

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13

**MINUTES  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**Taos Town Council  
Town Council Chambers  
120 Civic Plaza Drive  
Taos, New Mexico**

**January 20, 2009**

**2:30 p.m.**

*(Time changed from 9:30 a.m.)*

14 **1. CALL TO ORDER: The Regular Meeting of the Taos Town Council was called**  
15 **to order by the Honorable Mayor Darren M. Cordova at 2:33 p.m.**

16  
17 **2. ROLL CALL: Ms. Renee Lucero, Town Clerk, called roll and a quorum was**  
18 **present.**

19  
20 **Those present were:**

21 Mayor                      Darren M. Cordova  
22 Mayor Pro Tem           Rudy C. Abeyta  
23 Councilmember           A. Eugene Sanchez  
24 Councilmember           Amy J. Quintana  
25 Councilmember           Michael A. Silva

26  
27 **Also present were:**

28 Town Manager            Daniel Miera  
29 Asst. Town Manager      Abigail Adame  
30 Town Clerk                Renee Lucero

31  
32 **Absent was:**

33 Town Attorney            Allen Ferguson

34  
35 **3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Councilmember Sanchez led the audience in the**  
36 **pledge of allegiance.**

37  
38 **4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

39 **ADD to Agenda under Item 6.B. minutes of December 23, 2008 Town Council**  
40 **Meeting.**

41  
42 **DELETE Item 11.a. - Approval of Resolution 09-01 – Open Meetings Act.**  
43  
44  
45

1 **Mayor Pro Tem Abeyta made a motion to approve the Agenda as amended.**  
2 **Councilmember Quintana seconded the motion. The motion carried**  
3 **unanimously.**  
4

5 **5. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

6 **Allen Ferguson, Town Attorney**

7 Public Hearing: The purpose of the hearing is to consider the following matter: In the  
8 Matter of the Dedication Agreement between Town of Taos and David Sperry dated  
9 August 2, 2006.

10  
11 Town Manager, Daniel Miera, recommended tabling this item until further notice.  
12 He informed the Council that, although today's meeting time was changed, Mr.  
13 Sperry had been notified and was not present in the audience for this hearing.  
14

15 Mayor Pro Tem Abeyta stated this hearing will be scheduled for the third time and  
16 Mr. Sperry should try to make every effort to attend the next scheduled meeting.  
17

18 **Councilmember Quintana made a motion to table the item. Mayor Pro Tem**  
19 **Abeyta seconded the motion. The motion was approved by an affirmative vote.**  
20 **Those voting AYE were: Mayor Pro Tem Abeyta and Councilmembers**  
21 **Sanchez, Quintana and Silva.**  
22

23 **6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**  
24

25 **A. Regular Meeting**

26 *December 17, 2008*

27 Page 1, line 11, change "9:30 a.m." to "1:30 p.m."

28 Page 3, line 33, change "Albrecht" to "Albright".

29 Page 5, line 35 and 36 change "2008" to "2009".  
30

31 **Councilmember Quintana made a motion to approve the Minutes of**  
32 **December 17, 2008 Regular Meeting. Councilmember Sanchez seconded the**  
33 **motion. The motion carried unanimously.**  
34

35 **B. Special Meetings**  
36

37 *December 23, 2008*

38 **Mayor Pro Tem Abeyta made a motion to approve the Minutes of the**  
39 **December 23, 2008 Special Meeting. Councilmember Silva seconded the**  
40 **motion. The motion carried unanimously.**  
41

42 *January 2, 2009*

43 Page 1, line 23, remove "Councilmember Michael A. Silva"  
44

1 **Mayor Pro Tem Abeyta made a motion to approve the Minutes of the**  
2 **January 2, 2009 Special Meeting. Councilmember Quintana seconded the**  
3 **motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

4  
5 *January 5, 2009*

6 **Councilmember Quintana made a motion to approve the Minutes of the**  
7 **January 5, 2009 Special Meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Abeyta seconded the**  
8 **motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

9  
10 *January 6, 2009*

11 **Mayor Pro Tem Abeyta made a motion to approve the Minutes of the**  
12 **January 6, 2009 Special Meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Abeyta seconded the**  
13 **motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

14  
15 **7. AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS:**

16 **A. Employee Appointments and Promotions**

17 **Ms. Loretta Trujillo, Human Resources Director presented the following:**

18  
19 **NEW HIRES:**

20 Francine Suazo	Marilyn S. Welch
21 Transit Superintendent	Transit Operator II
22 Temporary employee	Full time employee
23 Transportation Dept.	Transportation Dept.
24 Effective: 12/05/2008	Effective: 12/08/2008
25	
26 Dolores Lucero	Lori L. Tameler-Estep
27 Accounts Payable Administrator	Lifeguard II
28 Full time employee	Full time employee
29 Finance Dept.	Recreation Dept/Pool Division
30 Effective: 12/15/2008	Effective 12/15/2008

31  
32 **SEPARATIONS:**

33 David Mondragon	Bella Rodriguez
34 Communications Equipment Operator	Human Resources Assistant
35 Communications Department	Human Resources Dept.
36 Effective: 12/12/2008	Effective: 12/12/2008

37  
38 **PROMOTIONS:**

39 John Thompson  
40 from Benefits Administrator  
41 to Human Resources Specialist  
42 Effective: 12/22/2008

43  
44 **8. Citizens Forum:**

45 **A. Tonya Moreno, Community Against Violence, update on RFP funding**  
46 **received.**

1  
2 Ms. Moreno stated the funding received was used to support the PODER project  
3 which provided services to over 334 youth (ages 12-21) via 51 educational  
4 sessions throughout the community. Ms. Moreno thanked Mayor and Council for  
5 their support.  
6

7 **B. Hank Saxe**

8  
9 Mr. Saxe came forward and explained the history of the David Sperry property.  
10 He stated he is concerned about future use of the property and asked Mayor and  
11 Council to take into consideration there is an arroyo on the Sperry property which  
12 has been encroached upon by growth. He asked that stipulations concerning the  
13 arroyo be included in future agreements.  
14

15 **9. CONSENT AGENDA**

16 **The Mayor presented the following consent agenda to the Council. He read each**  
17 **item on the agenda and advised the Council they could request any item be**  
18 **removed from the consent agenda if they desired to discuss such item:**

19 **A. Francella Garcia, Grants Administrator/Marietta Fambro, Finance Director**

- 20 1. Request for consideration and approval of Fiscal Agent Sponsor Application  
21 from Ancianos, Inc. Ancianos was awarded \$4,600 from the New Mexico  
22 Aging and Long-Term Service Department for the emergency purchase and  
23 installation of a water heater at the Phil Lovato Senior Center. No match is  
24 required.  
25 2. Approval and acceptance of 2008/2009 New Mexico Aging and Long-Term  
26 Service Department Grant Agreement No. 2009-009 in the amount of \$4,600  
27 for the emergency purchase and installation of a water heater at the Phil  
28 Lovato Senior Center. The Town of Taos will act as the Fiscal Agent on  
29 behalf of Ancianos.  
30 3. Approval of Resolution 09-04 Budget Adjustment Request:  
31 ● Community Grants Fund (30) - Increase revenues and expenditures in the  
32 amount of \$4,600 for a Grant received from NM Aging & Long Term  
33 Services Department for the emergency purchase and installation of a  
34 water heater at the Phil Lovato Senior Center;  
35 ● Capital Improvements Fund (51) - a. Increase Interfund Transfer Out for  
36 \$96,370 and b. Decrease Airport Substation for \$96,370 to allow this  
37 transfer for the Marketing & Advertising budget. This money will be  
38 replaced prior to the end of fiscal year to the New Bays to House Mobile  
39 Command at Station 2 project; and  
40 ● Lodger's Tax Promotional Fund (24) - a. Increase Interfund Transfer In for  
41 \$96,370 and increase Other Contractual Services (24-17) to cover Contract  
42 Amendment #5 to Griffin & Associates for Marketing & Advertising as a  
43 council priority.  
44 4. Request for consideration and approval of Fiscal Agent Sponsor Application  
45 from the Taos Community Foundation for an after school program to provide  
46 assistance to students and schools in Taos County.

- 1 5. Authorization to request additional grant funds in the amount of \$92,506 from  
2 the New Mexico Recreational Trails Program for the completion of the  
3 Weimer/Maestas Trail. The Town of Taos will provide a 20% match in the  
4 amount of \$23,127 which will be in the form of in kind-services.
- 5 6. Approval and acceptance of Amendment No. 2 for extension of time from the  
6 State of New Mexico Department and Administration Local Government  
7 Division for the 2007 CDBG Planning Grant No. 07-C-NR-I-06-G-56 with  
8 regards to the High Performance Building Ordinance. The agreement was  
9 originally to mature November 1, 2008. Amendment No. 1 extended the  
10 contract to January 1, 2009, etc. The proposed amendment will extend the  
11 maturity date to April 30th, 2009 to allow for time to approve and adopt a  
12 High Performance Building Ordinance.
- 13 7. Recommendation to enter into a contract with Xerox through Aspen Business  
14 Systems, Inc. to lease 7 copiers which consist of 3-WC5645P (Planning-  
15 \$565.48, Executive-\$420.58 & Utility Depts-\$387.01); (1-WC7655P  
16 (Finance- \$1,244.41-Lease is in Existence); 1-WC7345P (Clerk-\$460.35); 2  
17 WC M20i (Legal-\$103.74 & HR-\$95.99). Lease Term is 48 Months in the  
18 amount of \$3,293.82 monthly. All pricing is in accordance with the State of  
19 New Mexico Master Lease SPD# 50-00056. A full service maintenance  
20 agreement includes stated copies per month as well as parts, labor and copy  
21 cartridge supplies.

22 **B. Allen Vigil, Chief Planner**

- 23 1. Approval of Resolution 09-05 setting forth the Town's policy to implement  
24 the grant stipulations for the Dark Skies Project with a Legislative grant of  
25 \$50,000 (Night Sky Protection). Resolution required under grant agreement  
26 with Department of Transportation. Planning Department has initiated  
27 negotiations with Kit Carson Electric Cooperative to install Dark Sky-  
28 compliant lighting on Town streets.
- 29 2. Approval of Contract Agreement TT-09-231 between Town of Taos and Kit  
30 Carson Coop to provide for the purchase, installation, and maintenance of  
31 streetlights which are compliant with the Town's Night Sky protection  
32 Ordinance on Town Streets.

33  
34  
35 Councilmember Sanchez asked that item 9.A.7. be removed for further discussion.

36  
37 **Mayor Pro Tem Abeyta made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as**  
38 **amended. Councilmember Sanchez seconded the motion. The motion was**  
39 **approved by an affirmative vote. Those voting AYE were: Mayor Pro Tem**  
40 **Abeyta and Councilmembers Sanchez, Quintana and Silva.**

41  
42 Councilmember Sanchez asked if Aspen Business Systems, Inc. is a local distributor.

43  
44 Marietta Fambro, Finance Director, stated Aspen Business Systems, Inc. is a local  
45 distributor through Xerox.

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

5  
6 **10. MATTERS FROM STAFF**

7 **A. Mark Fratrack, Airport Manager**

8 Presentation by Dave Jones, Chief Pilot of New Mexico Airlines, regarding New  
9 Mexico Airlines' interest in serving Taos.

10  
11 Mark Fratrack, Airport Manager, stated New Mexico Airlines contacted him about  
12 one month ago because they are interested in serving this area.

13  
14 Mr. Jones gave a PowerPoint presentation to Mayor and Council describing New  
15 Mexico Airlines' proposed routing structure which includes Taos. New Mexico  
16 Airlines requests that the Town of Taos partner with them in providing the lease  
17 of an aircraft and they will incur the operating expenses.

18  
19 Councilmember Sanchez asked if New Mexico Airlines will provide the aircraft.  
20 Mr. Fratrack stated the Town of Taos will lease the aircraft for about \$15,000 per  
21 month. He further stated there is funding in the amount of \$200,000 (\$100,000  
22 from NM State Aviation and \$100,000 Town Match). The funding would provide  
23 enough for the Town to pay the lease for 13 months.

24  
25 Mayor Pro Tem Abeyta asked how many trips would be provided. Mr. Jones  
26 stated two daily trips - one in the morning and one in the evening. Mr. Jones  
27 further stated operating and maintenance costs would be provided by New  
28 Mexico Airlines.

29  
30 Mayor Pro Tem Abeyta asked what happens to the services after the \$200,000 has  
31 been exhausted. Mr. Fratrack stated at the end of 13 months the Town could go  
32 back and apply for more funding. Furthermore, Mr. Fratrack stated it is possible  
33 State Aviation would provide \$100,000 for the Town's \$100,000 match.

34  
35 Town Manager Miera reminded Mayor and Council this would become a yearly  
36 expense.

37  
38 Mayor Cordova asked Mr. Miera to analyze how this would affect the budget on a  
39 recurring basis.

40  
41 **B. Daniel Miera, Town Manager**

42 1. REORGANIZATION OF PLANNING & ZONING DEPARTMENT: As part  
43 of the Town Manager's reorganization plan, the Planning and Zoning  
44 Department is now the Community & Economic Development Department  
45 under the direction of Matthew Spriggs, Community & Economic  
46 Development Director. Planning & Zoning is now a division of the

1 Community & Economic Department, also under the direction of Matthew  
2 Spriggs. Also, three (3) positions have transferred from Planning Division into  
3 Buildings & Grounds Department/Building Safety Division, and one (1)  
4 position has transferred from the Planning Division into the Police  
5 Department.  
6

7 Mr. Miera discussed the reorganization of the Planning & Zoning Department  
8 and stated this item is for informational purposes and not for action.  
9

- 10 2. Approval of appointment of Code Administrator: Per Town of Taos Code  
11 16.12.010 Code Administrator; Subsection 1; Appointment - Appointment of  
12 Community & Economic Development Director as Code Administrator for  
13 the Town of Taos.  
14

15 Mr. Miera recommended appointing the Community & Economic  
16 Development Director as Code Administrator for the Town of Taos. Mayor  
17 Cordova stated the Land Use Development Code may need to be amended  
18 because he believes it states the Planning & Zoning Director shall be  
19 appointed Code Administrator.  
20

21 **Mayor Pro Tem Abeyta made a motion to approve the item as presented.**  
22 **Councilmember Silva seconded the motion. The motion was approved by**  
23 **an affirmative vote. Those voting AYE were: Mayor Pro Tem Abeyta**  
24 **and Councilmembers Sanchez, Quintana and Silva.**  
25

- 26 3. REORGANIZATION OF BUILDINGS DEPARTMENT: As part of the  
27 Town Manager's reorganization plan, the Buildings Department is now  
28 Buildings & Grounds Department under the direction of Manuel Pacheco,  
29 Buildings & Grounds Director/Chief Building Official. Building Safety is a  
30 new division of the Buildings & Grounds Department also under the direction  
31 of Manuel Pacheco. Also, three (3) positions have transferred into Buildings  
32 & Grounds Department/Building Safety Division. The positions transferred  
33 will be Building Official, Code Enforcement, and Permit Technician.  
34

35 Mr. Miera discussed the reorganization of the Buildings & Grounds  
36 Department and stated this item is for informational purposes and not for  
37 action.  
38

39 **C. Matthew Spriggs, Community & Economic Development Director**

40 Reorganization of the Planning and Zoning Department into the Community and  
41 Economic Development Department. Planning and Zoning will now be a division  
42 of the Department with a focus on administering the Land Use Development Code  
43 (LUDC), revising the LUDC, current planning, long range planning, providing  
44 GIS data and assisting the public with development-related needs and concerns.  
45

1 Matt Spriggs, Community & Economic Development Director, explained there  
2 will be several changes to the Department, including providing more user-friendly  
3 services. Mr. Spriggs explained the new process to Mayor and Council which  
4 will be easier on citizens and contractors. Furthermore, he would like to propose  
5 having two Planning & Zoning Commission Meetings each month rather than  
6 one.

7  
8 Mayor Pro Tem Abeyta thanked Mr. Spriggs and his staff for streamlining the  
9 process to improve services to the community.

10  
11 Mayor Cordova also thanked Mr. Spriggs and agrees that having two meetings  
12 each month will be more productive because current meetings last for several  
13 hours.

14  
15 **D. Amos Torres, Public Utilities Director**

- 16 1. Consideration and approval to allow Randy Hisey to connect to Town water  
17 and sewer lines. Randy Hisey's property is located on the northwest corner of  
18 the Este Es Rd. and Maestas Rd. intersection. The property is outside of Town  
19 of Taos Limits. Water and sewer main lines are within 300 feet of property  
20 line and owner will be responsible for all costs associated with the connection  
21 and all applicable fees.

22  
23 Mayor Pro Tem Abeyta suggested that Amos Torres, Public Utilities Director,  
24 ask the property owners to consider annexing their property since it is going to  
25 be annexed in the future anyway.

26  
27 **Councilmember Sanchez made a motion to approve the item as**  
28 **presented. Councilmember Quintana seconded the motion. The motion**  
29 **was approved by an affirmative vote. Those voting AYE were: Mayor**  
30 **Pro Tem Abeyta and Councilmembers Sanchez, Quintana and Silva.**

- 31  
32 2. Consideration and approval to allow George and Joyce Resh to connect to  
33 Town water system. Their property is located on south side of HWY 585 next  
34 to the 1/2 million gallon reservoir. The property is outside of Town of Taos  
35 Limits. Water main line is within 300 feet of property line and owner will be  
36 responsible for all costs associated with the connection and all applicable fees.

37  
38 There was a discussion on the warranty deed and the acreage of the land. The  
39 deed shows there is approximately 16 acres of land and Councilmembers  
40 expressed their concern about not knowing the plans for the property.

41  
42 Mark Yaravitz, agent for property owners, stated he knows of only three  
43 structures that will be built on the property. Mr. Miera recommended Mr.  
44 Yaravitz amend the application to include what the property will be used for.

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43  
44  
45

**Mayor Pro Tem Abeyta made a motion to table the item. Councilmember Quintana seconded the motion. The motion was approved by an affirmative vote. Those voting AYE were: Mayor Pro Tem Abeyta and Councilmembers Sanchez, Quintana and Silva.**

**E. Cathy Connelly, Public Relations Director**

Consideration and approval of Contract TT-09-234 - Amendment #5 for \$96,370 to increase the Taos Marketing Contract (original Contract # TT-08-148) with Griffin & Associates. 1) Original contract amount, that began in 2007-08 fiscal year, was for \$106,370; 07-08 Amendment #1 was for \$70,000. Total for 07-08 fiscal year equaled \$176,370, inclusive of GRT: 2) 08-09 Amendment #2 \$96,353; 08-09 Amendment #3 \$114,967; 08-09 Amendment #4 \$70,000. Including this Amendment #5, total 08-09 contract for marketing will total \$377,690, inclusive of GRT: 3) Including this Amendment, Griffin marketing contract for two fiscal years -- 2007-08 through 2008-09 -- will total \$554,060, inclusive of GRT.

**Councilmember Sanchez made a motion to approve the item as presented. Councilmember Quintana seconded the motion. The motion was approved by an affirmative vote. Those voting AYE were: Mayor Pro Tem Abeyta and Councilmembers Sanchez, Quintana and Silva.**

**11. MATTERS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER**

**A. Report from the Town Manager.**

Mr. Miera briefed Mayor and Council on the Animal Shelter Assessment and stated they've had difficulties scheduling the seminar because Mr. Arms is expecting a grandchild soon. Mr. Miera informed Mayor and Council the anticipated dates for the seminar are March 13 and 14.

Mayor Pro Tem Abeyta thanked Mr. Miera for his report. He stated he sent the Town Manager an email that contained twenty-one action items and of those items, at least eighteen were requested by constituents.

Mr. Miera stated he is working on addressing each item submitted by Mayor Pro Tem Abeyta.

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

**A. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Taos and the Taos Municipal School District regarding the intention of the two bodies to enter into a Joint Powers Agreement for the development of a multi-purpose athletic complex on the Taos Municipal School District's vacant twenty-six (26) acre property on Salazar Road. It also includes the intention for joint use of the School District's athletic fields by the Town and the general public.**

1 Mayor Cordova commended Councilmember Sanchez for meeting with the  
2 School Board and working on alternatives for the location of the proposed sports  
3 complex. He stated the Schools and Town were able to come to consensus and  
4 the Schools have agreed to allow the use of their land on Salazar road for soccer  
5 fields. He further explained the Town will find a funding mechanism through a  
6 loan to accomplish this.

7  
8 Mayor Cordova thanked staff members, volunteers in the community and the  
9 elected officials for their hard work and dedication in making the sports complex  
10 a reality.

11  
12 Mayor Pro Tem Abeyta informed the public that the School Board voted 5 to 0  
13 unanimously on approving this Memorandum of Understanding.

14  
15 Mayor Cordova stressed the importance of this historical moment and stated this  
16 is a great example of what two governing bodies can accomplish when they  
17 collaborate.

18  
19 **Councilmember Quintana made a motion to approve the item as presented.**  
20 **Councilmember Sanchez seconded the motion. The motion was approved by**  
21 **an affirmative vote. Those voting AYE were: Mayor Pro Tem Abeyta and**  
22 **Councilmembers Sanchez, Quintana and Silva.**

- 23  
24 **B.** Approval of Out of State Travel Request for Mayor and Town Manager to travel  
25 to Washington, DC, February 10 – 12, 2009 to discuss the Taos Regional Airport  
26 Environmental Impact Statement with Federal Aviation Administration  
27 representatives and New Mexico's United States congressional delegation. Travel  
28 will be based on maximum actual costs at \$215 plus applicable taxes for rooms.  
29 Estimated cost of travel is: \$2,249.24 (\$1,124.62 per person).

30  
31 **Councilmember Quintana made a motion to approve the item with flexible**  
32 **dates, depending on the availability of representatives of Federal Aviation**  
33 **Administration and the congressional delegation. Councilmember Sanchez**  
34 **seconded the motion. The motion was approved by an affirmative vote.**  
35 **Those voting AYE were: Mayor Pro Tem Abeyta and Councilmembers**  
36 **Sanchez, Quintana and Silva.**

- 37  
38 **C.** Mayor Pro Tem Abeyta stated that during President Obama's historical Inaugural  
39 Speech today, President Obama asked the citizens to unite and create one team to  
40 help fix the economy. He stated in a small town like Taos, everyone knows  
41 everyone and sometimes things are said that hurt people. He stated he feels since  
42 the Taos News started their online blog, Taos has become divided. He challenges  
43 the Taos News to take down the blog because it is destroying the fabric of Taos.  
44

1       **D.** Mayor Cordova stated he enjoyed conducting his first Regular Council Meeting  
2       as Mayor and is looking forward to running efficient Council meetings in the  
3       future.

4  
5       **13. ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Councilmember Silva and seconded**  
6       **by Councilmember Sanchez to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried**  
7       **unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 4:43 p.m.**

8  
9  
10      **APPROVED:**

11  
12  
13  
14      \_\_\_\_\_  
15      **Darren M. Cordova, Mayor**

16  
17      **ATTEST:**

18  
19  
20      \_\_\_\_\_  
21      **Renee Lucero, Town Clerk**

22  
23

*PLEASE NOTE: The Town of Taos records most Town Council Meetings via audio, however, only Regular Town Council Meetings and some Special Town Council Meetings, with controversial issues, are video recorded. Copies are available upon request at the Town Clerk's Office located at 400 Camino de la Placita (575-751-2005) at a fee of \$5.00 for audio recordings and \$25.00 for video recordings.*