

1
2 **VILLAGE OF QUESTA**
3 **REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**
4 **TUESDAY, AUGUST 23, 2022**
5 **VILLAGE OF QUESTA COUNCIL CHAMBERS**
6 **6:00PM**

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

9 Mayor John Anthony Ortega called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.
10

11
12 **II. ROLL CALL**

13 Valerie Vigil, Clerk 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 Councilman Brent Jaramillo
20

21 **Governing Body Absent**

22 Councilwoman Louise Gallegos
23

24 **Others present were:**

25 Karen Quintana Shannon, Finance Director
26 Chris DeFillippo, Village Attorney
27 Michael Rael, Honorable Village Judge
28 Elizabeth Roberts, Front Desk
29 Sharon Nicholson, Library Director
30 Ronald G. Montez Jr. Police Chief
31 Madeline Montez
32 Marcus Montez
33 Alexis Folsom
34 Antonio Montez
35 Ronald Montez Sr.
36 Christina Montez
37 Jose Lovato, QISD
38 Maggie
39 Gloria Anglada
40 Lito Anglada
41 Lynn Skall
42 Jacob Montez
43 Erika Rael
44 Sheriff Deputy Rael
45 Vaughn Dearing
46 Marcos Herrera
47

48 **Those present virtually were:**

49 Dylan Crabb, Del Rio Newspaper
50
51

52 **III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

53 Jason Gonzalez = led the pledge

54

55 **IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

56

57 **Motion:** Councilwoman Katrina Gonzales

58 **Second:** Councilman Jason Gonzalez

59

60 **V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

61

- 62 • Regular Council Meeting August 9, 2022

63

64 **Motion:** Councilman Jason Gonzalez

65 **Second:** Councilwoman Katrina Gonzales

66

- 67 • Special Council Meeting August 16, 2022

68

69 **Motion:** Councilman Brent Jaramillo

70 **Second:** Councilman Jason Gonzalez

71

72 Motion to approve the minutes as presented. Majority voted yes. Motion carried.

73

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

77 Public Comment open at 06:05 pm Ended at 06:06 pm

78

79 No one for public comment

80

81 **VII. ACTION ITEM**

82

83 A) Discussion, Consideration, & Decision- Petition to Annex Village of Questa Property; Old Airport and
84 Livestock Corrals. Mayor Ortega presented to annex the Old Airport and the Livestock Corrals as the
85 Village has applied for a grant for economic development. Mr. DeFillippo, Village Attorney stated the
86 process as the most likely to use is to petition. The petition will have to come from the Village to the
87 Village Council for annexation including the amount of the property that will annexed to file with the
88 County Clerk. The petition will have to be an ordinance. It is about 100 acres of property. Mayor Ortega
89 clarified the Village will not annex any private property, only Village Property. Plans for these
90 properties are to help with the economic impact in the Village of Questa. Motion to draft a petition for
91 annexation.

92

93 **Motion:** Councilman Brent Jaramillo

94 **Second:** Councilwoman Katrina Gonzales

95

96 **Roll Call:**

97 Councilman Brent Jaramillo YES

98 Councilman Jason Gonzalez YES

99 Councilwoman Katrina Gonzales YES

100

101

102

103 **VI. OATH OF OFFICE**

104
105 A) Village of Questa Police Chief, Ronald G. Montez Jr.; Honorable Judge Michael Rael issued the Oath
106 of Office to the new Chief of Police for the Village of Questa. Congratulations Chief Montez!

107
108
109 **IX. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

110
111 A) Placement/Relocation of Questa Welcome Sign; Lynn Skall QEDF Director presented the NMDOT
112 approved the highway sign coming from Red River. Ms. Skall presented a map indicating the exact
113 placement that is being proposed. There is an additional sign that is located in front of Jeanie Masters
114 property, which has been stated that they do not like the placement. It was suggested that it be placed further
115 "up", and the resident declined having the sign placed at that location. Ms. Skall stated that she would be
116 happy to walk the road with Mayor Ortega to find a good location for the sign placement and the cost will
117 fall on the Village. Ms. Skall also presented September 3, 2022, there is an Acequia concert and October 2,
118 2022 is the date scheduled for Cambalache. It was also suggested that the Alumbra and Light Parade be
119 combined for more growth and promotion.

120 B) Water Well, QISD and Chris DeFillippo; Questa Independent School District (Jose Lovato) presented
121 on the issues that have continued with the water well located on QISD property. The main concern is how
122 to correctly and properly go about the check in process for the school while the Village monitors the Well.
123 It was discussed with the previous administration that the Village would build a fence to help out the safety
124 issue from children going to the well and ditching class or getting hurt. There has been discussion of the
125 property being donated to the Village, there is some hesitancy at this time and further discussion will have
126 to be done. QISD board suggested that the Village employees that need to check the Well on a daily basis,
127 check in at the main school office to ensure not only their safety but the safety of the students. The Mayor
128 and QISD agreed that they would work together to make a plan that works for both entities. The Village
129 also agreed to build the fence by the football field to enclose the well and fix the road as well.

130 C) FY 2023 ARPA Expenditures; Mrs. Karen Quintana Shannon presented on the ARPA report that she
131 included in the Council packet. \$214,350.50 will be given to the Village and \$20,428.50 will be going back
132 to the general fund for having to use some ARPA funds last year for the purchase of fire truck. \$193,922.00
133 is the amount left over, Mrs. Quintana Shannon is asking for guidance on how this leftover ARPA monies
134 should be allocated. She stated there is an invoice from QEDF for NM True Campaign \$9213.00 for
135 Economic Development that she suggested to pay with ARPA. Non-Violence Works and Vida Del Norte
136 Coalition were also awarded \$5,000.00 each but never received an invoice for it. She suggested money for
137 Shirley Road and a grant match. Councilor Jaramillo suggested using it for the build of the new fencing for
138 the Well Fencing at the Football Field. Mayor Ortega suggested new Police Vehicles. It was decided to
139 think about the monies and next meeting will be the decisions to allocate the money.

140
141
142 **X. MATTERS FROM VILLAGE ATTORNEY**

143 Chris DeFilippo presented on the sewer and well projects for the Village of Questa. Projects are moving
144 along.

145
146
147 **XII. MATTERS FROM THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS**

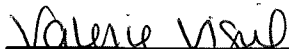
148 Councilor Jaramillo asked about the start date for the Audit Process. Mrs. Karen Quintana Shannon replied
149 by stating the Audit will begin in October and the Village Staff has started preparing for he Audit. Mayor
150 Ortega presented on the dedication for the late Senator Cisneros on September 1, 2022 at 11am, location
151 TBD; dedicating Highway 522. A possible quorum will be posted. Councilor Gonzalez spoke on the
152 community watch meeting and the information that he learned about the Fentanyl usage in NM. "One Pill
153 Will Kill"

154
155
156
157
158
159
160
161
162
163
164
165
166
167
168
169

XII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.

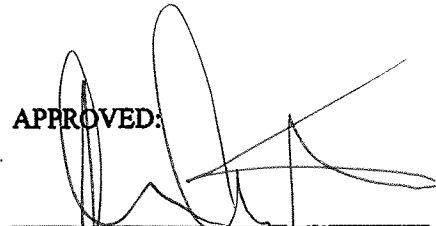
ATTEST:



Valerie Vigil, Clerk



APPROVED:



John Anthony Ortega, Mayor