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**Special Meeting  
Taos Town Council  
Town Council Chambers  
120 Civic Plaza Drive  
Taos, New Mexico  
March 27, 2008  
2:30 p.m.**

**MINUTES**

**1. CALL TO ORDER:** The Special Meeting of the Taos Town Council was called to order by the **Honorable Mayor Bobby F. Duran** at **2:30 pm**.

**2. ROLL CALL:** Ms. Renee Lucero, Town Clerk called roll and a quorum was present.

Those present were **Mayor Bobby F. Duran, Councilmembers Darren Cordova, Rudy Abeyta, Eugene Sanchez and Amy J. Quintana**. Also present were **Interim Town Manager Abigail Adame, Town Attorney Renee Barela Gutierrez and Town Clerk Renee Lucero**.

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Councilmember Cordova led the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**ADD Item 5.A Presentation by Marty Remaly and Norman Cutliff regarding making Taos the Ultimate Sports Destination.**

**ADD Item 5.B Discussion regarding Griffin and Associates.**

**ADD Item 5.C Discussion regarding Little league.**

**ADD Item 5.D Discussion regarding Affordable Housing.**

**ADD under Executive Session Limited item E) personnel matters regarding the Public Relations Director and F) Pending Litigation regarding the Abeyta Adjudication.**

**Remove item 10 – Possible action to be taken regarding Interim Assistant Town Manager**

**Councilmember Abeyta** made a motion to approve the Agenda as Amended. **Councilmember Quintana** seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**5. A.** Presentation by Marty Remaly and Norman Cutliff regarding making Taos the Ultimate Sports Destination.

1 Norman Cutliff explained to the Council that they are not here to ask for money.  
2 They can find people willing to invest. They are asking for the Council's political  
3 standing and networking to make this a reality.  
4

5 **B. Discussion regarding Griffin & Associates.**

6 **Councilmember Sanchez** stated that he's received questions from the public  
7 regarding Griffin Associates and would like issues cleared up.  
8

9 **Councilmember Cordova** stated that Griffin & Associates has had several open  
10 meetings in the past. They do periodic outreach.  
11

12 **Cathy Connelly, Public Relations Coordinator**, stated that they do quarterly  
13 mass meetings. Meetings are advertised through the media. The next meeting  
14 with the Council is being scheduled for April 10, 2008.  
15

16 **C. Discussion regarding Little League.**

17 **Councilmember Sanchez** asked how the \$45,000 legislative award is being  
18 spent.  
19

20 **Marietta Fambro, Finance Director**, stated that staff is working on finding out  
21 how to spend the funding. The grant is specifically made out for the Little  
22 League.  
23

24 **D. Discussion regarding Affordable Housing.**

25 **Councilmember Cordova** handed out a letter dated March 10, 2008 to Tomas  
26 Benavidez from Scott Sanger in regards to Scott Sanger's Office providing legal  
27 services in connection with the affordable housing program. Councilmember  
28 Cordova stated that he wants the legal department to start working on this issue of  
29 Affordable Housing arising from a legal perspective. Councilmember Cordova  
30 stated he wanted the legal department to address the issue of the contract to find  
31 out what issues could be handled by our legal staff and what needs to be  
32 contracted out.  
33

34 **Renee Barela-Gutierrez, Town Attorney**, stated that she was not aware of  
35 another attorney being contracted out for affordable housing until Monday, March  
36 24. She wants to be allowed to go through Exhibit A and modify it.  
37

38 The Council asked Abigail to evaluate the situation and have it resolved.  
39  
40

41 **6. MATTERS FROM STAFF**

42 **A. Francisco "French" Espinoza, Public Works Director**

43 Approval to abandon roadway easement and retain utility easement on portion of  
44 Simpson Street.  
45

1           **Councilmember Cordova** made a motion to approve the item as presented.  
2           **Councilmember Abeyta** seconded the motion. The motion was approved by an  
3 affirmative vote. Those voting **AYE** were: **Councilmembers Cordova, Abeyta,**  
4 **Sanchez and Quintana**

5

6           **B. Renee Barela-Gutierrez, Town Attorney**

7           Discussion regarding the hiring process of Town Manager.

8

9           Mayor and Council directed the Human Resources Director to do a national  
10 search for the Town Manager position.

11

12           **7. MATTERS FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

13           **A.** Review and discussion regarding the Town Council's Vision Statement, Values,  
14 Priority Goals.

15

16           This will be discussed at a Special Meeting on April 3, 2008.

17

18           **B.** Discussion regarding scheduling of Annual Budget Retreat.

19

20           Departments will be allowed 30 minutes each to present their budgets to the  
21 Council.

22

23           **C.** Review and discussion regarding Town Council Setaside Budget.

24

25           **Cathy Connelly, Public Relations Coordinator,** gave a handout that showed  
26 how funds can be reallocated to promote Taos.

27

28           In an effort to cut expenses, each Councilmember stated that they would attend up  
29 to two out of state conferences.

30

31           **8. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

32           **Councilmember Abeyta made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss**  
33 **the following: A) possible acquisition of property; B) limited personnel matters**  
34 **regarding Interim Assistant Town Manager; C) limited personnel matters**  
35 **regarding the Planning and Zoning Director; D) limited personnel matters**  
36 **regarding a complaint of an employee in the Transit department; E) limited**  
37 **personnel matters regarding Public Relations Director; and F) pending litigation**  
38 **regarding Abeyta Adjudication. Pursuant to NMSA 1978 10-15-1-H.2.7. and 8..**

39

40           **Councilmember Quintana seconded the motion. The motion was confirmed by**  
41 **an affirmative vote. Those voting AYE were: Councilmembers Cordova,**  
42 **Abeyta, Sanchez and Quintana.**

43

44           **At 6:40 p.m., Councilmember Quintana made a motion to come out of Executive**  
45 **Session and stated that discussion in the Executive Session was limited to the**  
46 **item as it was called for. Councilmember Cordova seconded the motion. The**

1 motion was confirmed by an affirmative vote. Those voting AYE were:  
2 Councilmembers Cordova, Abeyta, Sanchez and Quintana.

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5 **9. Possible action to be taken regarding acquisition of property.**

6

7 Councilmember Abeyta made a motion to table the item. Councilmember  
8 Cordova seconded the motion. The motion was approved by an affirmative vote.  
9 Those voting AYE were: Councilmembers Cordova, Abeyta and Sanchez.  
10 (Councilmember Quintana was absent from vote)

11

12 **10. Possible approval of Resolution 08-18 – Budget Adjustment Request regarding**  
13 **acquisition of property.**

14

15 Councilmember Abeyta made a motion to table the item. Councilmember Sanchez  
16 seconded the motion. The motion was approved by an affirmative vote. Those  
17 voting AYE were: Councilmembers Cordova, Abeyta, and Sanchez.  
18 (Councilmember Quintana was absent from vote)

19

20 **11. Possible action to be taken regarding appointment of Planning and Zoning**  
21 **Director.**

22

23 Councilmember Sanchez made a motion to accept the Mayor’s recommendation to  
24 hire Allen Vigil as the Planning and Zoning Director. Councilmember Cordova  
25 seconded the motion. The motion was approved by an affirmative vote. Those  
26 voting AYE were: Councilmembers Cordova, Abeyta, Sanchez and Quintana.

27

28 **12. ADJOURNMENT:** A motion was made by Councilmember Abeyta and seconded  
29 by Councilmember Sanchez to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried  
30 unanimously and the meeting adjourned at **6:52 p.m.**

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34 **APPROVED:**

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38 **Bobby F. Duran Mayor**

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40

41 **ATTEST:**

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44 \_\_\_\_\_  
45 **Renee Lucero, Town Clerk**