

# VILLAGE OF CIMARRON

## MINUTES REGULAR-Special MEETING WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2024 5:00pm

Councilor Eloy Brazil Opened the meeting.

### **I. Pledge of Allegiance, Salute to the New Mexico State Flag & Invocation**

The Council led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Pledge for NM State Flag.  
Pastor Ellen Swain officiated the invocation for the meeting.

### **II. Roll Call**

Councilor Colin Tawney      Councilor Ernie LeDoux      Councilor Eloy Brazil  
Councilor Valerie Garcia

### **III. Appointment of Mayor Pro Tem**

Councilor Colin Tawney nominated Eloy Brazil for the position of Mayor Pro Tem. There was not a second for the nomination and it dies for lack of a second.

Councilor Eloy Brazil nominated Valerie Garcia for Mayor Pro Tem. Councilor Ernie LeDoux seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Colin Tawney- No, Councilor Ernie LeDoux- Yes, Councilor Eloy Brazil- Yes, Councilor Valerie Garcia- Yes Approved 3-1

Mayor Pro Tem Valorie Garcia assumed the position as Mayor Pro Tem and continued the meeting.

### **IV. Approval of Agenda**

*Councilor Colin Tawney moved to amend the January 17, 2024, agenda moving VII. Comments from the General Public to number V. on the agenda ahead of selection of Mayor.*

Councilor Colin Tawney explained he would like the public to be able to speak on behalf of the Mayor appointment due to the history of vacancy in that position.

Admin Shawn Jeffrey stated there is one name on the sign in sheet to speak- she asked all in attendance if there are any others who wish to speak at this time. There were none.

Mayor Pro Tem Valorie Garcia asked for a second for the motion. *Councilor Eloy Brazil seconded. Approved 4-0*

### **V. Comments from the General Public (Limited to 3 minutes)**

- Mike Overby from Angel Fire- resident of Angel Fire and Chairman of the Fire adapted Community Committee. He explained his group is trying to get a business and marketing plan drafted so they can apply for funding for a Bio Char business. He asked the Governing Body for their support with this project, and he asked for a letter of support when they are ready to submit their application to the USDA Rural Business Development program. He

also reported there will be a lot of wood products available in the next few years and this project will provide equipment and land to process the products.

## **VI. Reorganization of the Governing Body and Staff**

### **a. Appointment of Mayor**

*Mayor Pro Tem Valorie Garcia asked for nominations for a Mayoral candidate.*

*Councilor Ernie LeDoux nominated Eloy Brazil for Mayor for the remaining two-year term.*

*Mayor Pro Tem Valorie Garcia seconded.*

*Roll Call: Councilor Colin Tawney- No, Councilor Ernie LeDoux- Yes, Mayor pro Tem Valorie Garcia- Yes, Councilor Eloy Brazil- Yes*

Colin Tawney stated he doesn't think Councilor Eloy Brazil can vote because it's a paid position.

Attorney Charles Rennick stated that he is not disqualified from voting for himself.

Attorney Charles Rennick stated that because Councilor Eloy Brazil has not been sworn in as Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem Valorie Garcia will have to continue the meeting.

Admin Shawn Jeffrey retrieved the Oath of Office for the Mayor and administered the oath to Eloy Brazil.

Mayor Eloy Brazil continued the meeting. Mayor Eloy Brazil addressed the attendees by letting them know that he will continue to do everything he can for the community for residents and businesses as well. He will do the best he can with the new Council, and they will advertise for a new Council member to fill the vacant spot.

### **b. Appointment of Clerk Administrator**

*Mayor Pro Tem Valorie Garcia moved to appoint Shawn Jeffrey in the Clerk-Administrator position. Councilor Ernie LeDoux seconded Approved 3-0*

### **c. Appointment of Fire Chief**

Chief Anthony Martinez stated the Fire Chief position is not appointed by the Council it is elected by the department members. Admin Shawn Jeffrey stated the position is being confirmed by the new Governing Body.

*Councilor Colin Tawney moved to confirm Anthony Martinez as Fire Chief for the Cimarron Fire Department. Mayor Pro Tem Valorie Garcia seconded. Approved 3-0*

## **VII. Approve/Disapprove Minutes**

### **a. Regular Meeting Minutes December 13, 2023**

*Councilor Ernie LeDoux moved to approve the minutes of the Regular meeting of December 13, 2023. Councilor Colin Tawney seconded. Approved 3-0*

## **~~VIII. Comments from the General Public (Limited to 3 minutes) Moved to #5~~**

## **IX. Correspondence and Appreciations**

- Mayor Eloy Brazil thanked the public works guys for the great job in fixing the water leak during the very cold weather. He also mentioned Cris Coca and thanked him for helping them with lighting and traffic control.
- Councilor Colin Tawney mentioned he would like to thank the folks that placed the pavilion in the location where it is, and he also added the pavilion does not block his nor the other businesses on 9<sup>th</sup> street.
- Councilor Ernie LeDoux also thanked the public works for their hard work, and he also thanked the office staff. Mr. Ledoux also welcomed the new council members to the board.
- Mayor Pro Tem Valorie Garcia thanked the administrator and the staff in the office for providing her answers to her questions as she gets acclimated to the new position. Councilor Ernie LeDoux added they attended the newly elected officials meeting and the MOLI classes last week and there was good information provided to them.

**X. Reports by Departments and Boards-**

a. Mayor's Report

Mayor Eloy Brazil reported he will be setting office hours during the week, and he will have his phone number available.

b. Village Administrator's Report

Submitted

Mayor Pro Tem Valorie Garcia asked about the drainage for the 11<sup>th</sup> street project. She reported the water is not draining very well on Jefferson and 10<sup>th</sup> street. Admin Shawn Jeffrey said she would let the engineer know.

c. Public Works Report

Submitted

d. Police Department Report

Mayor Eloy Brazil reported he would like to start looking at the options for Law Enforcement.

e. Fire Department Report

Cris Coca presented the report.

f. Ambulance Report

EMS Director Nate Lay presented the report. He stated in 2023 Cimarron EMS responded to 322 calls for the year with 60% of the calls being out of Cimarron. EMT classes start in February. He also added they have applied for a grant for a new ambulance.

1. Appointment of Ambulance Board Liaison

Louise Johnson reported that with the new Governing Body she would like to ask the Governing Body to appoint a new liaison for the ambulance board.

Councilor Ernie LeDoux moved to appoint Valerie Garcia as the liaison for the ambulance board. Councilor Colin Tawney seconded. Approved 3-0

g. Cemetery Board Report

Lorraine Vargas submitted a report, and this was distributed to all the Governing body. She went through each of the items and explained the process to the Governing Body.

**XI. Financials- Each Item listed will be Considered for Action of Approve/Disapprove:**

a. Check Report and Deposit Register from December 9, 2023, through January 12, 2024

*Councilor Ernie LeDoux moved to approve the check report and deposit register from December 9, 2023, through January 12, 2024. Mayor Pro Tem Valerie Garcia seconded. Approved 3-0*

b. NM Local Government Law Firm Bill for \$ 0

**XII. Old Business- Each Item listed will be considered for Action of Approve/Disapprove/Discuss:**

a. Village Pay Schedule Modernization

*Councilor Colin Tawney moved to table the Village pay modernization until the next meeting. Councilor Ernie LeDoux seconded. Approved 3-0*

b. 2024 Holiday Schedule Amendment

*This item was discussed.*

*No action*

**XIII. New Business- Each Item listed will be considered for Action of Approve/Disapprove/Discuss:**

a. Amendment 2 Professional Services Agreement- Regents of the University of NM -EMS

*Councilor Ernie LeDoux motioned to approve amendment 2 Professional Services Agreement. Mayor Pro Tem Valerie Garcia seconded. Approved. 3-0*

b. Resolution 2024-001 Open Meetings Act

*Mayor Pro Tem Valerie Garcia motioned to approve resolution 2024-001 open meetings act. Councilor Colin Tawney seconded. Approved. 3-0*

c. Resolution 2024-002 Procurement Policy

*Councilor Ernie LeDoux motioned to approve resolution 2024-002 procurement policy. Mayor Pro Tem Valerie Garcia seconded. Approved. 3-0*

d. Resolution 2024-003 IRS Mileage

*Mayor Pro Tem Valerie Garcia motioned to approve resolution 2024-003 IRS mileage. Councilor Colin Tawney seconded. Approved. 3-0*

e. Resolution 2024-005 CDBG Certifications and Commitments

*Councilor Colin Tawney motioned to approve resolution 2024-005 CDBG certifications and commitments. Mayor Pro Tem Valerie Garcia seconded. Approved. 3-0*

f. Resolution 2024-006 Travel Policy to reflect new rates FY24.

*Mayor Pro Tem Valerie Garcia motioned to approve resolution 2024-006 travel policy to reflect new rates FY24. Councilor Colin Tawney seconded. Approved. 3-0*

g. Resolution 2024-007 Rural Infrastructure Program Signatories

*Councilor Colin Tawney motioned to approve resolution 2024-007 rural infrastructure program signatories' updates. Mayor Pro Tem Valerie Garcia seconded. Approved. 3-0*

h. Fair Housing Proclamation

*Mayor Pro Tem Valerie Garcia motioned to approve the Fair Housing Proclamation. Councilor Ernie LeDoux seconded. Approved. 3-0*

i. Update Inventory- RCI proposal.

*Councilor Ernie Ledoux motioned to approve the proposal from RCI to update the Village asset inventory. Mayor Pro Tem Valerie Garcia seconded. Approved. 3-0*

j. Change Order 2-3- Pacheco Construction

*Councilor Ernie LeDoux motioned to approve Change Order 2 & 3 for Pacheco Construction to replace the bridge crossing at north Jefferson. Mayor Pro Tem Valerie Garcia seconded. Approved. 3-0*

**XIV. Board of Finance- Each Item listed will be considered for Action.**

a. Resolution 2024-004 Bank Signatures

*Mayor Pro Tem Valerie Garcia motioned to approve resolution 2024-004 bank signatures. Councilor Colin Tawney seconded. Approved. 3-0*

**XV. Items for Next Agenda**

Pay Plan

Advertise Vacant Council position.

Letter of Support for Mike Overby

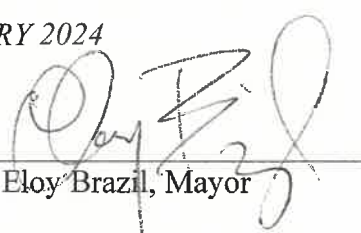
Committee public emergency services

Special meeting- work session

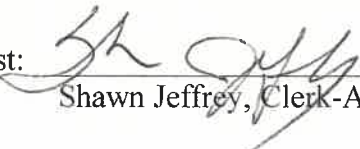
**XVI. Adjourn**

*Council Ernie LeDoux moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilor Valerie Garcia seconded. Approved 3-0 6:53 pm*

APPROVED THIS 17 DAY OF FEBRUARY 2024

  
Eloy Brazil, Mayor

Attest:

  
Shawn Jeffrey, Clerk-Administrator