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 2 **VILLAGE OF QUESTA**
 3 **REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**
 4 **TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2022**
 5 **VILLAGE OF QUESTA COUNCIL CHAMBERS**
 6 **6:00PM**

7
 8 **I. CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR JOHN ANTHONY ORTEGA**

9 Mayor Ortega called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.
 10 Interim Village Clerk Sara Trujillo Absent; Temp Clerk Valerie Vigil

11
 12 **II. ROLL CALL**

13 Valerie Vigil called roll where a quorum was present.

14
 15 **Governing Body Present**

- 16 Mayor John Anthony Ortega
- 17 Councilman Jason Gonzalez
- 18 Councilwoman Katrina Gonzales
- 19 Councilwoman Louise Gallegos

20
 21 **Governing Body Absent**

- 22 Councilman Brent Jaramillo

23
 24 **Others present were:**

- 25 Valerie Vigil, CPO
- 26 Karen Shannon, VOQ Finance Director
- 27 Elizabeth Roberts Village Receptionist
- 28 Dylan Crabb- Del Rio News
- 29 Elizabeth Martinez
- 30 Henry Lopez
- 31 Gayle and Peter Martinez Living Word Ministries
- 32 Cynthia Rael- Vigil
- 33 Esperanza Vigil

34
 35 **Those present virtually were:**

- 36 Chris DeFillippo, Robles, Rael & Anaya

37
 38 **III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

39
 40 **IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

41 Mayor Ortega requested tabling agenda Item 8 Section B

42
 43 **Motion:** Councilwoman Louise Gallegos

44 **Second:** Councilman Jason Gonzalez

45
 46 **Roll Call:**

- 47 Councilwoman Louise Gallegos YES
- 48 Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo NOT PRESENT
- 49 Councilman Jason Gonzalez YES
- 50 Councilwoman Katrina Gonzalez YES

51
52 To approve the agenda as presented. Majority voted yes. Motion carried.

53

54 **V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Retreat meeting May 13th & 14th, 2022

55 Councilwoman Gallegos asked that consistency be priority with names, Karen Quintana Shannon or Karen
56 Shannon

57

58 **Motion:** Councilwoman Louise Gallegos

59 **Second:** Councilwoman Katrina Gonzales

60

61 Minutes for May 13 & 14 Retreat Meeting were corrected

62

63 Regular Council Meeting May 24, 2022

64 Councilwoman Gallegos had a concern regarding the numbers being cut off on the left-hand side due to
65 printing

66

67 **Motion:** Councilwoman Louise Gallegos

68 **Second:** Councilman Jason Gonzalez

69

70 Special Council Meeting May 31, 2022

71 Councilwoman Gallegos stated the section of who was present at the meeting was missing.

72 Minutes were corrected

73

74 **Motion:** Councilwoman Louise Gallegos

75 **Second:** Councilwoman Katrina Gonzales

76

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

80

81 **(Did not sign in)** Edwin Wisdom from Questa EMS commenting on the EMS growth over the years and
82 commending Deputy Fire Chief Raynelle Sanchez-Cordova on being a great leader and manager.

83 Mayor replied stating that general fund was able to fund the Questa EMS with \$200,000 and he fully supports
84 the Fire and EMS program.

85

86 **(Did not sign in)** Robyn Black from Latir Volunteer Fire Department commenting on the Questa EMS services
87 being a crucial part of the northern part of Questa to the Colorado border. Commended Deputy Fire Chief
88 Raynelle Sanchez-Cordova on being a good leader.

89 Mayor thanked Questa EMS for their comments and fully supports the program.

90

91 Public comments closed at 06:13 pm

92

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

95 Limited to personal matters (Section 10-15-1 11-2)

96

97 **Motion:** Councilwoman Louise Gallegos

98 **Second:** Councilman Jason Gonzalez

99

100

101

102 **Roll Call:**

103 Councilwoman Louise Gallegos YES
 104 Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo NOT PRESENT
 105 Councilman Jason Gonzalez YES
 106 Councilwoman Katrina Gonzales YES

107

108 Motion carried to enter into executive session: 06:14 pm

109

110 Motion to come out of executive session 06:26 pm

111 **Motion:** Jason Gonzalez112 **Second:** Katrina Gonzales

113

114 **Roll Call:**

115 Councilwoman Louise Gallegos YES
 116 Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo NOT PRESENT
 117 Councilman Jason Gonzalez YES
 118 Councilwoman Katrina Gonzalez YES

119

120

121 **VIII. ACTION ITEM**122 **A)** Appointment of Village Clerk, Mayor John Anthony Ortega appoints Mrs. Valerie Vigil

123

124 **Motion:** Councilwoman Katrina Gonzalez125 **Second:** Councilman Jason Gonzalez

126

127 **Roll Call:**

128 Councilwoman Louise Gallegos YES
 129 Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo NOT PRESENT
 130 Councilman Jason Gonzalez YES
 131 Councilwoman Katrina Gonzales YES

132

133 Congratulations Mrs. Valerie Vigil as the new Village Clerk

134

135 **B)** Discussion, Consideration & Decision – RFP 2022-03, General Legal Services

136 CPO Valerie Vigil recommends the award for General Legal Services to Robles, Rael, & Anaya Law Firm

137

138 **Motion:** Councilwoman Louise Gallegos139 **Second:** Councilwoman Katrina Gonzales

140

141 **Roll Call:**

142 Councilwoman Louise Gallegos YES
 143 Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo NOT PRESENT
 144 Councilman Jason Gonzalez YES
 145 Councilwoman Katrina Gonzales YES

146

147 **C)** Discussion, Consideration & Decision – Cooperative Agreement OMNIA Partners for the purchase of
 148 Solar, Digital message boards

149 CPO Valerie Vigil discussed the approval to purchase highway signs funded from a Chevron Fire Fund

150

151 **Motion:** Councilwoman Louise Gallegos
 152 **Second:** Councilwoman Katrina Gonzales

153

154 C) Discussion, Consideration, and Decision on Resolution #2022-15, approval of NMFA loan for Fire Truck
 155 Finance Director, Karen Shannon shared the documents with the council for payment breakdown for the new
 156 fire truck. There will be money left over for the fire department

157

158 **Motion:** Councilwoman Louise Gallegos

159 **Second:** Councilman Jason Gonzalez

160

161 **Roll Call:**

162 Councilwoman Louise Gallegos YES

163 Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo NOT PRESENT

164 Councilman Jason Gonzalez YES

165 Councilwoman Katrina Gonzales YES

166

167 **IX. OATHS OF OFFICE**

168 Honorable Judge Michael Rael appointed the following positions into the Village of Questa:

169 Dominic Martinez as the Village of Questa Administrator, Karen Quintana Shannon Finance Director, and

170 Valerie Vigil as the Village Clerk

171

172 **X. DISCUSSION ITEM**

173

174 A) Planning and Zoning Board, Village Attorney Chris DeFillippo presented his thoughts about a planning
 175 and zoning board. He asked direction from the council on what type of process they would like in order to get
 176 board members for the committee. Chris suggested each councilor make a recommendation and get approval
 177 from the rest of the council members. Councilwoman Gallegos suggested that we use our local paper to
 178 advertise and obtain letters of interest to be on the planning and zoning board. It will not be a paid position.
 179 Mayor Ortega supports the planning and zoning board and would like to move forward. Councilman Gonzalez
 180 also suggests and agrees with the letter of interest to move forward. Administrator Dominic Martinez will draft
 181 a letter to publish into the Questa Del Rio News.

182 B) Credit Card Policy, Karen Quintana Shannon Finance Director, Requirements within the Village Budget
 183 is to accept credit cards. Part of the policy is how the numbers and personal information is being obtained; One
 184 good thing with the new policy is the sensitive information will be held elsewhere and not on site and meet
 185 standards.

186 C) Cabresto Waterline Replacement, Dominic Martinez, Administrator and Karen Quintana Shannon
 187 presented the waterline extension project on Cabresto road. The project was expected to begin on June 21,
 188 2022. After inspection of the project there was a 250-foot shortage from a main valve, per discussion with
 189 Arvind Patel a quote was submitted to see the cost for the additional 250 feet needed. Per Mrs. Shannon
 190 \$249,102 left in grant money and \$30,000 is still needed to complete the project including the 250 feet. Mrs.
 191 Shannon recommends using the ARPA funds to fund the \$30,000 to complete the project.

192 D) Annual Audit Award decision RFQ 2022-01-01, CPO Valerie Vigil announced the Village Audit award to
 193 De'Aun Willoughby

194

195

196 **XI. MATTERS FROM ATTORNEY** – Mr. Chris DeFillippo, Robles, Rael & Anaya

197 Mr. DeFillippo thanked the Village on behalf of Robles, Rael, & Anaya for the award of General Legal
 198 Services. He announced the importance of the Chevron Meeting happening on 6/23/2022 at 5:30 at the Questa
 199 VFW and encouraged all to attend to discuss mine cleanup and answer any questions the community members
 200 may have. Councilwoman Gallegos was asking for an update on the Llano Ditch and the monies that is owed.

201 Chris stated that he asked for proof that the Village is the actual owner of the water right so proper measures
202 can be taken. Velma Arellano is the Treasurer; Councilwoman Gallegos forwarded her phone number so they
203 can speak about the matter.

204

205 **XII. MATTERS FROM ADMINISTRATION-** Dominic Martinez, Administrator updated on the Trucking
206 into the Summer Reading event and the success it had. 37 children signed up for the summer reading at the
207 Questa Public Library. Mayor Ortega and Mr. Martinez attended the SOLAR event at Kit Carson and there is
208 good conversation about bringing green solar energy to Questa. Highway 522 will be getting re-paved and
209 fixed, project to begin within the week. The Village of Questa is actively seeking a Police Chief and plans are
210 underway to continue the process to re-open the police department. Public Works found a leak near the Granite
211 building and they were able to fix it. Questa EMS has a rig out near Jemez due to fire activity and will help
212 bring in revenue for the EMS department. A meeting has been set up for a police department audit with
213 Dominic on Friday 6/17/2022. The library assistant position has been filled. Modular homes that have been
214 moved to La Cienega are currently on the project list to be moved closer to the library property to be utilized
215 for Taos Behavioral Health or a possible day care.

216

217 **XIII. MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS**

218 A) Concerns and/or Announcements

- 219 • Councilman Jason Gonzalez expressed some concerns that were brought up to him about the newly
- 220 paved Cabresto road. No culverts have been placed in some areas/driveways that have cause concerns
- 221 amongst the community.
- 222 • Councilwoman Gallegos updated on the overall outcome of the 2022 Healing Field. Thank you to
- 223 everyone that helped, donated, and/or sponsorships
- 224 • Mayor Ortega spoke with the Forest Ranger, waiting on approval to re-open Eagle Rock Lake. The
- 225 Village of Questa was awarded the Map grant for Embargo Road. The grant awarded was for \$440,000
- 226 and the Village has a \$107,000 match. Mayor Ortega toured a movie producer for a possible movie in
- 227 Questa.

228

229 **XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

230 Pastor Gayle and Peter placed a blessing among the staff and attendees.

231

232 There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:26 pm.

233

234 ATTEST:

235

236

237

238

Valerie Vigil
Valerie Vigil, Clerk



APPROVED:

John Anthony Ortega
John Anthony Ortega, Mayor