



# AGENDA

VILLAGE OF QUESTA  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2020  
VILLAGE OF QUESTA COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
2500 Old State Road 3  
Questa, NM  
6:00 P.M

~ NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC ~

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Mayor Mark L. Gallegos  
Mayor Pro-Tem Brent P. Jaramillo  
Councilmember Charlie I. Gonzales | Councilmember John A. Ortega | Councilmember Louise T. Gallegos

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- 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) December 17, 2019 – Special 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. ACTION ITEMS
  - A) Discussion, Consideration & Decision - Approval of Resolution 2020-01 Open Meetings Resolution
  - B) Discussion, Consideration & Decision – Selection of a member to serve on the Holy Cross Medical Center Nominating Committee for a one year.
- VIII. FINANCIALS – Ms. Karen Shannon, Finance Director
  - A) Discussion, Consideration & Decision – FY2020 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Local BARs
  - B) Discussion, Consideration & Decision – Resolution No. 2020-02 / FY2020 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter State BARs
  - C) Discussion, Consideration & Decision – Updated Mileage Rate
- IX.
- XII. MATTERS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL
- XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION – (The Governing Body may convene into Executive Session at this time pursuant to the NM Open Meetings Act NMSA 1978 10-15-1)
  - A) Acquisition of Real Estate or Water Rights - (§ 10-15-1(H) (8))
  - B) Limited Personnel Matters (§10-15-1(H) (2))
- IV. 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.

1 **VILLAGE OF QUESTA**  
 2 **REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
 3 **TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2020**  
 4 **VILLAGE OF QUESTA COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
 5 **6:00PM**

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6  
 7 I. **CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR MARK L. GALLEGOS**

8 Mayor Gallegos called the meeting to order at 6:05pm  
 9

10 II. **ROLL CALL**

11 Village Clerk Renee Martinez called roll where a quorum was present.  
 12

13 Those present were:

- 14 Councilman Charlie I. Gonzales
- 15 Councilman John Anthony Ortega
- 16 Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo
- 17 Councilwoman Louise T. Gallegos
- 18

19 III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

20 Ms. Dina Coleman led the Pledge of Allegiance.  
 21

22 A moment of silence was held for Former Mayor Esther Garcia who passed away on January 5, 2020.  
 23

24 IV. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

25 Councilman Charlie Gonzales requested a discussion item be added to the agenda regarding representatives at  
 26 the IGC and Landfill meetings.  
 27

28 Motion: Councilman Gonzales  
 29 Second: Councilwoman Gallegos  
 30

31 Roll Call:

- 32
- 33 Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo YES
- 34 Councilwoman Louise T. Gallegos YES
- 35 Councilman Charlie Gonzales YES
- 36 Councilman John Ortega YES
- 37

38 To approve the agenda as amended. All voted yes. Motion carried.  
 39

40 V. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – 1) December 17, 2019 – Special Meeting

41 Motion: Councilwoman Gallegos  
 42 Second: Councilman Jaramillo  
 43

44 Roll Call:

- 45
- 46 Councilman Charlie Gonzales YES
- 47 Councilman John Ortega YES
- 48 Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo YES
- 49 Councilwoman Louise T. Gallegos YES
- 50

51 To approve the December 17, 2019 minutes as presented. All voted yes. Motion carried.

52 VI. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** - *(It is the policy of the Governing Body to accept public comment. Because*  
53 *your particular issue is not on the agenda the Governing Body cannot respond immediately but may*  
54 *direct staff to address issues at a future Council Meeting. Public comments are limited to a maximum*  
55 *of three minutes.)*  
56

57 Christian Isely stated that Chevron is very excited about the new year and all the projects happening. He also  
58 stated that there was a recent article in the Taos News regarding a water rights sale under the Abeyta Settlement.  
59 They were not contacted by the Taos News to comment on it; it was probably out of the public notification  
60 process from the Office of the State Engineer. This transaction has been years in the making; they are selling  
61 133acre ft. of water rights / \$16,000.00 an acre foot funded under the Abeyta settlement to some mutual  
62 domestics in the Taos area. He stated that Bill Miller is working very actively with the Village to determine  
63 what the Village’s water system needs are. Also working in a conservation plan and 40-year plan. He stated  
64 that Chevron does know that the Village does need water rights and they have water rights that are looking  
65 forward to the results of Bill Millers work to determine what water rights are needed for the municipal system.  
66

67 The Questa Land & Water is still actively marketing land and water rights so if the Village did want to submit  
68 a proposal it is possible. A discussion was held regarding the QLW and sale of water rights to top of the world  
69 farms.  
70

71 Ms. Betty Richter spoke against the Dollar General coming to Questa as well as presented a petition against the  
72 store coming into Questa with over 675 signatures. An online petition was also put out that resulted in over  
73 400 signatures. Petitions as well as letters of concern were sent out to agencies involved.  
74

75 Mr. Daniel Hutchinson of Locology. It is a non-profit that’s involved in youth programs and community events.  
76 It is their mission to move people from passive consumers to active producers in local livelihoods and  
77 agricultural development. They will be working on a canvassing matching map. Is interested in the La Cienega  
78 and any collaborations that can evolve.  
79

80 VII. **ACTION ITEMS**

81 A) Discussion, Consideration & Decision – Approval of Resolution 2020-01 Open Meetings Resolution  
82

83 Ms. Martinez stated that there were no changes to the Resolution.  
84

85 Motion: Councilman Ortega  
86 Second: Councilman Gonzales  
87

88 Roll Call:

89  
90 Councilman Charlie Gonzales YES  
91 Councilwoman Louise Gallegos YES  
92 Councilman Brent Jaramillo YES  
93 Councilman John Ortega YES  
94

95 To approve Resolution 2020-01 Open Meetings Resolution as presented. All voted yes. Motion carried.  
96

97 B) Discussion, Consideration & Decision – Selection of a member to serve on the Holy Cross Medical  
98 Center Nominating Committee for a one year  
99

100 Ms. Martinez stated that the hospital is once again looking to the Village to select a member to serve on their  
101 nominating committee for one year. A motion by Councilman Jaramillo for Councilman Gonzales to fill this  
102 role. The motion was then seconded by Councilman Ortega. With discussion.

103 Councilman Gonzales stated that he has served on this committee before and does not currently agree with the  
 104 way they are approaching the gross receipts tax issue. Councilman Gonzales stated that he will accept but we  
 105 still need someone to attend the Landfill Board meeting and IGC meeting. If it is one of us or a staff member  
 106 then we need to give them the authority to make decisions on our behalf. Councilman Ortega stated that he  
 107 would be open to going to the IGC meetings.

108  
 109 It was decided that Ms. Martinez be the alternate for the nominating committee.

110  
 111 With a motion and a second, the Mayor asked for a vote.

112  
 113 Roll Call:

114  
 115 Councilman Charlie Gonzales YES  
 116 Councilwoman Louise Gallegos YES  
 117 Councilman Brent Jaramillo YES  
 118 Councilman John Ortega YES

119  
 120 To approve Councilman Gonzales as the member and Ms. Martinez as the alternate. All voted yes. Motion  
 121 carried.

122  
 123 Mayor Gallegos stated that the ECOG meeting and the IGC meeting are held the same day and will attend them.  
 124 He asked Councilman Ortega to be the alternate. Councilman Ortega agreed. Mayor Gallegos will also attend  
 125 the Landfill Meeting and sub Committee Meeting since they are all on the same day.

126  
 127 VIII. **FINANCIALS** – Ms. Karen Shannon, Finance Director

128 A) Discussion, Consideration & Decision – FY2020 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Local BARs

129  
 130 Ms. Shannon stood for questions.

131  
 132 Motion: Councilman Jaramillo  
 133 Second: Councilwoman Gallegos

134  
 135 Roll Call:

136  
 137 Councilman Charlie Gonzales YES  
 138 Councilwoman Louise Gallegos YES  
 139 Councilman Brent Jaramillo YES  
 140 Councilman John Ortega YES

141  
 142 To approve the FY2020 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Local BARs as presented. All voted yes. Motion carried.

143  
 144 B) Discussion, Consideration & Decision – Resolution No. 2020-02 / FY2020 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter State BARs

145  
 146 Ms. Shannon had one correction on a department code. .

147  
 148 Motion: Councilman Ortega, with the correction  
 149 Second: Councilman Jaramillo

150  
 151 Roll Call:

152  
 153 Councilman Charlie Gonzales YES

154 Councilwoman Louise Gallegos YES  
 155 Councilman Brent Jaramillo YES  
 156 Councilman John Ortega YES

157  
 158 To approve Resolution No. 2020-02 / FY2020 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter State BARs with the department code correction.  
 159 All voted yes. Motion carried.

160  
 161 C) Discussion, Consideration & Decision – Updated Mileage Rate

162  
 163 Ms. Shannon stated that the rate remains the same based on the 2019 IRS rate.

164  
 165 Motion: Councilman Ortega  
 166 Second: Councilwoman Gallegos

167  
 168 With discussion.

169  
 170 Councilman Gonzales inquired about why the Village cannot get mileage based on actual miles. Ms. Shannon  
 171 stated that the 2019 IRS rate is in accordance with our current policy. Councilman Ortega stated that there is a  
 172 lot of runaround time; it is not just from the Village to the destination. Councilman Jaramillo suggested that  
 173 we hire an audit firm that can rewrite our purchasing and mileage policy. They need to be updated. Mayor  
 174 Gallegos suggested we approve the updated mileage today and maybe direct the staff to look into hiring a firm  
 175 to update the policies.

176  
 177 With a motion and a second, the Mayor asked for a vote.

178  
 179 Roll Call:

180  
 181 Councilman Charlie Gonzales YES  
 182 Councilwoman Louise Gallegos YES  
 183 Councilman Brent Jaramillo YES  
 184 Councilman John Ortega YES

185  
 186 To approve the Updated Mileage Rate for 2020 . All voted yes. Motion carried.

187  
 188 IX. **DISCUSSION ITEMS** – Projects Update

189  
 190 Ms. Martinez updated on the following:

- 191  
 192 1. The new ambulance should be here in the next couple of weeks.  
 193 2. There is continued work fire department improvements are  
 194 3. Library Expansion – Looking to get a CES contract on board for construction.  
 195 4. Business Park – Construction meeting on Friday at 10:00am.  
 196 5. Water Line replacement in Cabresto – We will be going out for RFP as soon as plans are approved.  
 197 We hope to get the paving done on Cabresto Road by the end of the year.  
 198 6. The VFW equipment has been ordered. \$2,500.00 is left from the grant to use on other equipment.

199  
 200 X. **MATTERS FROM ATTORNEY**

201  
 202 The attorney was not present.

203  
 204 XI. **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

205

206 Ms. Martinez stated that a written report was submitted and stood for any questions.  
207

208 Ms. Martinez stated that today was Write in day for candidates and no one came in. The election will be an  
209 unopposed election this year. Mayor Gallegos stated that it shows that the citizens that we represent have faith  
210 in what we are all doing, He looks forward to working with them. Councilman Gonzales stated that we have  
211 a lot of positives going in. It is going to be a busy year. Councilwoman Gallegos asked about the administrative  
212 fee we are using through the MVD to help fund the EMS department; is the department fiscally sound enough  
213 to do away with that fee? Ms. Martinez stated that we are receiving a lot of complaints from the public regarding  
214 the \$4.00 fee. Councilman Gonzales asked if there is a notice posted. Ms. Martinez stated yes. Mayor Gallegos  
215 stated that we can look at it. Councilwoman Gallegos stated we may want to remind people where these fees  
216 are going.

217

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

219

220 Councilman Jaramillo requested we hire an on-call engineer to assist with road fund grant writing under small  
221 purchases.

222

223 Councilman Ortega stated he would like to lead a beautification committee. He would like to get some  
224 volunteers together. Mayor Gallegos stated that as we develop our budget for the next fiscal year, we can look  
225 at funding for beautification.

226

227 Mayor Gallegos stated that the EPA meeting is January 30<sup>th</sup> at Taos County.

228

229 XIII. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – (The Governing Body may convene into Executive Session at this time  
230 pursuant to the NM Open Meetings Act NMSA 1978 10-15-1)

231 1. Acquisition of Real Estate or Water Rights - (§ 10-15-1(H) (8))

232 2. Limited Personnel Matters (§10-15-1(H) (2))

233

234 A motion to enter into Executive Session was made by Councilwoman Ortega. Seconded by Councilman  
235 Gonzales.

236

237 Roll Call:

238

239 Councilman Ortega YES

240 Councilman Charlie Gonzales YES

241 Councilman Brent Jaramillo YES

242 Councilwoman Louise Gallegos YES

243

244 Mayor Gallegos stated that the Governing Body will go into Executive Session to discuss only the items listed.

245

246 The Governing Body entered into Executive Session at 7:13pm.

247

248 A motion was made to reconvene from Executive Session at 7:45pm by Councilwoman Gallegos, seconded by  
249 Councilman Ortega.

250

251 Roll Call:

252

253 Councilman John Ortega YES

254 Councilman Brent Jaramillo YES

255 Councilwoman Louise Gallegos YES

256 Councilman Charlie Gonzales YES

257 Mayor Gallegos stated that only the Executive Session Items regarding Acquisition of Real Estate or Water  
258 Rights - (§ 10-15-1(H) (8)) and Limited Personnel Matters (§10-15-1(H) (2)) were discussed.  
259

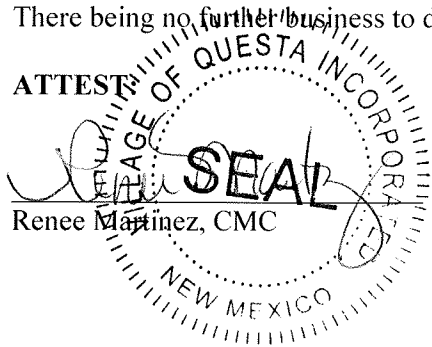
260 IV. ADJOURNMENT  
261

262 Motion: Councilman Jaramillo  
263 Second: Councilwoman Gallegos  
264


265 In Favor: All  
266 Opposed: None  
267

268 There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:46pm.  
269

270 ATTEST:  
271  
272  
273  
274 Renee Martinez, CMC



APPROVED:

  
Mark Gallegos, Mayor