



1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7 **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
8 **TOWN OF MESILLA**  
9 **WORK SESSION**  
10 **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2019**  
11 **5:00 P.M.**

12  
13 **TRUSTEES:** Nora L. Barraza, Mayor  
14 Stephanie Johnson-Burick, Mayor Pro Tem  
15 Carlos Arzabal, Trustee (absent)  
16 Jesus Caro, Trustee  
17 Veronica Garcia, Trustee  
18  
19 **STAFF:** Cynthia Stoechner-Hernandez, Town Clerk/Treasurer  
20 Gloria Maya, Recorder

21  
22 **PUBLIC:**  
23  
24

- 25 1. **Discussion:** Revisions to the Town of Mesilla Personnel Rules and Regulations Handbook. –  
26 *Cynthia Stoechner-Hernandez, Clerk/Treasurer.*

27 Mayor Barraza reviewed changes, definitions and deletions discussed at the last worksession.  
28

29 Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick stated there should be compensation at the higher salary level or a  
30 percentage for additional duties.

31  
32 Mayor Barraza asked if a decision can be made when it comes to the board for approval or should it be in  
33 policy. She asked what the percentage would be based on.

34  
35 Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick stated it would come from the savings from the vacant position.  
36

37 Mayor Barraza responded there is no savings if the person resigning is paid vacation leave.  
38

39 Mayor Barraza stated salaries are budgeted so when an employee leaves and is paid up to 160 hours of  
40 vacation leave (four weeks) we are in the red if a replacement is hired within the four weeks.

41  
42 Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick stated we should not penalize someone doing extra duties.  
43

1 Mayor Barraza agreed they should be compensated in some form. She asked if it would be 5% of the  
2 annual salary or the hourly rate of the employee.

3

4 Ms. Maya responded add 5% to the hourly rate.

5

6 Ms. Stoechner-Hernandez asked if the leave would change.

7

8 Mayor Barraza responded no since it is a temporary assignment.

9

10 Mayor Barraza stated a worksession will be held before our next board meeting to work on the actual  
11 handbook. She asked if there are other definitions that need to be worked on; red, blue and green  
12 corrections were made by Ms. Stoechner-Hernandez and Cody.

13

14 Worksession closed at 5:45 p.m.

15

16

17

18

19

1 **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
2 **TOWN OF MESILLA**  
3 **REGULAR MEETING**  
4 **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2019**  
5 **6:00 P.M.**  
6  
7

8 **TRUSTEES:** Nora L. Barraza, Mayor  
9 Stephanie Johnson-Burick, Mayor Pro Tem  
10 Carlos Arzabal, Trustee  
11 Jesus Caro, Trustee  
12 Veronica Garcia, Trustee  
13  
14 **STAFF:** Cynthia Stoechner-Hernandez, Town Clerk/Treasurer  
15 Kevin Hoban, Fire Chief  
16 Ron McGillivray, Public Works Director  
17 Enrique Salas, Lieutenant  
18 Gloria Maya, Recorder  
19  
20 **PUBLIC:** Andrew Wray Valerie Sherman  
21 Davie Salas Susan Krueger  
22

23 **1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

24 Mayor Barraza led the Pledge of Allegiance.  
25

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

27 **Roll Call.**

28 **Present:** Mayor Barraza, Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick, Trustee Arzabal, Trustee Garcia.  
29

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

31 **Motion:** To approve agenda, **Moved by Trustee Arzabal, Seconded by Trustee Garcia.**  
32

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

34 Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick Yes

35 Trustee Arzabal Yes

36 Trustee Caro Yes

37 Trustee Garcia Yes  
38

39 **4. PRESENTATION:**

40 a) A Presentation from the Mesilla Valley Planning Organization. – *Andrew Wray, MPO*

41 Ms. Sherman gave a presentation from the Mesilla Valley Planning Organization.  
42

43 Mayor Barraza stated there is no communication between New Mexico Department of Transportation

1 (NMDOT) and Las Cruces Public Schools. She stated there is working being done at Rio Grande Prep  
2 Institute for student pickup and drop off. Our law enforcement has concerns with traffic back up and the  
3 exiting from the area; NMDOT agrees but has indicated the schools do whatever they want. Sunland Park  
4 Mayor Perea is working on getting the Port of Entry to become a reality which will affect the MPO and  
5 stakeholders. The City of Las Cruces has trails on their ICIP and is asking Dona Ana County and the  
6 Town of Mesilla for their support by passing a resolution on the MOVE trail which is on this evening's  
7 agenda. We would each give \$125K through our legislators; the City of Las Cruces will be responsible  
8 for maintenance. What can we do to consolidate all the loops?  
9

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

11 Ms. Krueger recommended placing a moratorium on construction of apartments in the historic zone until  
12 everyone has had the opportunity to review the ordinance and how it should be applied.  
13

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

17 **Motion:** To approve consent agenda, **Moved by Trustee Arzabal, Seconded by Trustee Garcia.**  
18

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

20 Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick Yes

21 Trustee Arzabal Yes

22 Trustee Caro Yes

23 Trustee Garcia Yes  
24

- 25 a) **\*BOT Minutes** – Minutes of a Work Session & Regular Meeting on October 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2019.  
26 *Approved by consent agenda*  
27

28 **7. NEW BUSINESS:**

- 29 a) **Resolution 2019-24:** A resolution designating the 2020 official Holidays for the Town of  
30 Mesilla. – *Cynthia Stoechner-Hernandez, Clerk/Treasurer.*

31 Ms. Stoechner-Hernandez stated the Holiday list is in their packets.  
32

33 **Motion:** To approve Resolution 2019-24: A resolution designating the 2020 official Holidays for the  
34 Town of Mesilla, **Moved by Trustee Arzabal, Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick.**  
35

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

37 Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick Yes

38 Trustee Arzabal Yes

39 Trustee Caro Yes

40 Trustee Garcia Yes  
41

- 42 b) **Resolution 2019-25:** A resolution supporting the City of Las Cruces' Southwestern Dona  
43 Ana MOVE trail project. – *Nora L. Barraza, Mayor.*

44 Mayor Barraza read resolution. She stated the Town of Mesilla, Memorial Medical Center, Mountain  
45 View Hospital, Dona Ana County and Paso del Norte Community Foundation have met to discuss  
46 funding for the trail. The City of Las Cruces has designated money for the trail on their ICIP and will

1 provide 100% of the maintenance.  
2

3 **Motion:** To approve Resolution 2019-25: A resolution supporting the City of Las Cruces' Southwestern  
4 Dona Ana MOVE trail project, **Moved by Trustee Arzabal, Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-**  
5 **Burick.**  
6

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

8 Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick Yes

9 Trustee Arzabal Yes

10 Trustee Caro Yes

11 Trustee Garcia Yes  
12

13 Mayor Barraza asked Ms. Stoechner-Hernandez to place the moratorium on all construction for apartments  
14 and buildings on the agenda for the next meeting.  
15

16 Trustee Arzabal asked if a moratorium would apply to applicants that have started the process or for new  
17 applicants.  
18

19 Mayor Barraza responded it will be for new applicants.  
20

21 **8. \*STAFF REPORTS:**

22 Community Development

23 Community Programs

24 Finance Department

25 Fire Department

26 Marshal's Department

27 Public Works Department  
28

29 **9. BOARD OF TRUSTEE COMMITTEE REPORTS**

30 Trustee Garcia stated she will not attend the MPO meeting tomorrow.

31 Trustee Arzabal stated CEO meeting is scheduled for December 13<sup>th</sup> in Hatch.

32 Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick stated MPO meeting tomorrow at 1:30 p.m. at the City of Las Cruces  
33 Council Chambers.

34 Mayor Barraza stated she attended Safety Training in Albuquerque, the US/Mexico Border Summit in  
35 San Diego. Ms. Stoechner-Hernandez will be assigning town email address to all trustees through the  
36 Town of Mesilla which is strongly advised by Risk Management. Trustees will not be allowed to use  
37 personal emails for business correspondence. If the board would like the town can purchase small iPads  
38 for correspondence. The Veteran's Day Ceremony was well attended and one of the best the town has  
39 had.

40 **10. BOARD OF TRUSTEE/STAFF COMMENTS**

41 Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick stated the Veteran's Day Ceremony was very nicely done. She read the  
42 county's policy on community center rentals. She stated the exercise class does not charge.

43 Mayor Barraza responded Pilates group does have a fee or a donation amount which they pay Ms. Kane.  
44

1 Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick stated it would be at no charge; this is for information.  
2 Trustee Arzabal stated it nice to see the filming being done in Mesilla. He believes this is the first project  
3 from Las Cruces Public Schools that did not come to the board for approval. He agrees there needs to be  
4 more communication to hear concerns.  
5 Trustee Garcia stated the Native American Market was a nice event. She and Officer Rivera were  
6 working on the signs for the schools and were told by Mr. Shannon that it needed to go through the  
7 process. She now noticed all the signs have been redone.  
8 Mayor Barraza stated we cannot dictate what the schools can do. There is communication between other  
9 parties and Law enforcement voiced their concerns; they did not take their recommendation. We asked if  
10 LCPS had gotten approval from NMDOT and were told they had not. LCPS did not listen to our  
11 concerns. She met with Dr. Sanchez regarding our issues and concerns. The Town of Mesilla does not  
12 get recognition regarding the filming everything is Las Cruces. She will be looking for grant money to  
13 hire an instructor which will be paid through the town for the Pilates classes; there would be a fee for the  
14 class. She is looking at completing updating the Personnel Handbook by December. She and Ms.  
15 Stoechner-Hernandez will be attending the National League of Cities Summit in San Antonio next week.  
16 MPO meeting this week, Mesilla Leadership Academy ribbon cutting ceremony will be on Friday.  
17 Ms. Stoechner-Hernandez responded we can ask Ms. Sellers to reach out to the filming companies.

18 **11. ADJOURNMENT**  
19


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

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:01 P.M.**

**APPROVED THIS 25th DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2019.**

  
Nora L. Barraza  
Mayor

**ATTEST:**

  
Cynthia Stoechner-Hernandez  
Town Clerk/Treasurer

