ZOOM
- Visitor Center Hours - Wed. – Sunday 10 am -3 pm, July through Sept. 20, 2020
- Virtual Fishing Derby – Scheduled for September 12-20, 2020
- Pending RTD Park and Ride transfer center at the VC, a contract and negotiations are happening now
- Food Pantry – 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays, Ms. Skall was able to help NCFP obtain a grant for \$10,000.
- Census Update – The Census can be done at the VC during regular hours
- Redesign and assessment of the Visit Questa Website/Google Business update to help local businesses
- Questa Welcome Sign on hold due to review and approval from NMDOT
- Welding Program – postponed contingent on school schedule per COVID restrictions.
- Recreation Assessment – to help identify to capitalize on our community resources
- Lynn's in office schedule Wednesdays and Thursdays

**B) Outstanding National Resource Waters (ONRWs) Presentation – Mr. Dan Roper, Trout Unlimited and Axie Navas, with NM EDD (Outdoor Recreation)**

Mr. Roper and Axie Navas were both present virtually and each provided digital presentations and information about NMWATERS programs.

Copies of these presentations will be included as part of the record filed with the minutes. They are referenced as Attachment B and C to these minutes.

Councilman Brent Jaramillo was very complimentary regarding the presentations and asked if the Red River would ever be considered an outstanding water or not - because of the damages caused by the mine sight. Mr. Roper acknowledged that it would depend on the existing water quality in the Red River, he is not familiar with the current metric impairments, so it would depend on that. He stated that in the future it is possible if there are not existing impairments, but it would take clean up and improvement of water quality to designate it as an outstanding water. Ms. Navas also answered that from a recreational standpoint the Red River would be a clear and real priority for an outstanding water. Councilman Jaramillo asked if the work of towards improving the water quality and fishery that has been done in the past, could be considered because of the mine site. Or could specific portions that have been worked on be considered? Mr. Roper said it is something he can look into and can be considered.

Councilor Jaramillo asked Ms. Navas if her department has considered asking Governor's office about transferring the trails money that NMDOT has over to her division. Ms. Navas stated that those conversations have been had and they will continue to have them.

Mr. Roper asked that if Trout Unlimited was going to pursue a designation on the Rio Grande, would the Mayor and Council consider supporting the designation and asked how they would do so? Mayor stated that the Village could support but did not go into detail on how that partnership would take place.

# **VIII. ACTION ITEMS**

## **A) Discussion, Consideration & Decision – Permission for Destruction of Records**

Ms. Martinez referenced the NM state statutes for destruction codes to support her request.

Motion: Councilwoman Louise Gallegos

Second: Councilman Brent Jaramillo

Discussion Councilman Gonzales asked Attorney Chris DeFillippo if he agreed with the destruction request.

Mr. DeFillippo stated that he did agree with Ms. Martinez's request for destruction of records and acknowledged that her records were in order per deadlines of disposition schedule.

## **Roll Call:**

Councilman Charlie Gonzales YES

Councilman John Anthony Ortega YES

Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo YES

Councilwoman Louise Gallegos YES

To approve Permission for Destruction of Records as presented. All voted yes . Motion carried.

## **B) Discussion, Consideration & Decision – Approval of Voting Delegate and Alternate – NMML Annual Business Meeting.**

A motion was made for Councilman Gonzales to be the Voting Delegate at the NMML Annual Business Meeting

Motion: Councilwoman Louise Gallegos

Second: Councilman Brent Jaramillo

## **Roll Call:**

Councilman Charlie Gonzales YES

Councilman John Anthony Ortega YES

Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo YES

150 Councilwoman Louise Gallegos YES

151

152 To approve of a Voting Delegate at the NMML Annual Business Meeting as  
153 presented. All voted yes. Motion carried.

154

155 A motion was made for Councilman John Anthony Ortega to be the Alternate at the NMML Annual Business  
156 Meeting.

157 Motion: Councilman Charlie Gonzales

158 Second: Councilwoman Louise Gallegos

159

160 **Roll Call:**

161 Councilman Charlie Gonzales YES

162 Councilman John Anthony Ortega YES

163 Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo YES

164 Councilwoman Louise Gallegos YES

165 To approve of an Alternate at the NMML Annual Business Meeting as

166 presented. All voted yes. Motion carried.

167

168 C) Discussion, Consideration & Decision – Moratorium to Village of Questa Zoning Ordinance #43

169

170 Mr. DeFillippo presented information regarding the Moratorium that will allow for a hold to be put on for  
171 certain construction in variance applications, this only applies to specific aspects of the Village due to the fact  
172 that there's only a number of districts that can be affected at a single time. He stated that this specific ordinance  
173 will affect all construction and variance applications regarding business districts, residential will not be  
174 affected, however, Mr. DeFillippo explained that the business district, agricultural recreational open space  
175 district, the general and hwy servicing district, light industrial district and the heavy industrial district as stated  
176 in the Moratorium under Section 2 -those districts are described within the zoning ordinance and are currently  
177 placed on the zoning map that are specifically stated in the attachment. In essence this Moratorium will put  
178 a hold on any construction and variance applications for a period of six months, this will allow the Village to  
179 update the Planning and Zoning ordinance and the Village Comprehensive Plan.

180

181 Councilwoman Louise Gallegos commended Mr. DeFillippo on his detailed work provided to this Moratorium.  
182 Councilman John Anthony Ortega had a question regarding the continued and future development of the  
183 Business Park. Mr. DeFillippo stated that there are some exclusions and exceptions to the Moratorium  
184 referenced in Section 4. These exclusions and exceptions will allow work to continue with any projects that  
185 are Village controlled applications. Councilman Charlie Gonzales asked about the affects of the Agricultural  
186 properties when requesting to put a house on the property. Mr. DeFillippo explains that the Moratorium does  
187 affect the Agricultural districts.

188

189 With further discussion a motion was made to approve the Moratorium Ordinance as presented.

190

191 Motion: Councilwoman Louise Gallegos

192 Second: Councilman Charlie Gonzales

193

194 **Roll Call:**

195 Councilman Charlie Gonzales YES

196 Councilman John Anthony Ortega NO

197 Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo YES

198 Councilwoman Louise Gallegos YES

To approve the Moratorium to Village of Questa Zoning Ordinance #43 as presented. Majority voted yes .  
Motion carried.

## **IX. DISCUSSION ITEM**

### **A) Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP) Fiscal Year 2022-2026**

Ms. Martinez stated that the Council has been presented with the ICIP from last year and would like the input of Mayor and Council for this years ICIP. After review and further discussion, a list of priorities was made, as follow:

1. Water System Improvements
2. Cabresto Road
3. New Questa Fire Department
4. Business Park
5. Library Completion

## **X. MATTERS FROM ATTORNEY**

Mr. DeFillippo gave updates to the following:

- More documents from NMED were received, there were approximately 16, 000 pages to review. He anticipates Chevron to send a letter as well.
- Red River Restoration project – documents that were requested have finally been received and a finalized document will be available soon.
- MOU with Taos County – Mr. DeFillippo and Taos County Attorney, Randy Autio are still working out the agreement and have been going back and forth. He hopes to finalize soon.

Councilor Gonzales asked how many parties are involved in the Red River project. Mr. DeFillippo told him that there are about 5 parties.

## **XI. MATTERS FROM ADMINISTRATION**

Ms. Martinez gave an update on the following:

- Email was sent regarding the final budget and a budget was submitted.
- Small Business Assistance Grant Program- the administration will be sending out letters and information to the businesses that are currently registered with the Village.

Councilwoman Louise Gallegos requested an update on Dollar General, Mr.DeFillippo responded that since the application was approved, he has not heard anything more from Dollar General other than them requesting information regarding signage. Councilwoman Gallegos also asked about the cell services update. Ms. Martinez stated that there was work being done on the tower and she believes the work was to improve the services but has no further details.

Councilman Charlie Gonzales stated that people are requesting speed bumps on old Red River Road next to Frank Gallegos place. He also mentioned that there is a need for WIFI for students in Questa. He questioned how we can better serve our students? Mayor stated he would reach out to the Superintendent.

## **XII. MATTERS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL**

- Councilman Brent Jaramillo recommended that a Retreat be scheduled to talk about the plan for the next year or two.
- Mayor shared an update regarding the Library Project Groundbreaking that was held earlier in the day. He also stated the Maria Gonzales of Vida del Norte would like support from the Governing body to hold a movie night for teens. She will follow all COVID restrictions.

## **XII. ADJOURNMENT**

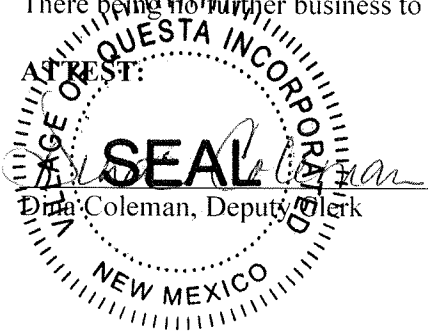
Motion: Councilman John Anthony Ortega  
Second: Councilwoman Louise Gallegos

### **Roll Call:**

Councilman John Anthony Ortega	YES
Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo	YES
Councilman Charlie Gonzales	YES
Councilwoman Louise Gallegos	YES

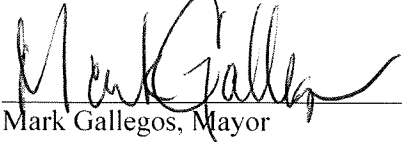
There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:57 pm.

ATTEST:



Dina Coleman, Deputy Clerk

APPROVED:

  
Mark Gallegos, Mayor