

1  
2 **VILLAGE OF QUESTA**  
3 **REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
4 **TUESDAY, JULY 27, 2021**  
5 **VILLAGE OF QUESTA COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
6 **6:00PM**

---

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

9 Mayor Mark Gallegos called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

10  
11 **II. ROLL CALL**

12 Ms. Dina Coleman, Village Deputy Clerk called roll where a quorum was present.

13  
14 **Those present were:**

15 Councilwoman Louise Gallegos  
16 Councilman John Anthony Ortega  
17 Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo  
18 Councilman Charlie Gonzales  
19 Karen Shannon, VOQ Finance Director  
20 Chris DeFillippo, Robles, Rael & Anaya  
21 Jeanie Masters, Concerned Resident  
22 Raynelle Cordova, Questa EMS Director / Fire Dept. Assistant Fire Chief

23  
24 **III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

25 Councilwoman Gallegos led the Pledge of Allegiance.

26  
27 **IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

28 Councilman Gonzales requested that item X. B- Draft RV Ordinance be removed from the agenda.

29  
30 **Motion:** Councilman Charlie Gonzales

31 **Second:** Councilman John Ortega

32  
33 **Roll Call:**

34 Councilman John Anthony Ortega YES  
35 Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo NO  
36 Councilman Charlie Gonzales YES  
37 Councilwoman Louise Gallegos NO  
38 With a tie vote Mayor Gallegos voted NO

39  
40 To remove Item X. B – Draft RV Ordinance from the agenda as requested. Majority voted no. Motion carried.

41  
42 **Motion:** Councilwoman Louise Gallegos

43 **Second:** Councilman Brent Jaramillo

44  
45 **Roll Call:**

46 Councilman John Anthony Ortega NO  
47 Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo YES  
48 Councilman Charlie Gonzales NO  
49 Councilwoman Louise Gallegos YES  
50 With a tie vote Mayor voted YES

Regular Council Meeting Minutes  
July 27, 2021

51

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

53

54 **V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Regular Meeting Minutes July 13, 2021

55

56 Councilwoman Gallegos pointed out several verbiage and typographical errors of concern with the minutes  
57 that need correction.

58

59 **Motion:** Councilwoman Louise Gallegos60 **Second:** Councilman John Ortega

61

62 **Roll Call:**

63 Councilman John Anthony Ortega YES

64 Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo YES

65 Councilman Charlie Gonzales YES

66 Councilwoman Louise Gallegos YES

67

68 To approve the July 13, 2021, Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. Majority voted yes. Motion carried.

69

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

73

74 Ms. Jeannie Masters was present to address the new QEDF Welcome to Questa sign placement. She is not  
75 happy with the placement and believes it should be placed further north near where the Village of Questa limits  
76 begins and near Ms. Masters residence.

77

78 **VII. ACTION ITEM**79 **A)** Discussion, Consideration & Decision- Approval of Recommendation of Contractor for Cabestro  
80 Roadway Improvement Project (Paving)81 Ms. Coleman gave a brief background of the procurement process taken and the conclusion to the  
82 recommendation to this contractor.83 **Motion:** Councilman Charlie Gonzales84 **Second:** Councilman John A. Ortega

85

86 **Roll Call:**

87 Councilman John Anthony Ortega YES

88 Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo YES

89 Councilman Charlie Gonzales YES

90 Councilwoman Louise Gallegos YES

91

92 To approve Recommendation of Contractor for Cabresto Roadway Improvement Project. All voted yes.  
93 Motion carried.

94

95 **B)** Discussion, Consideration & Decision- Procurement Policy Proposed Changes and/or  
96 Recommendations97 Ms. Coleman requested approval from the Mayor and Council to update the Procurement Policy to  
98 include the recommendations and needed changes provided by Tammy West, Procurement Consultant.

99 Ms. West has been assisting Ms. Coleman with policy improvements to streamline the purchasing

100 process. Much discussion was had amongst the Mayor, Council and Ms. Coleman regarding the policy  
101 and most of the Council was in support of the recommendations and changes to the policy.

102 **Motion:** Councilwoman Louise Gallegos

103 **Second:** Councilman John A. Ortega

104

105 **Roll Call:**

106 Councilman John Anthony Ortega YES

107 Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo YES

108 Councilman Charlie Gonzales NO

109 Councilwoman Louise Gallegos YES

110

111 To approve Proposed Procurement Policy updates and/or changes. Majority voted yes. Motion carried

112

113 **IX. FINANCIALS** - Ms. Karen Shannon, Finance Director

114 **A) Discussion, Consideration & Decision** -Resolution No. 2021-21 / FY 2021 Final Quarter Financial  
115 Report Resolution

116 Ms. Shannon gave a brief update regarding the QEDF board meeting in which she did a presentation to the  
117 board on behalf of the Village of Questa for funding that the Village has been requesting. She informed the  
118 Council that the funding that was requested has been granted to the Village.

119 They approved the requests as follows. Rapid Action Fund for \$25,000, Lobbyist for \$40,000, lower  
120 Embargo Road Map Project match for \$37,956, Shirley Drive co-op match for \$20,000 and the Fire  
121 Department equipment match for \$1324.00 so the total that they're going to fund the Village is \$124,280.00.  
122 Per a request from Councilman Gonzales, Ms. Shannon provided an update regarding the receivables for the  
123 departments as of June 30<sup>th</sup>. She stated that the Utility Department receivables are \$340,534.78, Water  
124 Department is \$55,686.50, Sewer Department is \$145,221.57, Trash is \$139,74.61, there is an additional  
125 \$600. That came from late fees and water rights. Raynelle Cordova, EMS Director was available to provide  
126 the balance of receivables for the EMS Department as of June 30, 2021, is at \$175,229.59. Ms. Cordova also  
127 gave a brief update on the current activity going on at the EMS and Fire Department. Councilman Ortega  
128 had several questions regarding the collections of outstanding bills and the questions were answered by  
129 Attorney Mr. DeFillippo. Councilman Gonzales asked about hiring another staff member to be paid by Fire  
130 Department or if the monies collected by EMS could pay for another staff member. Mayor Gallegos stated  
131 that the Village would need to look into the budget for funding in the second quarter of the fiscal year to see  
132 about hiring . Councilman Jaramillo also suggested that the excise tax funding from the Cannabis sales  
133 should go to EMS and Fire Department. Councilwoman Gallegos had questions regarding the help that Ms.  
134 Cordova has or does not have and talked about options for getting someone to help with billing. It seems that  
135 the need for more staff to help the EMS department will be looked into further.

136

137 Ms. Shannon gave her presentation regarding the Resolution No. 2021-21, which was also included in the  
138 packets given to Mayor and Council. She was available for question, there were none.

139

140 **Motion:** Councilman Charlie Gonzales

141 **Second:** Councilman John Ortega

142

143 **Roll Call:**

144 Councilman John Anthony Ortega YES

145 Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo YES

146 Councilman Charlie Gonzales YES

147 Councilwoman Louise Gallegos YES

148

149 To approve Resolution No. 2021-21 / FY 2021 Final Quarter Financial Report Resolution. All voted yes.  
150 Motion carried.

151

152 **B) Discussion, Consideration & Decision - Resolution No. 2021-22 / FY 2021-2022 Budget Adoption**

153

154 Ms. Shannon gave a brief update regarding, Resolution No. 2021-21 and a change made due to receivables  
155 that did not come in by June 30<sup>th</sup> as mentioned in the last meeting, the CDBG \$402, 000.00 that had to be  
156 included as revenue on this budget but was then as a transfer back into the general fund. This had to be done  
157 with several state appropriation fundings as well. She assured that the ending cash balances for fiscal year  
158 2021 correspond with the beginning cash balances on the budget. A copy of the budget was included.

159 Councilman Ortega had a question regarding the salaries for the Elected Officials, Ms. Shannon referenced  
160 page 43 of the packet that shows that the last fiscal year's salaries were \$23,400 and will increase in the new  
161 fiscal year's budget to \$35, 800.00.

162 There was a bit of discussion had amongst Mayor and Council about the salary increases.

163 **Motion:** Councilwoman Louise Gallegos

164 **Second:** Councilman Charlie Gonzales

165

166 **Roll Call:**

167 Councilman John Anthony Ortega NO

168 Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo YES

169 Councilman Charlie Gonzales YES

170 Councilwoman Louise Gallegos YES

171

172 To approve Resolution No. 2021-22 / FY 2021-22 Budget Adoption. Majority voted yes. Motion carried

173 Mayor requested a 5-minute break at 7:19 pm

174 **IX.) DISCUSSION ITEM**

175 **A) American Rescue Plan Act – Ms. Karen Shannon**

176 Ms. Shannon provided a brief background about newly received funding. She gave amounts received as well  
177 as how this funding can be expended. Ms. Shannon, Mayor and Council talked about the different options to  
178 spending this funding such as water and sewer infrastructure. There are many residents that are interested in  
179 having sewer to connect to through the Village and this funding could assist with this.

180 The Mayor and Council will start exploring the options of spending this funding. The funding does not expire  
181 until December 2024.

182

183 **B) Zoning Map – Mr. Chris DeFillippo**

184 Mr. DeFillippo and Mayor Gallegos presented the current Zoning Map and talked about the importance of  
185 making the changes to the Zoning Map needed to support the changes in the newly proposed Zoning  
186 Ordinance. Mr. DeFillippo has provided the draft Zoning Ordinance; however, he has stated, that the Zoning  
187 Map needs to be changed to make better sense of it, based off Questa's current demographics and also  
188 considering the potential growth and the future of Questa. It was recommended by Mr. DeFillippo that the  
189 Mayor and Council each review the map and the 11 zones proposed and document their recommend changes,  
190 then have them brought forth at the next meeting.

191

192

193

194

195 C) Zoning Board Recommendations – Mr. Chris DeFillippo  
 196 Mr. DeFillippo provided options on how to create the 5-member board needed to support and enforce the  
 197 Proposed Zoning Ordinance once it is approved. It was suggested that each Council member search out a board  
 198 member and be aggressive in creating this board in the next month or so. This board is imperative to the Zoning  
 199 Ordinance. There were also conversations regarding if this board would be paid for their placement on the  
 200 board. This will continue to be talked about in the next few weeks.

201

202

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

204 A) Cannabis Ordinance

205 Mr. DeFillippo has come to the Mayor and Council to ask their ideas of how they anticipate seeing the growth,  
 206 sale and use of Marijuana being handled in Questa as it complies with state statute. This information will help  
 207 him to create a proper Cannabis Ordinance for the Village. He also stated that he has draft ordinances from  
 208 different areas with different interpretations that he could provide. He is encouraging an ordinance to be drafted  
 209 due to date sensitive deadlines. Councilman Jaramillo shared information regarding how the County will be  
 210 permitting and prohibiting it within the County limits. Councilman Gonzales had a concern with the  
 211 enforcement of the ordinance and how much that will cost the Village? Mr. DeFillippo could not answer what  
 212 the additional cost for enforcement would be, being that this is a new ordinance.

213 B) Draft RV Ordinance

214 Mr. DeFillippo is still in need of guidance to finalize this draft. He has tightened it up to limit it to very specific  
 215 use of the agreement for the RV users that are working on behalf of the Chevron Mining Inc. contractors  
 216 coming in for work purposes only. Mayor Gallegos is also asking that the Council consider utility fee increases  
 217 to those homeowners that are providing the space to these RVer's. There was much conversation throughout  
 218 from all regarding several topics and concerns that could connect to this type of RV space rental ordinance.

219 C) Water Rights from Chevron

220 Mr. DeFillippo stated that per the conversations he has had with Mr. Isely the Chevron Representative, the  
 221 water rights application, to help the Village with water diversion is currently sitting at the Office of the State  
 222 Engineer and is under review they do not anticipate having an answer regarding this for the next four weeks  
 223 or so.

224

225 XI. **MATTERS FROM ADMINISTRATION-** Ms. Renee Martinez, CMC /Interim Administrator  
 226 Ms. Martinez was not present. Project update provided.

227

228 XII. **MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS**

- 229 • Mayor Gallegos shared that the QEDF would like to have a retreat to include the Village. Per Ms.  
 230 Lynn Skall's suggestion a work study is necessary to sit down and have conversations to make sure  
 231 everyone is on board and on the same page. Mayor asked that everyone review the August calendar  
 232 and try to lock in a date to have the work study and retreat.
- 233 • Councilman Ortega gave an update to Vida Del Norte's upcoming events to be held on July 31 and  
 234 August 21<sup>st</sup>.

235

236 XIV. **ADJOURNMENT**

237

238 **Motion:** Councilman John A. Ortega

239 **Second:** Councilwoman Louise Gallegos

240

241 **Roll Call:**

Regular Council Meeting Minutes

July 27, 2021

242 Councilman John Anthony Ortega YES  
 243 Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo YES  
 244 Councilman Charlie Gonzales YES  
 245 Councilwoman Louise Gallegos YES

246

247 There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 9:34 pm.

248

249 ATTEST:

APPROVED:

250

251

252

253

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dina Coleman, Deputy Clerk

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mark Gallegos, Mayor

