



AGENDA
VILLAGE OF QUESTA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 2021
VIRTUAL MEETING
6:00 P.M

~ NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC ~

Mayor Mark L. Gallegos
Mayor Pro-Tem John Anthony Ortega
Councilmember Charlie I. Gonzales | Councilmember Brent P. Jaramillo | 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 **220-662-469** or from a computer, tablet, or smartphone at <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/220662469>. Those wishing to comment before or during the meeting may also submit comments or questions to Interim Administrator/CMC 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** – A) March 09, 2021 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. **PRESENTATION/UPDATE**
 - A) Presentation by Ms. Janie Corinne of Taos Alive & Ms. Maria Gonzalez of Vida del Norte regarding the 'Refuse to Provide' Campaign
 - B) Presentation by Lynn Skall, Director of the Questa Economic Development Fund regarding monthly update
 - C) Presentation by Arvind Patel, Director of Water Resources, WHPacific – Cabresto Waterline Project Update
 - D) Update by Ms. Kamryn Ortega regarding Hillcrest Bank/Questa branch closure
 - E) Presentation by De'Aun Willoughby CPA, PC, Certified Public Accountant, regarding the Village of Questa FY2020 Financial Audit Report
- VIII. **ACTION ITEMS**
 - A) Discussion, Consideration & Decision – Resolution No. 2021-06 – Acceptance and Approval of the Village of Questa FY 2020 Audit
 - B) Discussion, Consideration & Decision – Taos Regional Landfill Board request
- IX. **DISCUSSION ITEMS**
 - A) Fiscal Year 2022 Budget
 - B) American Rescue Plan Act of 2021
- X. **MATTERS FROM ATTORNEY** – Mr. 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, MARCH 23, 2021
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 6:01 pm.

II. ROLL CALL

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

Councilwoman Louise Gallegos was not present at 6:01 pm

Those virtually present were:

Mayor Mark Gallegos

Councilwoman Louise Gallegos arrived at 6:10 pm

Councilman John Anthony Ortega

Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo

Councilman Charlie Gonzales

Renee Martinez, CMC/ Interim Administrator

Dina Coleman, Deputy Clerk / CPO

Karen Shannon, VOQ Finance Director

Chris DeFillippo, Robles, Rael & Anaya

Janie Corinne, Taos Alive

Maria Gonzalez, Vida del Norte

Lynn Skall, QEDF Director

Arvind Patel, WHPacific

Kamryn Ortega, Hillcrest Bank

Those present by phone:

Christian Isely, Chevron Representative (Caller 01)

De'Aun Willoughby, Willoughby & Willoughby CPAs, PC (Caller 02)

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Karen Shannon led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Councilman Charlie Gonzales

Second: Councilman John A. Ortega

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Roll Call:

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

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

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 9, 2021

A motion was made to approve the minutes as presented.

Motion: Councilman John Anthony Ortega

Second: Councilman Charlie Gonzales

Roll Call:

Councilman John Anthony Ortega	YES
Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo	YES
Councilman Charlie Gonzales	YES
Councilwoman Louise Gallegos	Not Present

To approve the March 9, 2021, Regular 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 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.)*

Christian Isely, Chevron Representative congratulates the Village and Mayor regarding CDBG grant funding for the Questa Business Park

Ms. Renee Martinez stated that she did not receive any emails or prior requests for Public Comment participation.

VII. PRESENTATION/UPDATE

A) Presentation by Ms. Janie Corinne of Taos Alive & Ms. Maria Gonzalez of Vida del Norte regarding the 'Refuse to Provide' Campaign
Request to support the Refuse to Provide Campaign to reduce our kids' alcohol use. Pledge available at taosalive.org/refuse

The Mayor and Council were very supportive of the campaign and very interested in supporting the program.

B) Presentation by Lynn Skall, Director of the Questa Economic Development Fund regarding monthly update

- QEDF grant application for website and news media sustainability were approved and received
- Mural Project is moving forward
- April 1 Passion to Profits program e-commerce tool kit available to businesses
- Vista Volunteer local from Taos will assist Deborah Torres and TEN
- April Fools edition of the Questa Del Rio Newspaper

Councilman Gonzales stated that Localogy is getting a grant from LOR in the amount of \$12K. He also would like to know what buildings will be receiving the murals for the project.

98 Councilman Jaramillo stated that he has received complaints about the Questa Del Rio Newspaper. He is being
99 told that the paper is not covering what is believed to be enough of the local issues.

100 Mayor would like to have the clean up day put in the paper. A tentative date needs to be chosen.

101 C) Presentation by Arvind Patel, Director of Water Resources, WHPacific – Cabresto Waterline Project
102 Update

103 Mr. Patel gave a brief update on the status of the project and assured the Mayor and Council that frequent
104 updates will be provided to the Village as the project progresses.

105 D) Update by Ms. Kamryn Ortega regarding Hillcrest Bank/Questa branch closure

106 Ms. Ortega explained what changes are happening with the bank and the Village will be affected by these
107 changes. She also offered up options for the Village to consider.

108 E) Presentation by De'Aun Willoughby CPA, PC, Certified Public Accountant, regarding the Village of
109 Questa FY2020 Financial Audit Report

110 Ms. De'Aun Willoughby provided the Mayor and Council with information regarding the FY 19-20 Audit.
111 She talked in detail about the findings that needed to be addressed.

112 **VIII. ACTION ITEMS**

113 A) Discussion, Consideration & Decision – Resolution No. 2021-06 – Acceptance and Approval of the
114 Village of Questa FY 2020 Audit

115

116 **Motion:** Councilman John Anthony Ortega

117 **Second:** Councilwoman Louise Gallegos

118

119

120 **Roll Call:**

121 Councilman John Anthony Ortega YES

122 Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo YES

123 Councilman Charlie Gonzales YES

124 Councilwoman Louise Gallegos YES

125

126 To approve the Resolution No. 2021-06 – Acceptance and Approval of the Village of Questa FY 2020 Audit.
127 Majority voted yes. Motion carried.

128

129 B) Discussion, Consideration & Decision – Taos Regional Landfill Board request

130 Mayor Gallegos gave an update and provided background history regarding the Landfill Board and their
131 request for support and funding. Discussion was held.

132

133 Councilman Gonzales made a motion to allow Ms. Martinez to represent the Village of Questa by voting NO
134 to funding the recycling program, the motion was then seconded by Councilman Ortega.

135

136 **Roll Call:**

137 Councilman John Anthony Ortega YES

138 Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo NO

139 Councilman Charlie Gonzales YES

140 Councilwoman Louise Gallegos NO

141

142 Due to a tie vote Mayor Gallegos voted YES.

To approve Ms. Martinez to represent the Village of Questa at the landfill meeting to vote NO to the Village assisting with funding of the recycling program. Motion carried.

Motion to take a 3 minute break

Motion: Councilman Charlie Gonzales

Second: Councilman John Anthony Ortega

Roll Call:

Councilman John Anthony Ortega YES

Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo YES

Councilman Charlie Gonzales YES

Councilwoman Louise Gallegos YES

To reconvene from the 3-minute break. All voted yes. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

A) Fiscal Year 2022 Budget

Ms. Shannon provided information regarding the wage increase what she is expecting to be added into the future budgets and forecast how the next several years will look with minimum increases. Ms. Martinez and Ms. Shannon would work on a proposed budget for the FY2021 and will present to the Mayor and Council during a possible work study session.

B) American Rescue Plan Act of 2021

Ms. Martinez and Councilman Jaramillo explained that this funding is going to be available to the Village and how it can be used.

There was quite a bit of discussion regarding the FY 21-22 budget and everyone had input on what they recommend to be included in the budget.

X. MATTERS FROM ATTORNEY – Mr. Chris DeFillippo, Robles, Rael & Anaya

- Mr. DeFillippo stated that the Red River contract is still under review
- He has been in contact with the representatives of the Verga Trust and will discuss options to the Mayor and staff in the near future.

Councilman Gonzales has a question regarding a vehicle to be donated from RTD to the Village and insuring that vehicle. Mr. DeFillippo will look into it further.

Councilman Gonzales also asked if there is a space available for the RTD blue bus to have a potential bus stop. Mayor Gallegos explained the process and how an area could be dedicated to the RTD. Mr. DeFillippo asked for more information so that he could better tailor an agreement between the Village and RTD.

Councilman Ortega inquired with Mr. DeFillippo into the status of the revision of the Zoning Ordinance, he also asked about the ability to adopt a fire code. Mr. DeFillippo will continue to work on these two items.

XI. MATTERS FROM ADMINISTRATION- Ms. Renee Martinez, CMC /Interim Administrator

Ms. Martinez provided a report in the packet. She also gave a brief update on the following:

- NMDOT grants have been submitted

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- No burn permit ordinance is in the works
- Street light outages and troubleshooting
- Library pictures and updates.
-

XIII. MATTERS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL

The following items were discussed:

- Councilwoman Gallegos mentioned that she has been approached by several residents on Old Red River Road that would like sewer service. She assured them that it is a part of the future sewer projects.
- Councilman Ortega stated that residents on Old Lama Road also could use services. He also spoke about the need for road repair of Embargo Road by Chevron.
- Mayor spoke about the lack of police presence that has been brought to his attention by the citizens of Questa. He stated the Sheriffs are to focus on domestic calls, vandalism, and such issues.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Councilman John Anthony Ortega


Second: Councilman Brent Jaramillo

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 9:03 pm

ATTEST:


Dina Coleman, Deputy Clerk

APPROVED:


Mark Gallegos, Mayor

