

**Minutes
Regular Meeting
February 9th, 2021**

The Village of Capitan Board of Trustees met in a Regular Meeting via Skype and in Person on Tuesday, February 9th, 2021 at the Village Hall in Capitan, New Mexico at 4:30 PM.

Mayor Lowrance asked for a moment of silence and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Lowrance called the meeting to order at 4:34 PM.

Roll Call: Mayor Lowrance – present, Trustee Kearns – present, Trustee Shearer – present, Trustee McInnes – present, Trustee Johnson – present, Stephanie Bason – Village Clerk, Grace Centrella – Finance Officer, J. Leineweber – Administrative Assistant and Steve Osborn – Water Utilities Supervisor were also present. A list of others in attendance is attached.

Item #1 on the Agenda: Approval of the Agenda.

Trustee McInnes made a motion to Approve the Agenda. Trustee Shearer seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion carried.

Item #2 on the Agenda: Public Input. (Agenda Items Only).

No Public Comments

Item #3 on the Agenda: Mayor and Trustee Comments.

Trustee Johnson had no comments at this time.

Trustee Shearer said she was so glad to see the Financials, “the 2nd Quarter looks really good, good work guys.”

Trustee McInnes said he concurs with Trustee Shearer’s assessment.

Trustee Kearns had no comments at this time.

Mayor Lowrance said that he’ll save his comments for Item #9 New Business down at the bottom of the Agenda.

Item #4 on the Agenda: Consent Agenda.

Trustee McInnes made a motion to Approve the Consent Agenda. Trustee Shearer seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion carried.

Item #5 on the Agenda: Discussion/Action – Approval of Bills Paid for January 2021.

Trustee Shearer made a motion for the Approval of Bills Paid for January 2021. Trustee McInnes seconded the motion. Discussion: Trustee McInnes asked if there was any idea when the Village would be reimbursed for the payment for the Train Depot? Stephanie replied that they had planned on working on the reimbursements today but that Angela was not able to come in today. A protocol has been set up and when Angela gets back she and Grace will work together to get the requests out for reimbursement and track them. The Mayor said that it took three and a half months to get paid from December. All were in favor, the motion carried.

Item # 6 on the Agenda: Discussion/Action - Approval of Resolution 2021-02 – Participation in Municipal General Member Coverage Plan 1 (PERA).

Trustee Kearns made a motion to Approve Resolution 2021-02 – Participation in Municipal General Member Coverage Plan 1 (PERA). Trustee McInnes said his only concern was that the Resolution isn't specific to the Police Department. Stephanie explained that this so the Animal Control/Code Enforcement Officer will be able to participate in PERA. Danielle, who is currently in that position is not a Certified Police Officer and is not allowed to participate in the current plan that the Police Officers participate in.

Trustee Shearer confirmed that the Resolution before the Trustees, the language, was provided by the Public Employee Retirement Association (PERA) it's their document and the Village shouldn't change it. Trustee McInnes observed that the language is "blanket" and he doesn't want an employee other than the Animal Control/Code Enforcement Officer to be able to request the PERA plan with the passing of this Resolution instead of the 457b plan that was approved for the other employees. Stephanie said that there are two employees with the Village that have paid for many years already into the PERA plan and may want to continue to participate in PERA and that the issue needs to be discussed. The Mayor said the issue can be discussed but not acted on at this time.

Trustees Shearer and Trustee McInnes repeated their concerns that approving this Resolution as is would open the door for employees other than Police Department Employees to be allowed to participate in this PERA plan. Trustee Shearer said it should be clearer in the motion that the Resolution only pertains to the Police Department. It was decided to be clear in the Motion and then seek legal counsel to be sure that the Motion is sufficient to limit participation to the Police Department or does the Resolution need to be amended and if so it could be addressed at next month's meeting.

Trustee Shearer made a substitute motion to Approve Resolution 2021-02 – Participation in Municipal General Member Coverage Plan 1 (PERA) with the stipulation that the Resolution and participation in the Plan is limited to Police Department Employees only and that the Village will have the Resolution and the Motion reviewed by the Village's Legal Counsel to be sure that the Motion is sufficient to limit participation to Police Department Employees or does the Resolution need to be amended and if so it could be addressed at next month's meeting. Trustee McInnes seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Trustee Kearns – yes, Trustee Shearer – yes, Trustee McInnes – yes, Trustee Johnson – yes.

Item # 7 on the Agenda: Discussion/Action – Approval of Application for Permit for Portable Building and 4 Covered RV Parking Spaces at 214 W Smokey Bear Blvd – Silvia and Robert Minnix.

Trustee McInnes made a motion to Approve Application for Permit for Portable Building and 4 Covered RV Parking Spaces at 214 W Smokey Bear Blvd – Silvia and Robert Minnix. Trustee Shearer seconded the motion. Trustee McInnes expressed his appreciation of the Village's Planning Board and the fact that they do this on a volunteer basis and that they do a very thorough job, "it means the world to him".

Roll Call: Trustee Kearns – yes, Trustee Shearer – yes, Trustee McInnes – yes, Trustee Johnson – yes.

Item #8 on the Agenda: Discussion/Action – Old Business Projects and Funding.

None

Item #9 on the Agenda: Discussion/Action – New Business Projects and Funding.

The Mayor advised the Board that President Biden “has allocated” that by next year all Federal Government vehicles are to be electric. The Mayor said that the Village would also be changing its fleet of vehicles to electric. He said that Greentree has plans to put Charging Stations where owners of electric vehicles can pay to charge their vehicles in Hondo, Ruidoso Downs, Tularosa, Ruidoso, one in Carrizozo but not in Capitan. The owner of the grocery store in Clayton installed a Charging Station at a cost of \$17K. The Mayor is going to talk to him for more details, but the Mayor was wondering if it would be a good idea to have a Charging Station here in Capitan. He’s asking the Trustees to think about it and do their own research on it as it could be revenue for the Village. Funding will have to be researched as well. Trustee Shearer said the Co-op (electric) has one in Carrizozo already. The Mayor just wanted to get the Trustees thinking about having one in Capitan as it would be a revenue generator. The Mayor advised the Board that he asked the Department Heads to review the Village Ordinances and discover where changes should be made. They are meeting at 10:am on Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at Village Hall and the Trustees are invited to attend. He needs to know who would be interested in attending so a Quorum Notice can be posted in time if necessary. Trustee Shearer suggested that the surveyor who provides most of the surveys for residents with Building Permit Applications should be contacted for input and some public input would be good also.

The Mayor also advised the Trustees that the Village received a Contract Change Order for Ferguson Construction and they have been given a copy. It is a decrease in the amount of the Contract. Trustee Shearer asked if the project was almost complete. Mayor Lowrance advised the Board that the State had pushed the project back about a month and a half due to requiring additional paperwork.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no discussion regarding Correspondence.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Lowrance Adjourned the meeting at 4:59 P.M.



Ron Lowrance, Mayor, Village of Capitan

Attest:



Stephanie Bason, Village Clerk

4:30 PM

[illegible]