

VILLAGE OF CIMARRON

MINUTES REGULAR-Special MEETING MONDAY, APRIL 15, 2024 6:00pm

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

The Mayor and 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

Mayor Eloy Brazil Councilor Colin Tawney Councilor Ernie LeDoux-Absent
Mayor Pro Tem Valorie Garcia Councilor Miriah LeDoux

III. Approval of Agenda

Mayor Pro Tem Valorie Garcia moved to approve the agenda for April 15, 2024. Councilor Colin Tawney seconded. Approved 3-0

IV. Approve/Disapprove Minutes

a. Regular Meeting Minutes March 18, 2024

Councilor Miriah LeDoux moved to approve the minutes of the Regular meeting of March 18, 2024, as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Valorie Garcia seconded. Approved 3-0

V. FY23 Audit Presentation

Heather Lucero of Pattillo, Brown, & Hill audit firm presented the FY23 audit exit. She explained the auditors' responsibilities to the entity and for the audit, she went over the financial statements, and reported the two audit findings from last year were dissolved and there are no audit findings for Cimarron FY23 fiscal year.

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

- Anita LeDoux announced the Run for the Wall event will be in Cimarron on May 18, 2024, at 7:30am. They will be placing wreaths on the memorial this year. She asked for donations of fruit, snacks, and drinks to pass out to the group. Councilor Colin Tawney offered to loan them a container for the coffee to keep it warm. Anita LeDoux responded that she uses an igloo container, and he asked if she needed extra storage for coffee to let him know.

VII. Correspondence and Appreciations

None

VIII. Council Comments (Limited to 3 minutes)

- Councilor Miriah LeDoux commented that she appreciates the law enforcement presence in the mornings in the school zone. She also added she has noticed there are kids riding bikes to

school and the law enforcement presence will be good patrolling. She also asked Officer May if they could patrol more at the school, so the students could see they are going to be around more.

- Councilor Colin Tawney thanked the staff for the great audit and all their hard work for the Village.
- Mayor Pro Tem Valorie Garcia commented that the staff at Village Hall have done an excellent job on the audit. She let everyone know how much she appreciates the staff and all they do for the Village. Ms. Garcia also brought up an idea to have a Father's Day dance in the pavilion also this year. She mentioned she could get a good band inexpensive for that day. Mayor Brazil said he would also look at bringing back Cimarron days. He also added having a dance for Father's Day may be too close to the Mother's Day dance but that he would chat with Ms. Garcia about it. Councilor Colin Tawney commented it would be a good idea to get people out and about, especially now there is a shaded place. Ms. Garcia also commented she would also like to have a Facebook page for the Cimarron community for announcements and to publish information for the public.
- Councilor Miriah LeDoux also reported the Chamber will be hosting the Mayor Run event this year. She also reported that last year there were approx. 40 participants. Mayor Brazil also mentioned the Easter Egg hunt was a very nice event and well attended.

IX. Reports by Departments and Boards-

a. Mayor's Report

Mayor Eloy Brazil reported he has been working with the public works department to get the branches cleaned up at the transfer station and throughout the Village. He commented that the public works crew is doing a great job. He also reported the transfer station was shut down last weekend and it may again be closed this weekend until notice can be sent to residents through the monthly Communicator. He also added they are trying to get the metal scrap company from Trinidad to come and pick up the white goods. For the Cemetery he will be having Danny Martinez clear an area NW of the Cemetery with the blade so plots can be added. Pacheco Construction did repair the street where there was a broke water line and the pavement had to be cut. He also added potholes is on the to do list as well. Lastly, he added the Easter Egg Hunt event was a big success.

b. Village Administrator's Report

Submitted.

Councilor Colin Tawney asked about the NM Clean & Beautiful grant and what was the project for the NMCB this year. Admin Shawn Jeffrey explained the grant was written to provide two roll offs to the community for a free clean up, plants, planters, and soil for the public areas in the Village. The program also provides a youth group funding for implementing the projects.

c. Public Works Report

Submitted

d. Police Department Report

Colfax County Deputy Paul May reported the agency is patrolling daily and especially the school zones. They are also patrolling the back roads and different parts of the Village.

Mayor Eloy Brazil asked if there is a certain schedule they have for patrolling in Cimarron- Officer May responded they are scheduled to patrol 7 hours a day for seven days he could not disclose the times they are patrolling as that is not public knowledge. Mayor Eloy Brazil asked what if someone needs an Officer Paul May answered can call dispatch or 911 and then someone can be called in. Mayor Eloy Brazil asked to have that information put in the monthly communicator for the residence to have the information.

e. Fire Department Report

Fire Chief Cris Coca reported the County is under red flag warnings for fire danger. The Cimarron Fire Dept will be burning the debris around the lagoons soon.

f. Ambulance Report

EMS Cris Coca reported the EMS classes are going well and the ambulance has responded to a lot of calls. Mayor Pro Tem Valorie Garcia reported she attended the ambulance meeting and that EMS Director Nate Lay reported they will likely be getting the funding for the new ambulance through the grant he applied for.

g. Cemetery Board Report

Lorraine Vargas reported the rocks had not been moved so herself and Tomas moved some with her vehicle, the graves are still being driven on. She asked if the Cemetery could be locked daily Mayor explained that the Cemetery Board used to lock it daily, but they had stopped locking it due to the lack of attendance in people to lock the gate. Ms. Vargas also announced they will be hosting a sponsor a veteran event to encourage people to clean up the Cemetery. She also explained they will be asking for people to donate to have a flagpole installed at a grave and they are around \$100. New signs have been installed to identify different areas. She also said there is still a lot of work to do and a lot of sorting of the graves and paperwork. Ms. Vargas said there are some interesting graves at the cemetery and maybe that route could be added to the walking tour. The oldest grave out there is 1879 AD. Councilor Colin Tawney asked Ms. Vargas if a kiosk locator would be a future option for the cemetery. Ms. Vargas said she would like to see that or a phone application.

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

a. Check Report and Deposit Register from March 14, 2024, through April 9, 2024

Councilor Colin Tawny moved to approve the check report and deposit register from March 14, 2024, through April 9, 2024. Mayor Pro Tem Valorie Garcia seconded. Approved 3-0

b. NM Local Government Law Firm Bill for \$

No Bill

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

a. Pavilion Guidelines

The Governing Body discussed the guidelines and had suggestions. The first item Councilor Colin Tawney reported he would like to see the language that anyone will be allowed to apply to reserve the pavilion. There will not be any residence preference considered. The Council discussed several scenarios for the rental of the pavilion and how it could be scheduled for

events. For exclusive use events the renter would need to get an application from the Village for a birthday event or any other use of its public space. The Village has asked that people who would like to use the pavilion please call the office so we can make sure there are no conflicts with the use.

Councilor Colin Tawney moved to approve the Pavilion guidelines striking the 3rd bullet on page 1 "Pavilion rentals are only permitted for Cimarron residents and Cimarron based businesses with a minimum age requirement of twenty-one. (21)". Mayor Pro Tem Valorie Garcia seconded. Approved 3-0

Admin Shawn Jeffrey let the Governing Body know that if they ever want to bring these back for changes or review again, they can contact the mayor to have it added to the agenda.

b. Land & Water Conservation Project- Designation of Park Area Only

Mayor Pro Tem Valorie Garcia motioned to approve the designate 345 E 9th as a park area. Councilor Colin Tawney seconded. Approved 3-0

c. Task Order #1- DEC Agreement Engineering Services- Water Distribution Lines

Tappan Mahoney of DEC attended the meeting virtually and explained the agreement for services. Councilor Colin Tawney asked if this agreement is for Engineering or for a project. Admin Shawn Jeffrey answered it is for the water line replacement project. He asked if all locations have been identified that need to be replaced? He is concerned about the pressure fluctuations between the old pipe and the new pipe. Mr. Mahoney replied that when they started looking at the project they reached out to the Admin and Public Works department to make sure they had all the locations of the cast iron piping that needs to be replaced.

Mayor Pro Tem Valorie Garcia motioned to approve task order #1 DEC Agreement Engineering Services. Councilor Miriah LeDoux seconded. Approved. 3-0

d. Ordinance 293 Rural Infrastructure Program- Water System Improvements

Admin Shawn Jeffrey explained this Ordinance is the final step to getting the Rural Infrastructure Program funding process completed for the water treatment plant improvements and the Ordinance executed.

Councilor Colin Tawney motioned to approve Ordinance 293 Rural Infrastructure Program for the water treatment plant project. Mayor Pro Tem Valorie Garcia seconded. Approved. 3-0

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

a. Resolution 2024-016 FY23 Audit Acceptance

Mayor Pro Tem Valorie Garcia motioned to approve Resolution 2024-016 FY23 audit acceptance. Councilor Colin Tawney seconded. Approved. 3-0

b. Purchase one new truck for Public Works

Mayor Eloy Brazil reported the Public Works department is in need of a new truck. Admin Shawn Jeffrey added she had priced some new trucks the price depends on the size of the truck they want. The trucks are priced from \$39,000 to \$41,000 without lighting options. Admin Shawn Jeffrey is asking for a limit of \$50,000 to purchase a truck for the public works

department. There is funding available in the Utility funds that can be used to purchase equipment.

Councilor Miriah LeDoux motioned to approve the purchase of a new truck for the public works department up to \$50,000. Mayor Pro Tem Valorie Garcia seconded. Approved. 3-0

c. Lodgers Tax Board appointments

Admin Shawn Jeffrey explained that Ms. Caitlin Warner has attended the Lodgers Tax Board meeting and Sharon Smith does not have interest in continuing to serve on the Board.

Councilor Colin Tawney motioned to approve Laura Gonzales, Caitlin Warner and Ms. Candy Dyer to be appointed to the FY25 Lodgers Tax board. Mayor Pro Tem Valorie Garcia seconded. Approved. 3-0

d. FY25 Budget Requests

Mayor Eloy Brazil asked to budget funding for road maintenance materials. Mayor Pro Tem Valorie Garcia mentioned the cemetery funding and she asked Lorraine Vargas her opinion. Ms. Vargas said right now they need small items and fencing repair.

Discussion only

e. 2030-2035 ICIP Priorities

Admin Shawn Jeffrey explained the order of the projects and the amount of funds needed to get these projects completed. Councilor Miriah LeDoux asked about the trail project. Admin Shawn Jeffrey explained our funding has to be used in Village limits.

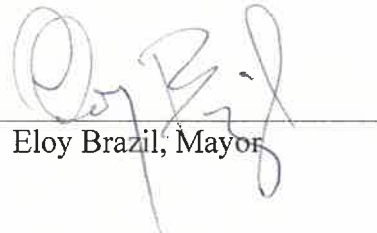
XIII. Items for Next Agenda

Councilor Colin Tawney asked about property clean up processes. Mayor Brazil reported he has gotten information from Judge Duran on the process and ticket process.

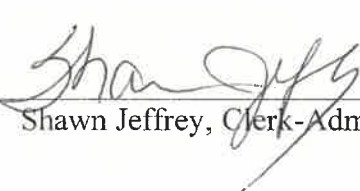
XIV. Adjourn

Councilor Colin Tawney moved to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Valorie Garcia seconded. Approved 3-0 7:11 pm

APPROVED THIS 8 DAY OF MAY 2024



Eloy Brazil, Mayor

Attest: 
Shawn Jeffrey, Clerk-Administrator