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**BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
TOWN OF MESILLA  
REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2018  
6:00 P.M.**

13 **TRUSTEES:** Nora L. Barraza, Mayor  
14 Jesus Caro, Mayor Pro Tem  
15 Carlos Arzabal, Trustee  
16 Veronica S. Garcia, Trustee  
17 Stephanie Johnson-Burick, Trustee (6:05 p.m.)

18  
19 **STAFF:** Cynthia Stoenner-Hernandez, Town Clerk/Treasurer  
20 K.C. Alberg, Marshal  
21 Kevin Hoban, Fire Chief  
22 Gloria Maya, Recorder  
23

24 **PUBLIC:** Ashleigh Curry  
25

26 **1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

27 Mayor Barraza led the Pledge of Allegiance.  
28

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

30 Roll Call.

31 **Present: Mayor Barraza, Mayor Pro Tem Caro, Trustee Arzabal, Trustee Garcia, Trustee**  
32 **Johnson-Burick (6:05 p.m.)**  
33

34 **3. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA & APPROVAL**

35 **Motion:** To approve the agenda, **Moved by** Trustee Arzabal, **Seconded by** Trustee Garcia.  
36

37 **Roll Call Vote: Motion passed (summary: Yes = 4).**

38 **Mayor Pro Tem Caro Yes**

39 **Trustee Arzabal Yes**

40 **Trustee Garcia Yes**

41 **Trustee Johnson-Burick Yes**  
42

43 **4. PROCLAMATIONS:**

44 **A.** A proclamation declaring October 10, 2018 as International Walk to School Day in the

1 Town of Mesilla. – **Ashleigh Curry, Safe Routes to School Coordinator & kids.**  
2 Ms. Curry read a proclamation declaring October 10, 2018 as International Walk to School Day in the  
3 Town of Mesilla. She invited everyone to join the students at 7:30 a.m. in their walk to school and  
4 thanked the board for their continued support.

5  
6 Mayor Barraza thanked Ms. Curry for her continuous participation.  
7

8 **5. CLOSED SESSION** – pursuant to NMSA 1978 Chapter 10-15-1(H)(2): discussion limited to  
9 personnel matters in the Public Works Department. – **Nora L. Barraza, Mayor.**

10 **Motion:** To enter Closed Session pursuant to NMSA 1978 Chapter 10.15.1(H)(2): discussion limited to  
11 personnel matters in the Public Works Department, **Moved by** Trustee Arzabal, **Seconded by** Trustee  
12 Garcia.

13  
14 **Roll Call Vote: Motion passed (summary: Yes = 4).**  
15 **Mayor Pro Tem Caro Yes**  
16 **Trustee Arzabal Yes**  
17 **Trustee Garcia Yes**  
18 **Trustee Johnson-Burick Yes**

19  
20 **Entered Closed Session at 6:11 p.m.**  
21

22 **Motion:** To enter Regular Meeting after limited discussion to personnel matters in the Public Works  
23 Department pursuant to NMSA 1978 Chapter 10.15.1(H)(2); no action taken, **Moved by** Trustee Arzabal,  
24 **Seconded by** Trustee Johnson-Burick.

25  
26 **Roll Call Vote: Motion passed (summary: Yes = 4).**  
27 **Mayor Pro Tem Caro Yes**  
28 **Trustee Arzabal Yes**  
29 **Trustee Garcia Yes**  
30 **Trustee Johnson-Burick Yes**

31  
32 **Entered Regular Meeting at 6:19 p.m.**  
33

34 **6. PUBLIC INPUT** – The public is invited to address the Board for up to 3 minutes.  
35 Ms. Krueger expressed her concerns regarding the procedure of the agreement between Souder, Miller  
36 and Associates and the Town of Mesilla. She stated that if Mr. Steve Ramirez had been present at the  
37 meeting he would have followed through with questions as to what the agreement entailed.  
38

39 **7. \*APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA** – **The Board will be asked to approve by one motion**  
40 **the following items of recurring or routine business. The Consent Agenda is marked with an**  
41 **asterisk \*:**

42 **Motion:** To approve the consent agenda, **Moved by** Trustee Arzabal, **Seconded by** Trustee Johnson-  
43 Burick.

44  
45 Trustee Caro asked on what side of Palacio Bar the mural would be on.

46  
47 Mayor Barraza responded it will be placed on the south wall.  
48

49 **Roll Call Vote: Motion passed (summary: Yes = 4).**  
50 **Mayor Pro Tem Caro Yes**  
51 **Trustee Arzabal Yes**

1 **Trustee Garcia Yes**  
2 **Trustee Johnson-Burick Yes**

3  
4 **A. \*BOT Minutes** – Minutes of a Regular meeting of September 24, 2018. *Approved by*  
5 *consent agenda*

6 **B. \*PZHAC Case 060797 w/CONDITION** – 2600 Avenida de Mesilla, submitted by Velia  
7 Chavez for Palacio’s Bar; a request for a building permit to enable a mural to be painted on  
8 the side of a commercial structure at this address. Zoned: Historic Residential (HR).  
9 *Approved by consent agenda*

10  
11 **8. NEW BUSINESS:**

12 **A. For Approval:** The hiring of a Maintenance/Water Operator. – **Nora L. Barraza, Mayor.**  
13 Mayor Barraza stated the committee is recommending Mr. Manuel Hernandez for the position of  
14 Maintenance/Water Operator contingent on the reference from the immediate supervisor. Mr. Hernandez  
15 has the Level 2 Water Certification which makes him well qualified. These levels are required by the state  
16 in order to keep our water wells in operation.

17  
18 Mayor Pro Tem Caro stated he feels Mr. Hernandez will fit right in and that Mr. Cordero will keep an eye  
19 on his progress.

20  
21 **Motion:** To approve the hiring of a Maintenance/Water Operator, **Moved by** Trustee Arzabal, **Seconded**  
22 **by** Trustee Johnson-Burick.

23  
24  
25 **Roll Call Vote: Motion passed (summary: Yes = 4).**

26 **Mayor Pro Tem Caro Yes**

27 **Trustee Arzabal Yes**

28 **Trustee Garcia Yes**

29 **Trustee Johnson-Burick Yes**

30  
31 **9. \*STAFF REPORTS:**

32 Community Development

33 Finance Department

34 Marshal’s Department

Community Programs

Fire Department

Public Works Department

35  
36 **10. BOARD OF TRUSTEE COMMITTEE REPORTS**

37 Trustee Johnson-Burick indicated the MPO will meet tomorrow.

38  
39 Mayor Barraza stated she attended the NMML Board of Directors meeting. They discussed the Roswell  
40 Conference; the audit report, the issue with the Taxation and Revenue Department which she will bring  
41 forth at a later time. A staff member and commissioner attended the Zoning Conference in Red River.  
42 We will be identifying Airbnb’s and Short Term Rentals in the Town of Mesilla. They will be notified  
43 that a business license must be filed with the town and that Lodger’s Tax and Gross Receipt Tax must be  
44 reported.

45  
46 **11. BOARD OF TRUSTEE/STAFF COMMENTS**

47 Trustee Garcia asked for an update on the bikers.

48  
49 Ms. Stohner-Hernandez responded she had emailed the trustees that they are working with the attorney  
50 and will share the information once it is received.

51  
52 Trustee Garcia asked if the ACLU and the NMSU are included.

1 Ms. Stoechner-Hernandez responded yes.  
2  
3 Trustee Arzabal stated he cannot put something on the consent agenda unless there is a second by another  
4 board member. He just makes a motion; motion dies if it is not seconded. He requested a presentation of  
5 a rubric on when the plaza is closed. We received calls and we need a better answer than telling them to  
6 call the mayor.  
7  
8 Mayor Pro Tem Caro expressed his thanks and appreciation to the Public Works Department for filling in  
9 the potholes. He indicated there are some potholes near the Fire Department that need attention.  
10  
11 Mayor Barraza responded she believes they did repair those.  
12  
13 Mayor Pro Tem Caro stated he saw them on Sunday.  
14  
15 Fire Chief Hoban inaudible  
16  
17 Mayor Barraza stated Mr. Cordero contracted someone who is cleaning out the holes, filling them with  
18 hot mix and running the roller to pack them. Bowman Road was repaired to the best of their ability until  
19 we receive the \$325K in Capital Outlay Funding. Paperwork has been submitted but due to the short staff  
20 at DFA things are being delayed. She met with former Mayor Noble from Las Cruces who lives on  
21 Bowman who shared a memo from the early 60's which he feels shows that Bowman Road belongs to the  
22 City of Las Cruces. We will be doing some research as the City of Las Cruces states that Bowman  
23 belongs to the Town of Mesilla and if it does not belong to us we will turn it over.  
24  
25 Mayor Pro Tem Mayor stated he has tried speaking to representatives but nothing has been done.  
26  
27 Mayor Barraza responded she thinks it belongs to the county. We will continue to work and following up  
28 on the on-going projects. She spoke to the attorney regarding agenda items who stated if there is a  
29 motion, a second and a vote an item can be placed on the consent agenda.  
30  
31 Trustee Garcia stated we will be getting remnants of Hurricane Sergio.  
32  
33 Fire Chief Hoban inaudible  
34  
35 Mayor Barraza stated she met with the reporter referred by Trustee Garcia regarding Chala's. She has a  
36 copy of the report; NMED approved the inspection with recommendations such as a higher stack. They  
37 will not be going out to inspect again. The reporter met with Mr. Frankie Torres owner of Chala's as  
38 well.  
39  
40 Trustee Garcia stated received a call from the reporter who started asking questions regarding the  
41 restaurant; she directed him to the mayor.  
42  
43 Mayor Barraza thanked Trustee Garcia for following protocol. She asked Trustee Arzabal what he needs  
44 regarding plaza closure.  
45  
46 Trustee Arzabal responded he wants the process followed that determines closure of the plaza.  
47  
48 Mayor Barraza responded Ms. Parra brings events requests to the Department Head meetings. We look at  
49 the type of event, how many people are they going to attract, foot traffic and the effect on the businesses.  
50 Our number one concern is Public Safety. The decision is made by everyone at the meeting. We rely on  
51 the Fire Chief and the Marshal opinions with regards to liability. It has been brought to her attention that  
52 items discussed in closed session are being discussed out in the public. Comments are being made that  
53 trustees are talking to residents and this is a concern. She wants to reiterate the importance of keeping

1 confidentiality and attorney/client privilege. She would hate to censure a trustee from participating in  
2 closed session. Upcoming events are Food Truck Fiesta-October 17<sup>th</sup>, 6-8 p.m.; SSCOG meeting-October  
3 19<sup>th</sup>; Infrastructure Conference-October 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>; Board of Trustee meeting-October 22<sup>nd</sup>.

4  
5 Ms. Stoechner-Hernandez indicated Los Leones Car Show-October 13<sup>th</sup>; Halloween Carnival-October 27<sup>th</sup>  
6 6-9 p.m.; 5K-October 14<sup>th</sup>; Mariachi Sunday-October 28<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Parra is accepting candy donations and  
7 volunteers for the Halloween Carnival.

8  
9 **12. ADJOURNMENT**


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

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12 **MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:45 P.M.**

13  
14 **APPROVED THIS 22nd DAY OF OCTOBER, 2018.**

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17  
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19 \_\_\_\_\_  
20 Nora L. Barraza  
21 Mayor

22  
23 **ATTEST:**

24  
25   
26 \_\_\_\_\_  
27 Cynthia Stoechner-Hernandez  
28 Town Clerk/Treasurer

