



1
2
3
4
5 **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**
6 **REGULAR BOARD MEETING**
7 **MONDAY, JULY 11, 2016**
8 **6:00 P.M.**
9

10 **TRUSTEES:** Nora L. Barraza, Mayor
11 Stephanie Johnson-Burick, Mayor Pro Tem
12 Carlos Arzabal, Trustee
13 Jesus Caro, Trustee
14 Linda L. Flores, Trustee (via phone)
15
16 **STAFF:** Cynthia Stoechner-Hernandez, Town Clerk/Treasurer
17 Kevin Hoban, Fire Chief
18 Debbie Lujan, Public Works Director
19 Chris Mangusing, Marshal
20 Gloria Maya, Recorder
21
22 **PUBLIC:** Chris Alexander Connie Hettinga
23 Charles Bourger
24

25 **1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

26 Mayor Barraza led the Pledge of Allegiance.
27

28 **2. ROLL CALL & DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM**

29 **Roll Call.**

30 **Present:** Mayor Barraza, Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick, Trustee Flores, Trustee Arzabal, Trustee Caro.
31

32 **3. CHANGES/APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

33 **Motion:** To approve the agenda, Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick, Seconded by Trustee
34 Arzabal.

35
36 **Roll Vote:** Motion passed, (summary: Yes = 4).

1 **Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick Yes**

2 **Trustee Arzabal Yes**

3 **Trustee Caro Yes**

4 **Trustee Flores Yes**

5

6 **4. PUBLIC INPUT** – The public is invited to address the Board for up to 3 minutes.

7 Mr. Chris Alexander stated gave history of 1853 and 1854 with regards to the “Gateway”. If there is a
8 gateway marker being placed, it should be placed at our town limits. The residents and trustees should
9 have input on the gateway marker. What is in the packet tonight is not of significance to the Town of
10 Mesilla. The symbol is for the State of New Mexico which was not even being considered as a state at
11 that time. He sat on the gateway committee between Las Cruces and Mesilla; the idea was to have a
12 smooth transition. This proposed gateway marker is an injustice to Mesilla and should be at the outer end
13 of Mesilla.

14

15 **5. *APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA – The Board will be asked to approve by one**
16 **motion the following items of recurring or routine business. The Consent Agenda is marked**
17 **with an asterisk *:**

18

19 **Motion: To approve the consent agenda as amended, Moved by Trustee Arzabal, Seconded by**
20 **Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick.**

21

22 **Roll Vote: Motion passed, (summary: Yes = 4).**

23 **Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick Yes**

24 **Trustee Arzabal Yes**

25 **Trustee Caro Yes**

26 **Trustee Flores Yes**

27

28 a. ***BOT MINUTES** – Regular Meeting minutes of June 27, 2016. *Approved by consent*
29 *agenda*

30 b. ***PZHAC Case # 012565** – 1891 Avenida de Mesilla, submitted by Cali Szczawinski for
31 Mesilla Grill, a request for a building permit to construct a “gateway” type pillar to be placed
32 at the front of her property. Zoned: General Commercial (C). *Tabled*

33 c. ***PZHAC Case # 012581** – 2172 Calle de Santiago, submitted by Jenna K. Emerick, for Salon
34 de Mesilla, LLC, a request for a permit to install a wall sign on a commercial structure at this
35 address. Zoned: Historic Commercial (HC). *Approved by consent agenda*

36

1 **6. OLD BUSINESS:**

- 2 a. For reconsideration PZHAC Case # 012576 –1885 W. Boutz Rd., submitted by Connie
3 Hettinga for Steinborn & Associates Realty; a request for a permit to install a wall sign and a
4 two sided pedestal sign at this address. Zoned: Historic Commercial (HC).

5 Ms. Stoechner-Hernandez stated staff looked at proposed sign location. The sign will be located on the
6 property and not on town easement.

7
8 Mayor Barraza stated we did seek attorney opinion which has been forward to the trustees.

9
10 **Motion: To approve PZHAC Case #012581-2172 Calle de Santiago, submitted by Jenna K. Emerick**
11 **for Salon de Mesilla, LLC, a request for a permit to install a wall sign on a commercial structure at**
12 **this address. Zoned: Historic Commercial (HC), Moved by Trustee Arzabal, Seconded by Trustee**
13 **Flores.**

14
15 Trustee Caro stated after review of the letter he noticed a bunch of discrepancies. He does not understand
16 how no one caught them and allowed them to continue. He would be very hesitant to go with it even if
17 the attorney says it is okay. For instance, the different deeds; one dated 1987 is when the Bunches bought
18 the place from Mr. Bird. Then it reads that it sold from Bunch to Bunch; it may have been a gift. Then it
19 shows that Mr. Bird to sold to Caplan when in reality in 1994 the Bunches sold it to Caplan. There are
20 things that at that time Mr. Cervantes and Mr. Darden were in partnership. At that time the
21 representative for the petitioner was someone named Lutz. But the one that did the footwork and
22 investigation was Mr. Darden and the judge went with his findings. Mr. Cervantes was the attorney for
23 the town and Mayor Cadena. To him that is a conflict of interest since the attorneys were in partnership.
24 Whatever findings were valid since there was a conflict of interest.

25
26 Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick stated she is concerned with the number of signs. Our ordinance
27 addresses free standing two-faced sign; this is not a free standing sign. We do not have anything that
28 addresses monument or pedestal signs. She is not comfortable with the fact that the ordinances say two
29 signs and the application, which is part of public record, says three signs.

30
31 **Motion: Call for the question, Moved by Trustee Arzabal, Seconded by Trustee Flores.**

32 **Roll Vote: Motion passed, (summary: Yes = 3; No=2).**

33 **Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick No**

34 **Trustee Arzabal Yes**

35 **Trustee Caro No**

36 **Trustee Flores Yes**

1 **Mayor Barraza Yes**

2

3

4 **Roll Vote For Original Motion: Motion passed, (summary: Yes = 3; No=2).**

5 **Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick No**

6 **Trustee Arzabal Yes**

7 **Trustee Caro No**

8 **Trustee Flores Yes**

9 **Mayor Barraza Yes**

10

11 **7. NEW BUSINESS:**

12 **a.** For approval: a revised Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Mesilla and the
13 Camino Real Consortium. – **Cynthia Stohner-Hernandez, Clerk-Treasurer.**

14 Ms. Stohner-Hernandez stated the Town of Mesilla joined the Camino Real Consortium in 2015. This is
15 a revised Memorandum of Understanding.

16

17 Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick reviewed the changes to the Memorandum of Understanding.

18

19 Trustee Flores stated we were involved in study the area. We would like to see the corridor plan on
20 University come to fruition. When we can get Viva Dona Ana behind us it helps us when applying for
21 grants.

22

23 Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick stated Trustee Flores was instrumental in serving on the committee and
24 helping with the bylaws.

25

26 **Motion: To approve a revised Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Mesilla and**
27 **the Camino Real Consortium, Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick, Seconded by Trustee**
28 **Arzabal.**

29

30 **Roll Vote: Motion passed, (summary: Yes = 4).**

31 **Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick Yes**

32 **Trustee Arzabal Yes**

33 **Trustee Caro Yes**

34 **Trustee Flores Yes**

35

36 **8. *STAFF REPORTS:**

1 Community Development
2 Community Programs
3 Finance Department
4 Fire Department
5 Marshal's Department
6 Public Works Department
7

8 **9. BOARD OF TRUSTEE COMMENTS**

9 Trustee Flores thanked the board for passing the last item; she feels it will help the town.
10

11 Trustee Arzabal stated the 4th of July event was a great success; thanked staff. He will not be attending
12 the July 25th board meeting; he will be out of town.
13

14 Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick stated in reviewing the packet she was pleased to see the Enterprise Fund
15 is doing what it is supposed to do; being self-sufficient. Gross Receipts are higher than previous years.
16 She saw that the Public Safety Building was awarded Temporary Occupancy notice and the punch list
17 should be completed by July 15th.
18

19 Trustee Caro stated it took him by surprise that he saw the deal for the sign (Connie Hettinga) in the
20 packet. Normally it has to go through re-application process even though we did get the stuff from the
21 attorney. He asked if the spending of funds for the playground equipment come to the board for
22 approval. Stuff like that should have to go through the board for approval. He doesn't know where that is
23 at or if they are going to find the guy, but just thought he would bring it up.
24

25 Mayor Barraza asked that before the board makes comments we need to get our facts straight. The town
26 contracts with Mr. Cervantes and Mr. Darden; we go to either depending on what we have going on. Mr.
27 Darden and Mr. Cervantes have never been partners. She does not know where that came from. The item
28 on the agenda was for a sign permit. We have nothing to do with the deeds; that is between the title
29 company and the property owner. She was very happy to see that Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick and
30 noticed the Enterprise Fund. We are moving in the right direction and hope to see it continue to grow;
31 follow the CPI. She thanked Ms. Parra for doing a fabulous job on promoting the Town of Mesilla.
32 During Department Head meetings we discuss events that will generate tourism for the town. She knows
33 Governor Martinez has been promoting tourism. She does not feel that the southern part of the state is
34 getting its fair share of publicity. She wishes they would channel more money to the southern part of the
35 state. The Public Safety Building did receive a temporary Certificate of Occupancy. They do have until
36 Friday, July 15th; we will keep our fingers crossed. If they do not complete, we will keep fighting to

1 ensure that the project is complete prior to moving in. If a board member votes in the prevailing side they
2 can request an item to bring it back to the board for reconsideration; it does not have to go back to the
3 Planning and Zoning. There needs to be board approval when a purchase is at \$60K and above and at that
4 time we do need to go to bid. It is up to the board if they want to consider changing the ordinance with
5 regards to purchases.

6
7 Ms. Stoechner-Hernandez responded the town follows State Procurement Law.

8
9 Mayor Barraza stated there was a lot of dancing on the plaza during the 4th of July celebration. Hats off to
10 Mr. Nevarez and his family for the donation they give to the Town of Mesilla as far as the Firework
11 Display. The Summer Recreation students will be taking a field trip to Luna Rosa for pizza this Friday at
12 1:00 p.m. The Summer Recreation Program will end July 22nd as well as the last day for Summer Music
13 Series. Tuesday, July 12th at 6:00 p.m. at the Community Center will be getting comments from the
14 residents regarding the Colonia's designation. She is hoping that Mr. Armijo will be able to answer
15 questions as he sits on the Colonia's infrastructure board. NMML Conference is being held August 31th
16 thru September 2 in Hobbs; let Ms. Stoechner-Hernandez know if you would like to attend.

17
18 **10. ADJOURNMENT**

19
20 **The Town of Mesilla Trustees unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting. (Summary: Yes-4)**

21
22 **MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:38 P.M.**

23
24
25 **APPROVED THIS 8th DAY OF AUGUST, 2016.**

26
27 _____
28 Nora L. Barraza
29 Mayor

30
31
32 **ATTEST:**

33
34
35 _____
36 Cynthia Stoechner-Hernandez