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**MINUTES  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

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

**February 10, 2009  
1:30 p.m.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER: The Regular Meeting of the Taos Town Council was called to order by the Honorable Mayor Pro Tem Rudy C. Abeyta at 1:33 p.m.**

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

**Those present were:**

Mayor Pro Tem	Rudy C. Abeyta
Councilmember	A. Eugene Sanchez
Councilmember	Amy J. Quintana
Councilmember	Michael A. Silva

**Also present were:**

Asst. Town Manager	Abigail Adame
Town Clerk	Renee Lucero
Town Attorney	Allen Ferguson

**Absent was:**

Mayor	Darren M. Cordova
Town Manager	Daniel Miera

*(The Mayor and Town Manager were in Washington, DC meeting with the Federal Aviation Administration representatives and New Mexico's congressional delegation regarding the Taos Regional Airport's Environmental Impact Statement)*

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Assistant Town Manager, Abigail Adame, led the audience in the pledge of allegiance.**

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Under Item 9.C.1. change percentage that Chevron Mining will be billed from the Town from 60% to 50%.

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

1 **5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

2  
3 **A. Regular Meeting**  
4 *January 20, 2009*

5  
6 **Councilmember Silva made a motion to approve the Minutes of January 20,**  
7 **2009, Regular Meeting. Councilmember Quintana seconded the motion.**  
8 **The motion carried unanimously.**  
9

10 **B. Special Meetings**  
11 *January 27, 2009 (State of the Town)*

12  
13 **Councilmember Quintana made a motion to approve the Minutes of the**  
14 **January 27, 2009, Special Meeting. Councilmember Silva seconded the**  
15 **motion. The motion carried unanimously.**  
16

17 **6. AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS:**

18 **A. Employee Appointments and Promotions**

19 **Ms. Loretta Trujillo, Human Resources Director presented the following:**  
20

21 **NEW HIRES:**

22 Michael Lovato	Courtney Stringer	John Clough
23 Transit Operator II	Finance Assistant	Assistant Town Attorney
24 Temporary Employee	Full Time Employee	Full Time Employee
25 Transportation Dept.	Finance Department	Legal Division
26 Effective: 01/20/2009	Effective: 01/20/2009	Effective: 01/23/2009

27  
28 **7. Citizens Forum:**

29 **A. Jill Cline, Taos Entrepreneurial Network, Final Report for RFP.**  
30

31 Ms. Cline thanked Mayor Pro Tem and Council for their support and for realizing  
32 the importance of the goals of Taos Entrepreneurial Network. Ms. Cline  
33 explained how the funds were used.  
34

35 **8. CONSENT AGENDA**

36 **The Mayor Pro Tem presented the following consent agenda to the Council. He**  
37 **read each item on the agenda and advised the Council they could request any**  
38 **item be removed from the consent agenda if they desired to discuss such item:**

39 **A. Daron Syling, Chief of Police**

- |  |
|--|
| <p>40 1. Approval of Out of State Travel request for Detective Barry Holfelder to</p> <p>41 attend the Forensic Digital Infrared &amp; Ultraviolet Photography Lecture and</p> <p>42 Photography Workshop in Littleton, Colorado. The Lecture/Workshop is</p> <p>43 scheduled from February 23-27, 2009. The approximate cost is \$600 for dues</p> <p>44 and registration and approximately \$600 for Per Diem which will come out of</p> <p>45 the General fund - 11-14-42001 &amp; 42002.</p> |
|--|

1 2. Approval of Out of State Travel request for Sergeant David Trujillo and  
2 Lieutenant David Maggio to attend the Internal Affairs, Professional  
3 Standards and Ethics training in Plano, Texas. The training will be held April  
4 20-April 24, 2009. The approximate cost is \$1,290 for dues and registration  
5 and \$2,000 for per diem. The Law Enforcement Protection fund will cover the  
6 expense for this training - 26-14-42001 & 26-14-42002.

7 **B. Ron Yachinich, Convention Services Director**

8 Approval to enter into a 48 month service agreement with New Mexico  
9 Corrections Department, Corrections Industries Division to provide data entry,  
10 mail service and telephone response for the Taos Visitor Center from July 1,  
11 2009, to June 30, 2013. Total cost for fiscal year 2009 - 2010 @ \$579.63/month is  
12 \$6,955.56 plus postage. Total cost for fiscal year 2010 - 2011 @ \$597.02/month is  
13 \$7,164.24 plus postage. Total cost for fiscal year 2011 - 2012 @ \$614.93/month is  
14 \$7,379.16 plus postage. Total cost for fiscal year 2012 - 2013 @ \$633.38/month is  
15 \$7,600.56 plus postage. Service Agreement total is \$29,099.52 plus postage. The  
16 Visitor Center has a postage machine that costs \$5,755.77 a year. The cost of CID  
17 service is \$6,955.56, the difference of \$1,199.77 covers the cost of staff to do the  
18 mailings. The town cannot hire a staff person for less than that.

19  
20 **Councilmember Sanchez made a motion to approve the consent agenda as**  
21 **presented. Councilmember Silva seconded the motion. The motion was**  
22 **approved by an affirmative vote. Those voting AYE were: Councilmembers**  
23 **Sanchez, Quintana and Silva.**

24  
25 **9. MATTERS FROM STAFF**

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

27 Presentation from Annie Oandason, Transportation Planner, Northern Pueblos  
28 Regional Planning Organization (RPO), regarding services provided through the  
29 RPO.

30  
31 Ms. Oandason gave a handout explaining the functions and goals of the North  
32 Central New Mexico Economic Development District. In addition, Ms. Oandason  
33 explained in detail the different services provided to entities who are members of  
34 the District.

35  
36 **B. Brian Greer, Youth & Family Center Director**

37 *Town Management wishes to inform the public of the upcoming closures for 2009.*  
38 *We do this so the public and merchants can be aware of these activities.*

39 Approval of the following projected road and plaza closings for the calendar year  
40 of 2009 (staff recommends the closing of the roadway and plaza to vehicular  
41 traffic to protect and ensure the safety of the expected pedestrian participants):

- 42 • 13th Annual Children's Halloween Party: event will be held at Rio Grande  
43 Hall, Bataan Hall and Don Fernando Hall on Saturday, October 24, 2009,  
44 from 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM. Request to close Civic Plaza Drive from the

1 intersection of Camino de la Placita to the intersection of Bedford Street from  
2 1:00 PM - 5:30 PM.

- 3 • 27th Annual Yuletide Arts & Crafts Fair: event will be held at all three halls  
4 on Friday, November 27th and Saturday, November 28th from 10:00 AM -  
5 5:00 PM and Sunday, November 29th from 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Request to  
6 close Civic Plaza Drive from the intersection of Camino de la Placita to the  
7 intersection of Bedford Street on Friday, November 27th and Saturday,  
8 November 28th from 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM and on Sunday, November 29th  
9 from 10:00 AM - 4:30 PM.
- 10 • 23rd Annual Yuletide Caroling and Tree Lighting: event will be held at the  
11 Taos Plaza on Friday, December 4, 2009, from 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM. Request  
12 to close the Taos Plaza to vehicular traffic from 3:00 PM - 6:30 PM.
- 13 • Taos Auto Enthusiasts Car Club Autumn Run Street Dance: event will be  
14 held at the Taos Plaza on Saturday, August 29, 2009, from 6:00 PM - 10:00  
15 PM. Request to close the Taos Plaza to vehicular traffic from 5:00 PM -  
16 10:00 PM.

17  
18 **Councilmember Sanchez made a motion to approve the item as presented.**  
19 **Councilmember Silva seconded the motion. The motion was approved by an**  
20 **affirmative vote. Those voting AYE were: Councilmembers Sanchez,**  
21 **Quintana and Silva.**

#### 22 23 **C. Amos Torres, Public Utilities Director**

- 24 1. Consideration and approval of Contract TT-09-252 with Chevron Mining Inc.  
25 for the cost-sharing of hauling of biosolids from the Taos Valley Regional  
26 Wastewater Treatment Facility to the Questa Mine upon approval from New  
27 Mexico Environment Department. Cost is in the amount of \$60,000 plus  
28 NMGR. (Chevron Mining will be billed by the Town of Taos for 50% of this  
29 hauling cost plus an administrative fee not to exceed 10%). Contract will  
30 expire June 30, 2009. This item will replace the current method of disposal  
31 and save approximately \$240,000 annually.

32  
33 Councilmember Silva asked how many tons of biosolids will be supplied to  
34 Questa Mine.

35  
36 Mr. Torres stated Questa Mine is requiring 750 dry metric tons, however, the  
37 Town will only be able to provide them with about 200 dry metric tons.

38  
39 **Councilmember Silva made a motion to approve Contract TT-09-252**  
40 **with Chevron Mining Inc. as presented. Councilmember Quintana**  
41 **seconded the motion. The motion was approved by an affirmative vote.**  
42 **Those voting AYE were: Councilmembers Sanchez, Quintana and Silva.**

- 43  
44 2. Consideration and approval to enter into Contract TT-09-250 with Waste  
45 Management of New Mexico for the hauling of biosolids from the Taos  
46 Valley Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility to the Questa Mine upon

1 approval from New Mexico Environment Department. Cost is in the amount  
2 of \$60,000 plus NMGR. (Chevron Mining will be billed by the Town of  
3 Taos for 50% of this hauling cost plus an administrative fee not to exceed  
4 10%). Contract will expire June 30, 2009.

5  
6 Councilmember Silva asked what type of equipment Waste Management  
7 needs/requires to haul biosolids.

8  
9 Mr. Torres informed Councilmember Silva that Waste Management needs 20  
10 yard roll-out containers as well as approval from New Mexico Environment  
11 Department to haul hazardous materials.

12  
13 **Councilmember Silva made a motion to approve Contract TT-09-250**  
14 **with Waste Management of New Mexico as presented. Councilmember**  
15 **Quintana seconded the motion. The motion was approved by an**  
16 **affirmative vote. Those voting AYE were: Councilmembers Sanchez,**  
17 **Quintana and Silva.**

- 18  
19 3. Consideration and approval of Amendment # 1 to Contract TT-09-115 with  
20 Waste Management of New Mexico for the hauling and disposal of biosolids  
21 from the Taos Valley Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility to the Rio  
22 Rancho Landfill. The amount is \$40,000. Amendment is for the cost of  
23 biosolid hauling and disposal for the months of January and February 2009.  
24 Contract will expire June 30, 2009. After February the Town of Taos plans to  
25 haul to the Questa Mine upon approval from NMED.

26  
27 **Councilmember Sanchez made a motion to approve Amendment # 1 to**  
28 **Contract TT-09-115 with Waste Management of New Mexico as**  
29 **presented. Councilmember Quintana seconded the motion. The motion**  
30 **was approved by an affirmative vote. Those voting AYE were:**  
31 **Councilmembers Sanchez, Quintana and Silva.**

32  
33 **D. Matthew Foster, Long-Range Planner**

34 Approval of Resolution 09-02 adopting the Bicycle Master Plan (Plan). The goal  
35 of the Plan is for the Town to be recognized as a Bicycle Friendly Community by  
36 the League of American Bicyclists. The Plan also includes policies for planning,  
37 design, parking, funding, maintenance, enforcement, education & encouragement.  
38 The Plan proposes 68 miles of bicycle lanes and 14 miles of bicycle routes.

39  
40 Town Attorney Allen Ferguson discussed the liabilities that the Town of Taos  
41 could face in adopting this plan. He believes that if the Town failed to construct  
42 the bike path properly or failed to maintain the bike path properly then the Town  
43 could be held liable for accidents resulting in harm or injury.

44  
45 Mr. Foster stated he provided the draft plan to Taos Pueblo and they referred to  
46 the 1995 Roadway Agreement between the Town of Taos and Taos Pueblo and

1 asked that the plan include language stating that nothing in any plan or design of  
2 the Town's roadways or bicycle facilities will be inconsistent with the 1995  
3 agreement. Mr. Foster stated he will accommodate this request.  
4

5 Councilmember Sanchez stated two years ago he was driving and turning right  
6 and was t-boned by a bicyclist. He asked how the laws apply to bicyclists. Mr.  
7 Foster stated the plan gives bicyclists designated space and they are required to  
8 operate their bike as they would a car, following the same laws.  
9

10 Councilmember Quintana asked what the minimum width of the bike lane is. Mr.  
11 Foster stated four feet.  
12

13 The following citizens came forward to express their support for the Bicycle  
14 Master Plan:  
15

16 Steve Fuhlendorf, Taos County Chamber of Commerce  
17 Carol Wildman  
18 Paul Krispinsky  
19 Del Anderson  
20

21 **Councilmember Quintana made a motion to approve Resolution 09-02 as**  
22 **presented. Councilmember Silva seconded the motion. The motion was**  
23 **approved by an affirmative vote. Those voting AYE were: Councilmembers**  
24 **Sanchez, Quintana and Silva.**  
25

26 **E. Loretta Trujillo, Human Resources Director**

- 27 1. Approval of Resolution 09-07 - Waiver of employee or immediate family  
28 member contracting with the Town of Taos. The Town is proposing to  
29 contract with Alicia Esparza and Matthew Spriggs, an employee of the Town  
30 dba Taos Physical Therapy. Taos Physical Therapy has been purchased by  
31 Alicia Esparza and Matthew Spriggs and currently provides services to our  
32 Human Resources Department (Contract # TT-09-31).  
33

34 Mayor Pro Tem Abeyta stated, for the record, that Ms. Esparza is the spouse  
35 of Matthew Spriggs, Community & Economic Development Director for the  
36 Town of Taos.  
37

38 **Councilmember Sanchez made a motion to approve Resolution 09-07 as**  
39 **presented. Councilmember Silva seconded the motion. The motion was**  
40 **approved by an affirmative vote. Those voting AYE were:**  
41 **Councilmembers Sanchez, Quintana and Silva.**  
42

- 43 2. Approval of Resolution 09-08 - Waiver of employee or immediate family  
44 member contracting with the Town of Taos. The Town is proposing to  
45 contract with Alicia Esparza who is related to Matthew Spriggs, an employee  
46 of the Town dba Northern New Mexico Drug Screening.

1  
2 **Councilmember Quintana made a motion to approve Resolution 09-08 as**  
3 **presented. Councilmember Sanchez seconded the motion. The motion**  
4 **was approved by an affirmative vote. Those voting AYE were:**  
5 **Councilmembers Sanchez, Quintana and Silva.**  
6

7 **10. MATTERS FROM TOWN ATTORNEY**

- 8 A. Presentation by Daniel Carmona concerning Farmers Market for 2009 and  
9 subsequent years.

10  
11 Mr. Carmona gave a Power Point Presentation to Mayor and Council  
12 demonstrating the health and economic benefits of farmers markets.  
13

- 14 B. Consideration and possible approval of Lease Agreement TT-09-230 with Taos  
15 Farmers Market for use of Town parking lot for 25 Saturdays from mid-May to  
16 the last Saturday in October for a period of four years (commencing on May 16<sup>th</sup>  
17 of 2009).  
18

19 Mr. Ferguson reviewed the terms in the lease agreement.  
20

21 Mayor Pro Tem Abeyta stated he believes the new lease will benefit both the  
22 Town of Taos and the Taos Farmers Market.  
23

24 **Councilmember Sanchez made a motion to approve Lease Agreement TT-09-**  
25 **230 with Taos Farmers Market as presented. Councilmember Silva**  
26 **seconded the motion. The motion was approved by an affirmative vote.**  
27 **Those voting AYE were: Mayor Pro Tem Abeyta, Councilmembers Sanchez,**  
28 **Quintana and Silva.**  
29

- 30 C. Approval of Resolution 09-09 A Resolution of the Town of Taos, waiver of  
31 employee or immediate family member contracting with the Town of Taos, and  
32 waiver of requirement of Town Policy #9 (procurement) to forego the  
33 requirement of calling a number of firms to obtain offers. This Resolution is in  
34 regard to Contract TT-09-216 with Abeyta Engineering.  
35

36 Mr. Ferguson requested the last paragraph in the resolution be replaced with the  
37 following: "It is in the best interest of the Town of Taos to contract with Alex  
38 Abeyta, dba Abeyta Engineering, to perform certain engineering services for the  
39 Town of Taos."  
40

41 **Councilmember Sanchez made a motion to approve Resolution 09-09 as**  
42 **amended. Councilmember Silva seconded the motion. The motion was**  
43 **approved by an affirmative vote. Those voting AYE were: Councilmembers**  
44 **Sanchez, Quintana and Silva. Mayor Pro Tem Abeyta abstained due to his**  
45 **relationship with Alex Abeyta dba Abeyta Engineer, as Alex Abeyta is his**  
46 **brother.**

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## 11. MATTERS FROM THE ASSISTANT TOWN MANAGER

### A. Report from the Assistant Town Manager.

Assistant Town Manager Abigail Adame gave an update on the Animal Shelter Assessment and stated a contract is being prepared. The contractors will conduct the assessment free of charge, although the Town will pay for their hotel rooms, airfare, vehicle rental and meals.

Mayor Pro Tem Abeyta reminded the public that an expert has been asked to conduct an assessment of the animal shelter to distinguish the strengths and weaknesses of the shelter.

## 12. MATTERS FROM THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

### A. Approval of Resolution 09-10 supporting the regional initiatives pertaining to the National Economic Stimulus Package.

Mayor Pro Tem Abeyta stated the Town has submitted \$48.5 million in capital outlay requests that will stimulate the economy and create local jobs. Two versions of the resolution were included in the packet and Mayor Pro Tem Abeyta recommended adopting the second version.

**Councilmember Quintana made a motion to approve Resolution 09-10 as presented (second version). Councilmember Sanchez seconded the motion. The motion was approved by an affirmative vote. Those voting AYE were: Councilmembers Sanchez, Quintana and Silva.**

### B. Approval of Resolution 09-11 in support of grant funding to construct and operate a bio-fuel station on Town of Taos property.

Ms. Adame requested Article 2. in the Resolution be replaced with the following: "The Town of Taos agrees to provide \$7,500 in local matching funds to construct the alternative fueling station projected to cost \$55,000 to construct. The local match will be provided through a Project Participation Agreement in compliance with the Local Economic Development Act."

Mayor Pro Tem Abeyta stated that Representative Roberto "Bobby" Gonzales has requested support on this issue.

Claude D. Convisser, President, POP Diesel Fuel Systems, Inc., came forward and explained the process of producing the fuel. Recycled oil from local restaurants would be used to fuel diesel vehicles that are modified for this vegetable-fuel use. He explained that POP Diesel Fuel System is the most advanced vegetable oil fuel system on the market.

1 Councilmember Quintana asked what the cost is to convert the oil. Mr. Convisser  
2 stated it costs about \$4,500.

3  
4 Mayor Pro Tem Abeyta asked what is the supply and demand for this fuel. Mr.  
5 Convisser stated the supply is available and will be for years to come,  
6 unfortunately the demand is sporadic as they still need to educate the public  
7 further.

8  
9 **Councilmember Quintana made a motion to approve Resolution 09-11 as**  
10 **amended. Councilmember Sanchez seconded the motion. The motion was**  
11 **approved by an affirmative vote. Those voting AYE were: Councilmembers**  
12 **Sanchez, Quintana and Silva.**

13  
14 **13. ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Councilmember Sanchez and**  
15 **seconded by Councilmember Silva to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried**  
16 **unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.**

17  
18  
19 **APPROVED:**

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23 \_\_\_\_\_  
24 **Darren M. Cordova, Mayor**

25  
26 **ATTEST:**  
27  
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29 \_\_\_\_\_  
30 **Renee Lucero, Town Clerk**

31  
32

*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.*