

VILLAGE OF CIMARRON

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2022

6:00pm

The Governing Body met in Person and via GoToMeeting Application.

Wednesday, February 9, 2022, 6:00 PM (MDT)

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/870444509>

Village of Cimarron Meetings are open to the public- and Covid Safe Practices are acceptable

I. Pledge of Allegiance and to the New Mexico State Flag

Mayor Matthew Gonzales led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Pledge for NM State Flag.

II. Roll Call

Mayor Matthew Gonzales Mayor Pro Tem Judy B. LeDoux Councilor James Gallegos
Councilor Ernie LeDoux

III. Approval of Agenda

Mayor Matthew Gonzales asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

Councilor James Gallegos moved to amend the agenda to include a. Promotions of the Police Officers presentations. Mayor Pro Tem Judy B. LeDoux seconded.

Roll Call: Councilor James Gallegos-Yes Mayor Pro Tem Judy B. LeDoux-Yes
Councilor Ernie LeDoux-Yes *Approved 3-0*

a) Promotions for the Police Officers Presentation

Mayor Matthew Gonzales gave a speech of recognition for the Cimarron Officers and their promotion from Patrolman to Sargent. He welcomed the families of the Officer John Valdez as well as Officer Alvis May. Judge Charles Duran administered the oath of honor to the officers. Judge Charles Duran asked the families if they would like to participate by pinning the badges on the Officers. Both families did the honors of pinning the badges on the Sergeants. Once the badges were pinned Judge Charles Duran announced both Sergeants. Mayor Matthew Gonzales offered the meeting guests and opportunity to congratulate the Sergeants on their promotion.

IV. Mayor Report: Mayor Matthew Gonzales

Mayor Matthew Gonzales reported he did not get a chance to print his report and he will be giving it verbally. He reported he would like to get the Village fully staffed so the Public Works can get to some of their other projects. He also reported he will be completing the ditch inventory he will drive to each ditch and document the condition and the recommended corrective action. He also added that he and Admin Shawn Jeffrey attended a call with Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham regarding the Village Capital Outlay requests. He explained the Village has done over 8 million in projects to date since Admin Shawn Jeffrey has been here, he did offer a token of applause for appreciation. He reported the audit has been cleaned up and the Village has been

working towards the phased approach for projects. He also added that the Village identified 21 million in projects as identified in the ICIP plan. Governor Michell Lujan Grisham could not commit to 2 million for projects, but Mayor Matthew Gonzales said she would commit to 1.75 million to the wastewater treatment facility. The funds still must pass senate finance to get approved and it could get dismissed from the list. He will make an official announcement once the funds have been confirmed.

Mayor Matthew Gonzales did also report he will be holding office hours Monday-Wednesday- and Friday once the legislative session is over.

A few things that will be changed is the Council will be issued their own email addresses for transparency of the email. He would like to paint the building and he is asking for volunteers who would like to help with the project.

He also announced there will be a public comment period on every agenda and the Council will not be required to respond, if they chose to it can be done during Council concerns agenda item. He also reported the website will be updated to include Council contact numbers. He did close in saying he will get his report printed for the Council.

V. Approve/Disapprove/Discuss Appointment of Village Council Member

Mayor Matthew Gonzales reported he received two letters of interest for the Council Member position. One from Erin Tawney and one from Eloy Brazil and he mentioned he did call to speak with both candidates. He had some questions drafted he used to get an idea of their goals and future goals for the Village.

His first recommendation for Council member is Erin Tawney because he feels she would bring diversity to the Governing Board.

Councilor James Gallegos moved to appoint Erin Tawny for the Council Member position. – No second- Motion Failed

Councilor Judy B. LeDoux moved to approve Eloy Brazil for the Council Position on the Cimarron Governing Body. Councilor Ernie LeDoux seconded. Approved 3-0

Roll Call: Councilor James Gallegos-Yes Mayor Pro Tem Judy B. LeDoux-Yes
Councilor Ernie LeDoux-Yes *Approved 3-0*

Clerk Admin Shawn Jeffrey administered the oath of office to Mr. Eloy Brazil and printed a packet for him.

VI. Approve/Disapprove/Discuss Appointment of Mayor Pro Tem

Mayor Matthew Gonzales reported the Mayor Pro Tem position will not be a vice mayor position it will be only in effect when Mayor is unavailable. He recommends James Gallegos for the Mayor Pro Tem position as he and James know how to run an effective meeting Mayor Matthew Gonzales nominated James Gallegos as Mayor Pro Tem.

Councilor Judy B. LeDoux moved to approve James Gallegos for the Mayor Pro Tem Position on the Council. Councilor Eloy Brazil seconded. Approved 4-0

- VII. Appointment of Committee Liaisons**
Cemetery Board- Mayor Pro Tem James Gallegos
Code Enforcement- Councilor Eloy Brazil
Beautification- Councilor Judy B. LeDoux
EMS Board- Councilor Ernie LeDoux

VIII. Approve/Disapprove Minutes

- a. Regular Meeting Minutes January 12, 2022

Mayor Pro Tem James Gallegos moved to approve the minutes from the January 12, 2022, meeting. Councilor Judy B. LeDoux seconded. Approved 4-0

- b. Special Meeting Minutes January 24, 2022

Councilor Judy B. LeDoux moved to approve the Special meeting minutes of January 24, 2022. Mayor Pro Tem James Gallegos seconded. Approved 4-0

IX. Comments from the General Public (Limited to 3 minutes)

- Sherry Bennett commented she is happy to see the appointments of the liaisons to the Boards. She stressed especially the code enforcement board and she would like to see the vehicles cleaned up.
- Melissa Warner asked if the business district could be plowed when it snows as the last snow the snow was left for a long time and it turned to ice, and this could be a safety hazard.

X. Correspondence and Appreciations

None

XI. Approve/Disapprove/ Discuss CHS Homecoming Parade/Bonfire- Use of 8th & 9th for the event

Mayor Pro Tem James Gallegos moved to approve CHS Homecoming Parade/Bonfire. Councilor Judy B. LeDoux seconded. Approved 4-0

XII. Discussion Parliamentary Class

Mayor Matthew Gonzales explained he could find some videos on the internet for a class. Councilor Ernie LeDoux stated the idea of inviting other Municipalities to join would be a way to reduce the cost of the class. Mayor Matthew Gonzales stated we could check into it to see if there is group pricing and who would be interested in taking an in-person class. He asked for this item to be on the next agenda. Mayor Matthew Gonzales did state that he wanted to send out information to area Municipalities and the County to see if any others are interested in participating.

XIII. Reports by Department Heads-

- a. Village Administrator Report
Report Submitted

Mayor Pro Tem James Gallegos asked if the Blu Dragonfly Brewery will have to go through the process again like they had to when they first got their license. Erin Tawney mentioned Alcohol Bureau has not sent them any updated information yet. Admin Shawn Jeffrey reported the Village did send a letter to Colin for this project.

Councilor Ernie LeDoux asked if the 1.7 million dollars is in addition to the \$750,000 CDBG funds. Mayor Matthew Gonzales said yes, it is in addition to the funding and that funding would not be available until July of 2022. He also reported there will be funding for the Dam Rehabilitation.

Councilor Judy B. LeDoux commented the new scoreboard looks great and she is excited to see it up.

b. Public Works Report

Service Orders submitted

Councilor Ernie LeDoux reported the Village has recently received the new wood-chipper; he explained the best use for the chipper would be best if it is taken to Village right of ways to get rid of the branches.

c. Police Department Report

Chief Ryan Gates presented his report

Mayor Matthew Gonzales asked Chief Ryan Gates to see about getting a couple more speed signs one on Hwy 21 coming into the Village and the other on Hwy 64. He also reported the police department will be patrolling the school zones in the mornings and in the afternoons.

d. Municipal Judge Report

No report submitted

e. Cemetery Board Report

Cemetery board member Roger Smith reported that Santana Cordova is doing a great job recording the deeds and keeping up with the cemetery stuff. He also added Ms. Coker and President Laura Gonzales are working hard to get the parking spaces project funded. Mr. Smith reported that Ms. Coker is working to get the Cemetery designed as a historical property. Lastly, he thanked the Village Administrator Shawn Jeffrey for ensuring the Cemetery was included in the ICIP.

Mayor Matthew Gonzales reported that Isaac Casados from Representative Roger Montoya's office let him know that there are some emergency funds available that could be used for the project, and he explained the flooding in the areas would be the safety issue. This funding does not have to go through the legislative process it can be authorized direct.

Councilor Eloy Brazil asked about access on the Southwest side he said there are rocks blocking the road and that it has been closed off and also he has received some complaints from people that they cannot get to that area where their loved ones are unless they walk. He asked why was the road closed? Mayor Matthew Gonzales explained he thinks the reasoning was the flooding and the ruts in the road and people were driving on some of the plots.

Councilor Eloy Brazil stated there should be access to the bottom part of the Cemetery so people can get in there to take care of the plots. Councilor Ernie LeDoux commented that if the road is established, we should work on getting it open and maintained. Admin Shawn Jeffrey also mentioned that millings could be put on the roads, so they are designated.

f. Senior Center Report

No Report

g. Ambulance Report

Louise Johnson reported the EMS has been very busy and that the 3rd ambulance that is in the shop will be fixed as they have finally received all the parts

h. Chamber of Commerce Report

Chamber President Melissa Warner reported the Board met in December and got the Board appointed. They met in January, and they are in the process of putting together a calendar of events. They are planning an Easter Egg hunt and they would like to coordinate with the Village for a clean up day. She also reported their meetings are the third Wednesday of the month. The meetings are for members, but visitors are welcome. Lastly, she reported they are in the process of updating the job description for the executive secretary position.

Mayor Matthew Gonzales asked Melissa to meet with him in March so they can get some events and dates identified for the upcoming events.

- i. Beautification Board Report- Admin Shawn Jeffrey reported that she adjusted the NMCB budget to allow for \$1000 sub youth contract for the school kids who participate in the project.

Fire Department Report- Mayor Matthew Gonzales commented that there was a fire in the trash truck and the public works will be painting four of the dumpster's red for ash disposal. He said he will have the dumpsters located at Lambert Hills, Mountain Meadows, Tiger Hill, and in the middle of the Village.

Code Regulation Board Report- No report

XIV. Financials- Each Item listed A.-B. will be Considered for Action of Approve/Disapprove:

- a. Check Report and Deposit Register from January 7, 2022, through February 4, 2022
Mayor Pro Tem James Gallegos moved to approve the check report and the deposit register for January 7, 2022, to February 4, 2022. Councilor Ernie LeDoux seconded. Approved 4-0

- b. NM Local Government Law Firm bill for \$
Councilor Judy B. LeDoux moved to approve the NM Law, LLC billing for \$1,217.68. Councilor Eloy Brazil seconded. Approved 4-0

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

- a. Update Ditch Inventory

Mayor Matthew Gonzales stated he will be going around the Village and evaluating the ditches and documenting the conditions and recommendation for the area to have debris removed so the water may flow without flooding areas. He also added he has spoken to Representative Roger Montoya about this issue.

XVI. New Business- Each Item listed A.-H. will be considered for Action of Approve/Disapprove/Discussion:

- a. Resolution 2022-015 NMDOT MAP Project

Admin Shawn Jeffrey explained for this round of application she would like to continue to apply for funding to get the bridge crossings replaced.
Mayor pro Tem James Gallegos moved to approve Resolution 2022-015 NMDOT MAP Project. Councilor Eloy Brazil seconded. Approved 4-0

b. Resolution 2022-016 NMDOT COOP Project

Admin Shawn Jeffrey explained she would like to apply for \$150,000 for the intersection 9th street project.
Councilor Judy B. LeDoux moved to approve Resolution 2022-016 NMDOT COOP Project. Mayor Pro Tem James Gallegos seconded. Approved 4-0

c. Resolution 2022-017 Budget Adjustment

Admin Shawn Jeffrey explained the budget adjustment items
Mayor Pro Tem James Gallegos moved to approve Resolution 2022-017 Budget Adjustment. Councilor Eloy Brazil seconded. Approved 4-0

d. CDBG Certifying Official

Councilor Judy B. LeDoux moved to approve CDBG Certifying Official as listed. Mayor Pro Tem James Gallegos seconded. Approved 4-0

e. Exhibit 1-G Depository/Authorized Signatories Designation

Councilor Eloy Brazil moved to approve Exhibit 1-G depository/authorized signatories' authorization. Councilor Ernie LeDoux seconded. Approved 4-0

f. Create USDA required Bank Accounts- Short Lived Reserve Assets & Debt Service Reserve
Councilor Judy B. LeDoux moved to approve the creation of the required USDA Bank Accounts. Councilor Eloy Brazil seconded. Approved 4-0

g. Midco -Water Tank Repairs

Councilor Ernie LeDoux moved to approve the quote from Midco diving for the water tank repairs. Mayor Pro Tem James Gallegos seconded. Approved 4-0

h. Friends of the Cimarron Fire Department 501c3- to request their own funds for Fire Department Operations

Councilor Judy B. LeDoux moved to approve Friends of the Cimarron Fire Department 501c3- to request their own funds for Fire Department Operations. Councilor Eloy Brazil seconded. Approved 4-0

XVII. ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS LITIGATION AND LIMITED PERSONNEL MATTERS AS PER NEW MEXICO OPEN MEETINGS ACT 10-15-1 SECTION H SUBSECTIONS 2 & 7:

Limited Personnel Matters-

A. Hire Part Time Janitorial Position

Councilor Judy LeDoux motioned to adjourn to executive session to discuss the items listed. Councilor Ernie LeDoux seconded. Approved 4-0 7:11pm

Roll Call Vote: Mayor Pro Tem James Gallegos-Aye, Councilor Judy B. LeDoux-Aye, Councilor Eloy Brazil-Aye, Councilor Ernie LeDoux-Aye

XVIII. Return to Regular Session

Mayor Pro Tem James Gallegos moved to return to open session at 7:15pm. Councilor Judy LeDoux seconded. Approved 4-0

Mayor Pro Tem James Gallegos reported the only items discussed were those listed on the agenda and no decisions were made.

Roll Call: Mayor Pro Tem James Gallegos, Councilor Judy B. LeDoux, Councilor Ernie LeDoux, and Councilor Eloy Brazil- All are present

XIX. Approve/Disapprove/Discuss Hire Part Time Janitorial Position

Councilor Judy B. LeDoux moved to hire Jessica Cordova for the part time janitorial position at minimum wage of \$11.50 an hour with a 60-day review. Councilor Ernie LeDoux seconded. Approved 4-0

XX. Council Concerns

Mayor Pro Tem James Gallegos reported the summer project mural will be done this summer through the library program. He also added the potholes are starting to appear in the areas that millings have been put down. He would also like to see the public works out early on snow days to get the snow removed from the business district area.

Councilor Ernie LeDoux stated the culverts in the ditch inventory areas are plugged up. He would also like to see if he could get a 50-year flood plan developed for ditch areas. Councilor Ernie LeDoux and Mayor Matthew Gonzales discussed the ditches. Councilor Ernie LeDoux said the culverts should be a minimum of 24”.

Councilor Eloy Brazil mentioned there is some places the Village owns that need to be cleaned up. Mayor Matthew Gonzales reported the properties will be identified and the beautification projects will include those areas. Councilor Eloy Brazil stated he would be willing to volunteer to help clean up in those areas and he also asked if they are eligible to use the Village equipment. Admin Shawn Jeffrey said she would check.

Councilor Judy B. LeDoux stated the places by the trash cans are getting washed out again and they need more material added.

Mayor Gonzales mentioned he will visit with the public works on this issue and see if a resolution could be determined.

XXI. Items for Next Agenda

Ditch inventory

Mayor Matthew Gonzales wants to add Adan Estrada to the agenda next month as he has been working with the school to obtain the old school building and he would like to report, and he also reported they will be having a meeting on the 18th to tour the school and he has invited many key community leaders to attend.

XXII. Adjourn

Councilor Judy B. LeDoux moved to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Pro Tem James Gallegos seconded. Approved 4-0 7:33 pm

APPROVED THIS 9 DAY OF MARCH 2022



Matthew Gonzales, Mayor

Attest: 

Shawn Jeffrey, Clerk-Administrator