



AGENDA
VILLAGE OF QUESTA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, JULY 14, 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 1-866-899-4679 and entering access code 573-177-325 or from a computer, tablet, or smartphone at <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/573177325>. Those wishing to comment before or during the meeting may submit comments or questions to Interim Village Administrator Renee Martinez at 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** – June 23, 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. **ACTION ITEMS**
 - A) Discussion, Consideration & Decision - MOU between Village of Questa & Taos County – EMS Services
- VIII. **FINANCIALS**
 - A) Review of May 2020 Financials
- IX. **DISCUSSION ITEM**
 - A) MOU between the Village of Questa & Taos County/Taos County Sheriff's Department for Police Services
- X. **MATTERS FROM ATTORNEY**
- XI. **MATTERS FROM ADMINISTRATION**
- 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.

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TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2020
VILLAGE OF QUESTA COUNCIL CHAMBERS
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I. CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR MARK L. GALLEGOS

Mayor Gallegos called the meeting to order at 6:13 pm.

II. ROLL CALL

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

Those present in the virtual meeting were:

- Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo –
- Councilman Charlie I. Gonzales - in person
- Councilman John Anthony Ortega
- Councilwoman Louise T. Gallegos - in person

Staff Present:

- Renee Martinez – CMC / Interim Administrator
- Dina Coleman – Procurement Officer
- Karen Shannon – Finance Director
- Chris DeFillippo -Attorney

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilwoman Louise Gallegos led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Gallegos requested discussion item IX to be moved to follow item V.
 Removed Mayor Gallegos also requested to add an executive session, possible litigation .

Motion: Councilwoman Gallegos
 Second: Councilman Jaramillo

Roll Call:

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

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

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES –

June 23, 2020 – Regular Meeting

Ms. Martinez informed Mayor Gallegos and Council that the minutes from June 23, 2020 were currently not ready for approval due to technical difficulties. They will be ready by the next meeting.

Motion: Councilwoman Gallegos – To table the minutes until next regular meeting.

Second: Councilman Gonzales

Roll Call:

Councilman John Anthony Ortega YES

Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo YES

Councilman Charlie Gonzales YES

Councilwoman Louise Gallegos YES

To approve the tabling of June 23, 2020 Regular Meeting minutes. All voted yes. Motion carried

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.)*

Mr. Christian Isely, Public Affairs Advisor for Chevron Mining, spoke on behalf of the friends of the Questa library. He thanked the Village for their tremendous support and for the expansion of the library. He is very excited to see the project move forward, and stated if the Village should need anything to keep this project moving along, just let him know.

Ms. Martinez stated that for the record that she did not receive any notifications of public comments by email.

VII. DISCUSSION ITEM

A) MOU between the Village of Questa & Taos County/Taos County Sheriff's Department for Police Services

Sheriff Jerry Hogrefe was present to answer any questions and concerns regarding the MOU between the Village and Taos County.

- Ms. Martinez added in the duties that the officers will be performing while they are on patrol.
- Councilor Gonzales inquired about 24-hour police coverage.

Sheriff Hogrefe addressed the question by explaining his schedule plan. He intends to stagger the hours of the officers to provide 12 hours dedicated patrol time in Questa but 24 on-call service to the Questa area.

- Councilman Gonzales was very complimentary in regard to the recent presence of the Taos County Sheriff's Department.
- Attorney Chris DeFillippo expressed some concerns as regarding the draft MOU. It was concluded that attorneys from both, the Village and Taos county would further review the contract and look into optional changes.
- Councilman Gonzales asked if the Village can lease the Ford F150 to the County. Attorney Chris DeFillippo stated that he would look into that as an option.
- Councilman Ortega had a concern with the lack of animal control in the Village and requested that it be added to the MOU, was also very complimentary regarding the presence of the Sheriff's department.

Sheriff Hogrefe explained that for the most part animal control is a part of the agreement, however, in the past there was a concern that the Village did not have a contract with Stray Hearts Animal Shelter.

Sheriff Hogrefe wanted to address item 12, regarding use of the police building. He asked if the facility is currently insured for housing of short-term inmate for processing ?

Mr. DeFillippo stated that this is another concern that he will look into.

Sheriff Hogrefe stated that originally, he did not think this would be a need, but he has since realized that it could be helpful to have a space available.

Mayor Gallegos requested, that Ms. Martinez reach out to the insurance company and ask about leasing the building to the County. Also, look into the contract with Stray Hearts.

Councilman Jaramillo abstained from the discussion.

Ms. Martinez stated that she would like to see citations being cited in the Village Municipal Court. Sheriff Hogrefe stated that the short-term agreement currently does not speak of citing in the Village Municipal court but that the long-term agreement will.

Councilwoman Gallegos spoke for clarification and stated that she would like to reference back to the topic of the animal control ordinance. She is concerned that there are some aggressive dogs on Llano road. Sheriff Hogrefe responded by stating that we can work on this MOU and believes that Taos County Animal Control will be able to enforce the Villages animal control ordinance which he received from Ms. Martinez.

Mayor Gallegos closed the discussion stating that Chris DeFillippo and Randy Autio will discuss the concerns presented regarding the MOU.

Sheriff Hogrefe closed by stating he would like this MOU to work between the County and the Village and would like to give the very best to all.

VIII. ACTION ITEMS

A) Discussion, Consideration & Decision - MOU between Village of Questa & Taos County – EMS Services

Ms. Martinez stated that this MOU has been approved by the Taos County Commission and reviewed by legal counsel. The agreement amount is \$120,000.00 for this fiscal year and believes that there were no other changes made to this agreement.

Motion: Councilman Charlie Gonzales

Second: Councilwoman Louise Gallegos

With discussion

Councilman Ortega had a question regarding the amount of the MOU. He wanted to clarify if the amount had been increased.

Mayor Gallegos stated that the contract amount went from \$70, 000.00 in prior years and up to \$120,000.00 in the last two years. The reason for increase was to provide support on the administrative side for EMS with administrative duties.

Roll Call:

Councilman Charlie Gonzales Yes

Councilman John Anthony Ortega Yes

Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo Abstain

Councilwoman Louise Gallegos Yes

To approve the MOU between Village of Questa & Taos County – EMS Services. With a majority vote. Motion carried.

IX. FINANCIALS

A) Review of May 2020 Financials

Ms. Shannon state, the financial report for May is available and stood for any questions.

- Councilman Gonzales – Inquired about intergovernmental grants, on page 4. He questioned the benchmark amount versus the YTD amount, and the budget amount. Where did the difference come from?

Ms. Shannon stated, that there where grants that had not been paid and also expenditures and budgets that hadn't been budgeted. Those changes will be in bars at the next council meeting to close out the quarter.

Councilman Gonzales also inquired on the status of the Audit findings from the previous year, have they been corrected?

Mrs. Shannon stated that the audit findings from the previous year have been addressed and others are in the process of being implemented

- Councilman Ortega – Asked Ms. Martinez the status on the CDBG Business park funding.

She stated that she has been working with DFA regarding this funding and they have assured her that the Village we will be receiving the grant money in September.

- Councilman Jaramillo – Stated he had no questions at this time.
- Councilman Gonzales – Asked Ms. Martinez if we have all the money for Business park and is here a timeline for them to pay? She stated that we do not have it all in house, but we do have all the commitments from all entities. We have been invoicing and we are working on it.

Mayor Gallegos – Stated that there has been a modified adjustment made if CDBG does not come through and fulfill their end of the project participation. The Village will be seeking funding for the balance through federal funds that are available. As a precautionary measure the engineers and contractors are prepared to draw back on work, based on funding availability.

X. MATTERS FROM ATTORNEY

Mr. DeFillippo stated he sent Mayor Gallegos and Council a copy of a few memorandums that were drafted, in relation to the documents that were previously discussed. The documents are the newest received from NMED and Chevron regarding the status of numerous parts of the reclamation project. 70,000 pages of documents are available for review.

Mayor Gallegos – Stated that because the documents are so lengthy, he would like to have a special meeting to review the documents prior to a meeting with federal and state agencies.

Mr. DeFillippo states that there are many documents to come and he will address the newest and historical docs as per requested.

XI. 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) Pending Litigation - - (§ 10-15-1(H) (7))

A motion to enter Executive Session was made by Councilwoman Gallegos. Seconded by Councilman Gonzales.

Roll Call:

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

The Governing Body entered Executive Session at 7:09 pm

A motion was made to reconvene from Executive Session at 7:36 pm by Councilwoman Gallegos, seconded by Councilman Gonzales.

Roll Call:

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

Mayor Gallegos stated a presentation by legal counsel was given, no decision was made.

XII. MATTERS FROM ADMINISTRATION

Ms. Martinez provided an update.

- The Motor Vehicle is currently open by appointment only
- Librarian Carolyn Garcia put in her letter of resignation. Advertisement to fill position will be look into later.
- Administration office is closed to public, continuing to accept payments by phone but working as normal addressing issues that come to the office by phone.
- Public works department is currently accepting branches and brush Friday 1 pm – 4pm at no cost.
- The roll off dumpster is still available.
- We are down to three meters that do not read electronically and need a manual read.
- The Municipal Court is being coved by Dina and Renee as Judge Rael recovers. Once the county begins citing to Municipal court, we expect to be busier.
- Marque MOU – we would like access to the marquee. The attorneys are reviewing the MOU and meeting is set for July 21, 2020.
- Waste management contract has been signed. Dan Darnell and Nadine will be meeting soon.
- ICIP trainings are conducted online this year and due September.

Councilman Gonzales- Thanked Ms. Martinez for proving the financial report for projects.
He also requested assistance to CAV.

Councilwoman Gallegos – Stated that in the past an MOU was created with CAV and the Village that allowed for an exchange of services between the parties.

Mayor Gallegos – Asked that CAV provide a scope of services specific to the Village so we can consider how the Village can support CAV.

Councilwoman Gallegos- Inquired about the large roll off dumpster usage and availability.

XIII. MATTERS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL

- Mayor Gallegos stated that our constituents are requesting that we aggressively reach towards T-Mobile or Verizon to provide us with better cellular service. Mayor is asking that we work together on looking to opportunities to broaden and optimize cell service.
- Mayor Gallegos is asking that we temporary help for 3 months to assist the public works department.

Councilman Ortega –

Express his support in acquiring 5g service.

Mayor – Encouraged safety awareness due to COVID 19.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Councilman Ortega

Second: Councilman 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 7:43 pm.

ATTEST:

Dina Coleman, Deputy Clerk



APPROVED:

Mark Gallegos
Mark Gallegos, Mayor