



**TOWN OF TAOS, NEW MEXICO  
RESOLUTION 08-68**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF TAOS PROVIDING ELECTED OFFICIALS A  
STIPEND TO HELP DEFRAY COST OF MAKING OFFICIAL BUSINESS CALLS ON  
PERSONAL CELL PHONE**

**Whereas**, The Town of Taos recognizes a need to provide Elected Officials with a stipend to help defray the cost incurred when they conduct Town of Taos business using their personal cell phones; and

**Whereas**, Each Elected Official, at their option, will be eligible to receive a bi-weekly allowance in their paycheck to offset a portion of the expense of a personal cell phone. This allowance will be subject to payroll taxes and will be included in the annual wage. The cell phone each Elected Official uses will be their personal property, billed to their home address and they will be responsible for the monthly bill; and

**Whereas**, Elected Officials will be allowed to make and receive personal calls on the cell phone they use in the course of their work duties. The allowance plan is not designed to cover the full cost of a cell phone but rather to defray costs of the using a personal cell phone for official Town business; and

**Whereas**, occasionally, an Elected Official may incur excessive roaming charges while conducting Town of Taos business. The Town will reimburse above the monthly stipend amount, and the Elected Official must present documentation of all excessive charges in order to receive reimbursement for such excessive charges, which must also be approved by the Town Manager; and

**Whereas**, telephones and accessories for cellular service will be purchased by the Elected Official and will remain their personal property; and

**Whereas**, the Town Manager will authorize a Cell Phone Stipend Authorization Form for each Elected Official to sign. A copy of the service contract for the personal cell phone to be used must be attached to the authorization form. A completed form is to be forwarded to the Finance Department for payroll processing and to the Human Resources department for filing; and

**Whereas**, an Elected Official who experiences any interruption in service on his or her personal cell phone will so notify the Town Manager, who also has the right to verify continued service; and

**Whereas**, The bi-weekly allowance will continue until such time as the Town Manager initiates an action to discontinue the allowance, or the Council by resolution rescinds this Resolution, or the elected term of the official ends;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Council of the Town of Taos hereby adopts the foregoing policy providing for a stipend to offset costs of Elected Officials using a personal cell phone for official Town business, the bi-weekly allowance amount for each Elected Official to be set by the Town Manager and reviewed annually. Effective October 21, 2008, the bi-weekly allowance will be \$25.00.

**PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED THIS 21<sup>th</sup> DAY OF OCTOBER, 2008 BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:**

Councilmember Darren M. Cordova	<u>yes</u>
Councilmember Rudy C. Abeyta	<u>yes</u>
Councilmember A. Eugene Sanchez	<u>yes</u>
Councilmember Amy Quintana	<u>yes</u>

**TOWN OF TAOS**

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**Bobby F. Duran, Mayor**

**ATTEST:**

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**Renee Lucero, Town Clerk**

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

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**Allen Ferguson, Town Attorney**