

**VILLAGE OF CIMARRON  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 2021 at 6:00pm**

**Village of Cimarron is open to the public- and Covid Safe Practices are required**

**I. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Pro Tem Laura Gonzales led the Pledge of Allegiance

**II. Pledge to the New Mexico State Flag**

Mayor Pro Tem Laura Gonzales led the Pledge of the New Mexico Flag

**III. Roll Call**

Mayor Leo Martinez-Absent      Mayor Pro Tem Laura Gonzales      Councilor James Gallegos  
Councilor Judy B. LeDoux      Councilor Matthew Gonzales

**IV. Approval of Agenda**

*Councilor Judy B. LeDoux moved to approve the agenda. Councilor Matthew Gonzales seconded. Approved 4-0*

*Roll Call Vote: Councilor James Gallegos-Aye, Councilor Matthew Gonzales- Aye, Councilor Judy B. LeDoux- Aye, Mayor Pro Tem Laura Gonzales-Aye, Approved 4-0*

**V. Presentation: Colfax County Commissioner Bret Weir- Colfax County Initiatives**

Mayor Pro Tem Laura Gonzales thanked Colfax County Commissioner Bret Weir for attending the meeting. Mr. Weir gave a presentation on the Colfax County areas of focus he will be working on during his term for the next four years. He reported he has four initiatives he is working on 1- Economic Development, 2- Food Availability, 3- Housing, and 4- Broadband. He reported

**VI. Approve/Disapprove/Discuss Comnet-FirstNet Project- Additional Ground Space Lease**

Guests in attendance were Village Attorney Charles Rennick, Project Manager for Comnet Jeremy Boone, and Sid Klemm. Mr. Boone reported he has been in contact with Mr. Rennick for this project and the items the Council asked for. He reported agreements with other Municipalities is not public information as per the agreement confidential disclosures. Discussions continued about the Comnet Lease. Mr. Rennick asked about the size of the tower and the location as opposed to the original design. Councilor James Gallegos asked about third party lease agreements and how do they get approved to be on the tower and the amount each one would be making to have an antenna on the tower.

*Councilor Matthew Gonzales made the motion for the Administrator Shawn Jeffrey to coordinate a meeting with Councilor James Gallegos, Mayor Leo Martinez, Mr. Sid Klemm, and Mr. Jeremy Boone to discuss the parameters of the agreement then bring back the final to the Council for consideration. Councilor James Gallegos seconded. Approved 4-0*

*Roll Call Vote: Mayor Pro Tem Laura Gonzales-Aye, Councilor James Gallegos-Aye, Councilor Matthew Gonzales- Aye, Councilor Judy B. LeDoux- Aye,*

## **VII. Minutes**

- a. Discuss/Approve: Special Meeting Minutes January 29, 2021 with corrections  
*Councilor Judy B. LeDoux moved to approve the original January 29, 2021 minutes with Councilor Gallego amendment. Councilor James Gallegos seconded.*  
*Roll Call Vote: Councilor James Gallegos-Aye, Councilor Matthew Gonzales- Nay, Councilor Judy B. LeDoux- Aye, Mayor Pro Tem Laura Gonzales-Aye, Approved 3-1*
- b. Regular Meeting Minutes February 10, 2021  
*Councilor Judy B. LeDoux moved to approve the meeting minutes of February 10, 2021. Councilor Matthew Gonzales seconded. Approved 4-0*

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

- Sue Weldin asked about the status of the speed signs. She would like to have the signs installed soon. Mayor Pro Tem Laura Gonzales stated a completion date needs to be identified and the project completed.

## **IX. Correspondence and Appreciations**

None

## **X. Reports by Department Heads-**

- a. Mayor's Comments  
Mayor Pro Tem Laura Gonzales reported that she was given short notice for the Mayor's absence to this meeting and she was able to go over a few things with him before he left. She reported the 11<sup>th</sup> Street project is complete and she has received compliments. She stated the potholes in the Village need to be filled. Mayor Pro Tem Laura Gonzales also asked what the status on the road repair in front of the Senior Center is. Admin Shawn Jeffrey responded the ground needs to dry out before it can be finished.
- b. Village Administrator Report  
Councilor James Gallegos discussed the commercial rental rate information he obtained from Mr. O'Neill. Mr. O'Neill reported the going rental rate for Cimarron is approx. \$.50 a Square foot and these are rates for all kinds of buildings not just commercial.
- c. Public Works Report  
Council requested to have work orders presented every month with the packets.
- d. Police Department Report  
Chief Ryan Gates submitted his report and provided updates.
- e. Ambulance Report  
No report submitted
- f. Fire Department Report  
No report submitted

- g. Municipal Judge Report  
Judge Karen Gates submitted her report
- h. Senior Center Report  
Admin Shawn Jeffrey reported that the pipes had froze and busted in the Senior Center, an insurance claim has been filed and the adjuster will come out once the damage has been made visible by Archuleta Restoration.
- i. Chamber of Commerce Report  
No Report submitted
- j. Cemetery Board Report  
Mayor Pro Tem Laura Gonzales reported the hours for the Cemetery to be open will be changing April 1 from 8:00am to 8:00pm. The next Cemetery meeting is scheduled for March 29, 2021 at 12:00pm in the Council Chambers.
- k. Beautification Board Report
- l. Code Regulation Board Report  
Councilor Matthew Gonzales reported they met this week and discussed the County wide pet Ordinance and he would like to have a work session on March 22 at 6:00pm for the discussion of a needs assessment for the pet ordinance. He explained his goal for the work session is to have a public forum for discussion of identifying community needs for the pet ordinance and County program.

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

- a. Check Report and Deposit Register from February 11, 2021 through March 5, 2021  
*Councilor James Gallegos moved to approve the check report and the deposit register for February 11, 2021 through March 5, 2021. Councilor Matthew Gonzales seconded. Approved 4-0*
- b. NM Local Government Law Firm bill for \$3,123.79  
*Councilor James Gallegos moved to approve NM Local Government Law Firm bill of \$3,123.79. Councilor Matthew Gonzales seconded. Approved 4-0*

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

- a. Discussion Water Updates  
*Councilor James Gallegos moved to remove water restrictions. Councilor Judy B. LeDoux seconded. Approved 4-0*
- b. Discussion Solid Waste Updates  
Councilor Matthew Gonzales asked if there is a schedule or plan for the transition of the service from Waste management. Admin Shawn Jeffrey reported that waste management will give us an extension as long as we need. Mayor Pro Tem asked if a map of dumpster locations has been made- Admin Shawn Jeffrey stated that she has printed a map for Jerrid Turner and he will mark

the places the dumpsters will be set. Councilor James Gallegos asked if the Village has agreements with Raton and Springer for service coverage for any issues that may arise. Admin Shawn Jeffrey responded that she is working on obtaining an agreement to obtain back up services from neighboring municipalities.

c. Discussion COVID-19 Updates

Mayor Pro Tem Laura Gonzales reported the County is still in the yellow designation.

d. Final Draft On-Call Policy

Attorney Charles Rennick has reviewed the current policy he presented some of the issues with the policy with the Governing Body. Mayor Pro Tem Laura Gonzales reported a work session is planned for Monday March 15 to review and provide suggestions for the policy changes. Charles Rennick stated that employees should be paid for the time the Village is requiring them to be on-call. He also added it may be an option to have a plumber available for emergencies when no one is available for a response. Councilor Matthew Gonzales asked if a stipend was paid for the stand-by time is that permissible? Charles said yes so long as their time is compensated.

**XIII. New Business- Each Item listed \_A\_- \_Q\_. will be considered for Action of Approve/Disapprove:**

a. Installation of Cameras Downtown on Village Owned Poles

The Governing Body discussed the locations and best places for the cameras. The Village properties were recommended for the placement of cameras and not the downtown areas. Councilor Matthew Gonzales asked if the funding is ear marked for particular areas or could it be for public safety? Chief Ryan Gates stated he would check with the High Country Crime Stoppers to see if the funds could be used to purchase cameras for the Village properties. Councilor James Gallegos asked if the funds could purchase a camera to monitor the water plant, the solid waste plant, or the Village yard including locations that require high security.

b. Driveway and Sewer line and sewer line clean out on 356 11<sup>th</sup> St -Elias Gonzales Property  
Councilor James Gallegos reported the issues for this property have been corrected

c. Drainage and ditch on 300 block E11th

Councilor James Gallegos reported this issue has been resolved. Councilor Judy B. LeDoux asked if culverts would be installed in this area soon. Councilor James Gallegos responded that he spoke to the Mayor and that yes some would be installed. Admin Shawn Jeffrey reported that she is in the process of getting 11<sup>th</sup> street added to the NMDOT project funding so culverts can be purchased for the drainage on 11<sup>th</sup> street.

d. Water Meters- Adjustments needed

Mayor Pro Tem Laura Gonzales asked if there is a list for water meter height adjustments that will need to be done. Admin Shawn Jeffrey reported the public works employees have a couple on the list to get completed. Councilor Matthew Gonzales asked that the public works employees make sure to adjust the meters according to NM State regulation.

e. Pro Energy Proclamation

Councilor Matthew Gonzales explained the Proclamation and the importance of supporting environmental stewardship.

*Councilor Matthew Gonzales moved to approve the Pro Energy Proclamation. Councilor James Gallegos seconded. Approved 4-0*

f. Resolution 2021-001 Open Meetings Act -Amendment to increase the amount of Monthly Council Meetings 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month

The Governing Body discussed the options of having two meeting a month. Councilor James Gallegos stated he would not be in opposition of having two meetings a month if they were designated for separate items he would not be in favor if they were regular meeting items. Councilor Matthew Gonzales explained this item is one that he has requested. He would like to have two meetings to have more opportunity for the public to be more engaged.

*Councilor Judy B. LeDoux moved to leave the meetings at once a month and if additional meetings are necessary a special meeting can be scheduled. Councilor James Gallegos seconded. Approved 3-1*

*Mayor Pro Tem Laura Gonzales- Yay, Councilor James Gallegos- Yay, Councilor Judy B. LeDoux-Yay, Councilor Matthew Gonzales- Nay*

g. Discussion: Elected Officials Compensation

Councilor Matthew Gonzales reported he asked for this item to be discussed, he added that if the elected officials were being compensated it might hold them more accountable. Councilor James Gallegos and Councilor Matthew Gonzales debated the item. Councilor James Gallegos stated he is in favor of keeping the position at a volunteer status. The Governing body discussed the topic in depth. *Discussion Only*

h. Cimarron Mercantile Sign Locations

*Councilor Judy B. LeDoux moved to approve for the Cimarron Mercantile to locate their signs in Village Right of Way on Hwy 21 including the location next to Hwy 64. Councilor James Gallegos seconded. Approved 4-0*

i. Resolution 2021-011 Amendment to Project Control No. L400507 to include Washington, 11<sup>th</sup> Street, and 9<sup>th</sup> Street.

*Councilor James Gallegos moved to approve Resolution 2021-011 Amendment to Project Control No. L400507 to include Washington, 11st, and 9<sup>th</sup> street. Councilor Judy B. LeDoux seconded. Approved 4-0*

j. Resolution 2021-012 NMDOT Municipal Arterial Program-Crossings

*Councilor Matthew Gonzales moved to approve Resolution 2021-012 NMDOT Municipal Arterial Program for the Hwy 64 Crossings. Councilor Judy B. LeDoux seconded. Approved 4-0*

k. Discussion Vehicles and Maintenance Schedules for the Village Vehicles available to the Maintenance Staff

Councilor James Gallegos reviewed the list that was submitted. He asked about the equipment that is listed to be out of service. He said if in fact they are out of service are they being removed from inventory and be listed for sale? He asked what is the plan for the equipment that is out of

service. He also added he would like to see the maintenance sheets for the vehicles. Mayor Pro Tem Laura Gonzales added to have the documentation on a spreadsheet for the maintenance of the vehicles. Councilor Matthew Gonzales mentioned he used to use a AF1800 form for all their vehicles maintenance.

l. Discussion Snow Removal for the Village

Councilor James Gallegos mentioned that its important to use the correct piece of equipment when removing snow.

m. Discussion/Approve/Disapprove Notice of Intent to Publish- Ordinance # Water Boil Alert Reimbursement

*Councilor James Gallegos moved to approve the Notice of Intent to Publish the Water Boil Alert reimbursement with the corrections of the monthly credit to be 50% reimbursement of the minimum and to notify the public as quickly as possible using all resources. Councilor Judy B. LeDoux seconded. Approved 3-1*

*Mayor Pro Tem Laura Gonzales- Yay, Councilor James Gallegos- Yay, Councilor Matthew Gonzales-Nay, Councilor Judy B. LeDoux-Yay*

n. CDBG Project Acceptance with final Pay Application

*Councilor Judy B. LeDoux moved to approve the CDBG Project acceptance with final pay application. Councilor Matthew Gonzales seconded. Approved 4-0*

o. NM Edge Classes- CPM Program Administrator Shawn Jeffrey

*Councilor Matthew Gonzales moved to approve Administrator Shawn Jeffrey and Deputy Clerk Renee LeDoux to attend trainings. Councilor Judy B. LeDoux seconded. Approved 4-0*

**XIV. Items for Next Agenda**

- Councilor Matthew Gonzales requested the Per Ordinance update
- Code Enforcement
- Elected Officials Compensation
- Speed Signs
- Water Boil Ordinance

**XV. Adjourn**

*Councilor Judy B. LeDoux moved to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Laura Gonzales seconded. Approved 4-0 8:43 pm*

*Roll Call Vote: Councilors Judy B. LeDoux-Aye, Councilor Matthew Gonzales- Aye, Councilor James Gallegos-No, Mayor Pro Tem Laura Gonzales- Aye Approved 4-0*

**APPROVED THIS 14 DAY OF APRIL 2021**

  
Leo Martinez, Mayor

Attest:

  
Shawn Jeffrey, Clerk-Administrator