



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
TOWN OF MESILLA
WORK SESSION
MONDAY, JUNE 10, 2019
5:45 P.M.**

TRUSTEES: Nora L. Barraza, Mayor
Stephanie Johnson-Burick, Mayor Pro Tem
Carlos Arzabal, Trustee
Jesus Caro, Trustee
Veronica Garcia, Trustee

STAFF: Cynthia Stoechner-Hernandez, Town Clerk/Treasurer
K.C. Alberg, Marshal
Kevin Hoban, Fire Chief

PUBLIC: Ruben Contreras Brittany Bloch

A. PLAN REVIEW: PZHAC Case 060848 – Submitted by Ruben Contreras for Brittany Bloch; a request for a zoning permit to construct two commercial buildings on a property at 1901 Calle de Correo. **Zoned: Historical Commercial (HC).**

Mayor Barraza opened the meeting at 5:46 p.m. Mr. Contreras presented the plans to the board demonstrating the Latia connection of the two buildings.

Trustee Caro asked about the sidewalks.

Mr. Contreras stated there will be a 3 ft. sidewalk along Calle de Correo, which will increase in dimensions as it reaches the concrete sidewalk on Avenida de Mesilla.

Mayor Barraza asked about the sidewalk improvements being in the right of way and what the smallest portion is from the property line to the street.

Mr. Contreras responded about 6 ft. to the curb from the property line.

Mayor Barraza asked about the ponding on the property.

1 Mr. Contreras clarified that all drainage will be directed to the ponding area at the back of the
2 property.

3 Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson-Burick stated she had stated at the last meeting that she would like the
4 buildings connected; it will just give a visual effect.

5 Mr. Contreras responded it would not be structurally sound for the lattice to be connected to the
6 buildings because the buildings will settle at different rates.

7 Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick asked how the issue of Long-Term and Short-Term rentals
8 will be addressed.

9 Mayor Barraza responded Air bnb's must be renewed yearly, if they are not staff will follow up
10 on their status. Appropriate matters will be taken to stop Airbnb's from becoming Long-Term
11 rentals or residential home. She directed the applicant to complete the permitting process.

12
13 Mayor Barraza closed Work Session at 6:00 p.m.
14

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4 **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**
5 **TOWN OF MESILLA**
6 **REGULAR MEETING**
7 **MONDAY, JUNE 10, 2019**
8 **6:00 P.M.**
9

10
11 **TRUSTEES:** Nora L. Barraza, Mayor
12 Stephanie Johnson-Burick, Mayor Pro Tem
13 Carlos Arzabal, Trustee
14 Jesus Caro, Trustee
15 Veronica Garcia, Trustee
16

17 **STAFF:** Cynthia Stoechner-Hernandez, Town Clerk/Treasurer
18 K.C. Alberg, Marshal
19 Kevin Hoban, Fire Chief
20

21 **PUBLIC:** Ruben Contreras Brittany Bloch
22 Sally Williams Bill Perry
23 John Chavez Dylan Thunhorst
24 Susan Krueger Trina Witter
25 Lindsey Barr Mary H. Ratje
26 Jim Ratje Amanda Askin
27 Morgan Switzer Shannon Cockriel
28 Sean Cockriel Austin Weber
29

30 **1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

31 Mayor Barraza led the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:00 p.m.
32

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

34 **Roll Call.**

35 **Present:** Mayor Barraza, Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick, Trustee Arzabal, Trustee Caro, Trustee
36 Garcia.
37

38 Mayor Barraza held a Moment of Silence for Ms. Tansy Byrd.
39

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

41 **Motion:** To approve agenda, **Moved by Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson-Burick, Seconded by Trustee**
42 **Garcia.**
43

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

1 Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick Yes
2 Trustee Arzabal Yes
3 Trustee Caro Yes
4 Trustee Garcia Yes
5

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

7 Mr. Taylor recommended delaying voting on extending the election terms as the ones voting may be
8 doing it to benefit themselves.
9

10 Mr. Perry stated he is appalled that the board is considering extending terms for three trustees without a
11 community vote. This borders on a corrupt governing. He recommended have an election in November
12 and compensating the outgoing trustees till March.
13

14 Mr. Hernandez stated no one from Experience Mesilla was notified regarding approval of a Cooperative
15 Marketing Agreement with the State of New Mexico Tourism Department in cooperation with Experience
16 Mesilla. He stated collaboration should be done collectively across the board.
17

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

21 Mayor Barraza removed item 060908 from consent agenda.
22

23 Trustee Arzabal requested placing item C on the consent agenda.
24

25 **Motion:** To approve consent agenda as amended, **Moved by Trustee Arzabal, Seconded by Trustee**
26 **Caro.**
27

28 Mayor Barraza stated Mr. Hernandez notified us at the last meeting that we had received the grant. It was
29 mentioned it would be on this week's agenda for approval. Mr. Hernandez' should have sent out an email
30 blast to get the word out or contacted Ms. Stoechner-Hernandez. She feels we do have a collaborative
31 relationship, but we will try to communicate better.
32

33 Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick reviewed corrections to the minutes.
34

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

36 Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick Yes
37 Trustee Arzabal Yes
38 Trustee Caro Yes
39 Trustee Garcia Yes
40

41 Mr. Cockriel stated he is working on his eagle project and plans on building a 4 ft. marble Grotto to the
42 Mother Mary at the rear of the church store.
43

44 **A. *BOT Minutes** – Minutes of a Work Session on May 20, 2019. *Approved by consent agenda*

45 **B. *BOT Minutes** – Minutes of a Regular Meeting on May 28, 2019. *Approved by consent agenda*

46 **C. *PZHAC Case 060907** – 1930 Calle Pacana, submitted by Maggie Fraga, a request for a zoning
47 permit to install an inground pool at the rear of a dwelling at this address. Zoned: Historical
48 Residential (HR). *Approved by consent agenda*
49

50 a. ***PZHAC Case 060908** – 2415 Calle de Parian, submitted by Robert Reynolds; a request
51 for a zoning permit to allow the construction of a wood frame carport over a brick

driveway on the west side of an existing dwelling at this address. Zoned: Historical Residential (HR). *Approved by consent agenda*

- b. ***PZHAC Case 060909** – 2270 Calle Principal, submitted by Sean Greene-Cockriel for San Albino Church; an application for a zoning permit to allow the installation of a Grotto to the Mother Mary at the rear of the church store at this address. Zoned: Historical Commercial (HC). *Approved by consent agenda*

- c. ***Resolution 2019-09:** A resolution authorizing the Town to Participate in the Local Government Road Fund Program and a Request for match waiver administered by the New Mexico Department of Transportation. *Approved by consent agenda*

D. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. For 1st Reading/Public Hearing: Ordinance 2019-03:** An Ordinance pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 1-22-3.1 to Opt-In to having the election of the Municipal Officers of the Town of Mesilla in the Regular Local Election. – *Cynthia Stoechner-Hernandez, Clerk/Treasurer.*

Motion: To close regular meeting and open a public hearing, **Moved by Trustee Arzabal, Seconded by Trustee Garcia.**

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

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick Yes

Trustee Arzabal Yes

Trustee Caro Yes

Trustee Garcia Yes

Closed Regular Meeting and opened Public Hearing at 6:28 p.m.

Ms. Stoechner-Hernandez gave a brief overview of the changes to the Ordinance and the Mesilla Town Code.

Mayor Barraza stated this is in compliance with recent bills passed in Legislature. All entities in Dona Ana County have opted in with the exception of the Town.

Ms. Williams stated opting in a positive move. She does not agree extending terms. She elected them for one term; compensation can be done if needed.

Mr. Schaljo stated agrees that opting in is a great move. The town should have provided two ordinances; one with term extensions and one with shorting the terms so the town could see the options. He feels it should be up to the voting members of the Town of Mesilla to decide how to proceed. Trustees were elected for one, four-year term.

Ms. Ratje stated she is concerned with residents who are used to voting at a certain time/place and getting them to the polls. She is not sure how the ordinance came about; agrees it should be up to the public.

Mr. Taylor stated he cautioned them on voting on something that may benefit the trustees.

Motion: To close public hearing and go back into regular meeting, **Moved by Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson-Burick, Seconded by Trustee Arzabal.**

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

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick Yes

1 Trustee Arzabal Yes

2 Trustee Caro Yes

3 Trustee Garcia Yes

4
5 Closed Public Hearing and Opened Regular Meeting at 6:38 p.m.

6
7 **B. For Discussion:** Mesilla Night at El Paso Chihuahua's stadium – *Nora L. Barraza, Mayor/*
8 *Austin Weber, Account Executive, El Paso Chihuahuas. (Added 6/7/19)*
9

10 Mr. Weber gave a presentation regarding a Mesilla Night Out at the Ball Park with no charge to the town.

11
12 Trustee Arzabal stated the organization works well with students and is very welcoming.

13
14 Trustee Caro stated this would be good for everyone involved. He is willing to help contact the
15 businesses

16
17 Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson-Burick stated the County has discussed this before; concerned with who is
18 responsible for the legwork.

19
20 Mr. Weber responded he would be the one that would work on the businesses and get them to buy in.

21
22 Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson-Burick asked if there is a minimum amount of tickets that need to be sold in
23 order to do this.

24
25 Mr. Weber responded there is no minimum. He's sure that businesses would want to promote their
26 business and to give back to the community.

27
28 Mayor Barraza stated this will help promote our community.

29
30 Trustee Garcia stated she is willing to contact the businesses.

31
32 **C. For Approval:** A Cooperative Marketing Agreement with the State of New Mexico
33 Tourism Department in cooperation with Experience Mesilla in the amount of \$13,946 to
34 promote and market travel efforts to the Town of Mesilla. – *Cynthia Stoechner-Hernandez,*
35 *Clerk/Treasurer. Approved by consent agenda*
36

37 **7. *STAFF REPORTS:** Community Development Community Programs

38 Finance Department

39 Fire Department

40 Marshal's Department

41 Public Works Department

42 **8. BOARD OF TRUSTEE COMMITTEE REPORTS**

43 Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson-Burick stated that she will be attending the MPO Meeting on Wednesday, June
44 12th.

45
46 Trustee Arzabal stated he will be attending the CEO meeting on June 21st in Deming and the OMA
47 meeting on July 10th.

48 Trustee Garcia stated she will be attending the MPO Meeting on Wednesday, June 12th.

1
2 Mayor Barraza stated she attended a meeting of local realtors. She also attended a NMML meeting in
3 Santa Fe; there was a lot of discussion regarding elections where she asked questions pertinent to the
4 Local Elections Act. Discussions included reasons as to why they extended or shortened terms. Summer
5 Recreation began June 3rd; 30 children are registered. She attended the Military Luncheon on June 4th;
6 the General has been reassigned to Germany. NMDOT Public Meeting was held regarding the University
7 Project on June 5th. They will have another hearing by August/September. Project will begin the end of
8 2022 or beginning of 2023. NMDOT has the funding; the Town of Mesilla will have to come up with
9 some of it. She attended a presentation ceremony with El Paso Electric in which we received a donation
10 of \$4,500 for the 2019 Summer Rec Program. She will attend NALEO next Wednesday in Florida which
11 will be paid by SCCOG. NMML Policy Committee Meeting on June 22nd in Albuquerque which will be
12 attended by some Trustees and staff.

13 14 **9. BOARD OF TRUSTEE/STAFF COMMENTS**

15 Marshal Alberg stated thanked staff for working together on flood control issues with the storm today.

16 Fire Chief Hoban stated Raft the Rio will be June 15th. Public agencies will be working together.

17 Mayor Barraza stated residents have reached out to her to express their appreciation with the Fire
18 Department's professionalism and knowledge.

19 Fire Chief Hoban responded we work in collaboration with the Marshal's Department.

20 Mr. McGillivray gave an update on projects.

21 -McDowell Wastewater project completed

22 -received a match waiver from Local Road Fund

23 -Calle de Parian is at 90% completion

24 -Calle de Picacho assessment needs to be reevaluated

25 -Bowman project going out to bid next week

26
27 Ms. Stoechner-Hernandez stated Summer Music Series started on Friday and will continue to July 26th.

28 Coordinating with Experience Mesilla to provide food. Working on July 4th activities. Interviews for
29 Special Events Coordinator are being done.

30
31 Trustee Caro thanked the residents who spoke up regarding the Election Resolution.

32
33 Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick thanked the Experience Mesilla organization and town staff for working
34 together on the grant to promote the Town of Mesilla. She was surprised to see the dates changed from
35 what was discussed at the May 28th meeting and does not know why it was changed to extend the terms.
36 Thanked the residents for their comments.

37
38 Trustee Garcia thanked Experience Mesilla for their hard work. She agrees with Mayor Pro Tem
39 Johnson-Burick that terms would be shortened and does not know why it was changed. She requested
40 that they see resolutions with extending and shorting terms.

41
42 Trustee Arzabal stated he feels the county is bullying municipalities to opt in by saying they are not
43 going to help us. They must help us; we are a municipality as well. Other municipalities throughout the
44 state have chosen to opt-in; what are the other County Clerks doing? There's more information that
45 needs to be given if we decide to not opt-in.

1 Mayor Barraza stated she does feel the county has threatened/bullied us into it by saying they will not
2 help us; zero support. The Secretary of State's office says that the County Clerk's office has to assist us
3 in the election. The County Clerk's office did not indicate that we can extend terms; Secretary of State's
4 office said we can extend terms; we have two options. If the ordinance does not pass, we do not have an
5 option to opt-in; election will be in March 2020. She has heard from residents that they do not have a
6 problem with extending the terms. She agrees with Ms. Ratje regarding our residents especially the
7 elderly who are used to voting in March. It is important to get them out to vote. The board voiced they
8 wanted to opt-in; she made the decision to move it to the next election based on the information she was
9 getting. We would not be able to continue to compensate trustees for services that are not rendered. She
10 encouraged anyone to come to her office to discuss these issues. She is grateful for all Experience
11 Mesilla has done to promote the town. She wants to continue the partnership. During the interviews for
12 Special Event Coordinator we are stressing the importance of being a liaison between the town and the
13 businesses. She thanked Ms. Stoechner-Hernandez for all that she has done and El Paso Electric for their
14 donation.

15 Ms. Cockriel thanked the town for their support during her son's project. It is inspiring to see the support
16 firsthand.


17 Marshal Alberg gave a weather update.

18 **10. ADJOURNMENT**

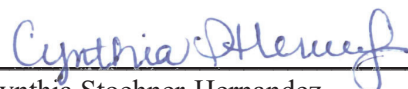
19 **The Town of Mesilla Trustees unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting. (Summary: Yes-4)**

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21 **MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:02 P.M.**

22
23 **APPROVED THIS 24th DAY OF JUNE 2019.**

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25
26
27 
28 Nora L. Barraza
29 Mayor
30

31
32 **ATTEST:**

33
34
35 
36 Cynthia Stoechner-Hernandez
37 Town Clerk/Treasurer
38

