



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
TOWN OF MESILLA
CLOSED SESSION
MONDAY, APRIL 12, 2021
5:30 P.M.**

VIA TELECONFERENCE 1-346-248-7799, MEETING ID 983-7900-0389 PASSWORD 971704

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

STAFF: Cynthia Stoechner-Hernandez, Town Clerk/Treasurer
Rod McGillivray, Public Works Director
Edward Lerma, Marshal

- 1. CLOSED SESSION** – pursuant to NMSA 1978 Chapter 10-15-1(H)(2): discussion limited to personnel matters in the Public Works and the Marshal’s Department.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
TOWN OF MESILLA
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 12, 2021
6:00 P.M.**

VIA TELECONFERENCE 1-346-248-7799, MEETING ID 983-7900-0389 PASSWORD 971704

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

STAFF: Cynthia Stoechner-Hernandez, Town Clerk/Treasurer
Kevin Hoban, Fire Chief
Rod McGillivray, Public Works Director
Eddie Lerma, Marshal
Dorothy Sellers, Community Events Coordinator
Larry Shannon, Community Development Coordinator
Gloria Maya, Recorder

- 1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Barraza led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Roll Call.

Present: Mayor Barraza, Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson-Burick, Trustee Arzabal, Trustee Caro, Trustee Garcia.

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

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

3
4 **Roll Call Vote:** Motion passed (**summary:** Yes =4).

5 Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson-Burick Yes

6 Trustee Arzabal Yes

7 Trustee Caro Yes

8 Trustee Garcia Yes

9
10 **4. PRESENTATIONS:**

- 11 a) A proclamation declaring April 19- 25th as “Restaurant Appreciation Week” in the Town of
12 Mesilla- **Requested by Russell Hernandez, Salud de Mesilla.**

13 Mr. Hernandez read proclamation declaring April 19th – 25th as “Restaurant Appreciation Week” in the Town of
14 Mesilla. Encouraged everyone to support the local restaurants.

15 Mayor Barraza thanked Mr. Hernandez for his efforts; praised the restaurants and its owners.

16
17 **5. PUBLIC INPUT –** The public is invited to address the Board for up to 3 minutes.

18 Public input in writing shall be received at cynthias-h@mesillanm.gov an hour before the meeting begins
19 on the day of the meeting and will be read into the record. You will also be given an opportunity to speak
20 during this time by pressing *9 while in the teleconference. You will be prompted when to begin speaking.

21 Mr. Hernandez gave an update on the recent Experience Mesilla Music Festival. He gave kudos to Ms.
22 McGinley for spearheading the festival and the businesses for their participation. July 4th is the day
23 they are looking at for the next Experience Mesilla Music Festival.

24
25 **6. STATEMENT REGARDING CLOSED SESSION AND ROLL CALL VOTE –** discussion during the closed
26 session was limited to personnel matters in the Public Works/Marshals’ pursuant to NMSA 1978
27 Chapter 10-15-1(H)(2). – **Board of Trustees.**

28 **Motion: To approve discussion during the Closed Session held on April 12, 2021 which was limited to**
29 **personnel matters in the Public Works and Marshals Departments pursuant to NMSA 1978 Chapter 10-15-**
30 **1(H)(2); no action taken in closed session, Moved by Trustee Arzabal, Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem**
31 **Johnson-Burick.**

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 **7. ACTION ON ITEMS FROM CLOSED SESSION –** the board may act on items discussed in closed
40 session limited to personnel matters in the Public Works pursuant to NMSA 1978 Chapter 10-15-
41 1(H)(2). – **Board of Trustees.**

42 **Motion: To approve the hiring of Carlos Chavez as Grounds keeper/Maintenance in the Public Works**
43 **Department, Moved by Trustee Arzabal, Seconded by Trustee Garcia.**

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

46 Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson-Burick Yes

47 Trustee Arzabal Yes

48 Trustee Caro Yes

49 Trustee Garcia Yes

50
51 **8. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:** (The Board will be asked to approve by one motion the following
52 items of recurring or routine business. The Consent Agenda is marked with an asterisk *)

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

1 **Roll Call Vote:** Motion passed (**summary:** Yes =4).
2 Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson-Burick Yes
3 Trustee Arzabal Yes
4 Trustee Caro Yes
5 Trustee Garcia Yes

- 6
7 a) ***BOT MINUTES** – Minutes of a Joint Work Session and Regular Meetings on March 22,
8 2021. **Approved by consent agenda**
9 b) ***BOT MINUTES** – Minutes of a Special Work Session and Meeting on March 29, 2021.
10 **Approved by consent agenda**
11 c) ***PZHAC Case 061177** – 2510 Calle de Parian, submitted by Stephen Carrasco, a request
12 for an amendment to a previously approved permit to allow the addition of two wood
13 gates to a property at this address. Zoned: Historic Residential (HR). **Approved by**
14 **consent agenda**

15
16 **9. NEW BUSINESS:**

17 a) **For Approval:** appointment of an Architectural Styles Committee. – **Nora L. Barraza, Mayor.**
18 Mayor Barraza stated the committee members will consist of Mr. Maese, Mr. Shannon, Ms. Lucero, Ms.
19 Sanchez, and Trustee Garcia. Gave description of the committee’s responsibility.

20
21 **Motion: To approve appoint of an Architectural Styles Committee, Moved by Trustee Arzabal, Seconded by**
22 **Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick.**

23
24 **Roll Call Vote:** Motion passed (**summary:** Yes =4).
25 Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson-Burick Yes
26 Trustee Arzabal Yes
27 Trustee Caro Yes
28 Trustee Garcia Yes

29
30 b) **Resolution 2021-07:** a resolution repealing and adopting a job description for community
31 services officer (CSO) position. – **Edward Lerma, Marshal.**
32 Marshal Lerma stated his concerns with the current CSO job description. According to the Academy
33 Regulations with regards to firearms; anyone carrying a firearm must attend and pass the Defense Tactics
34 Training which instructs weapon retention. In his mind it should be a certified officer that carries a firearm;
35 current CSO is not a certified officer, and he is uncomfortable with him allowed to carry a firearm. He would
36 like to abolish the mechanism where the current CSO can carry a firearm. He is uncomfortable with it and does
37 not feel it is appropriate to carry a weapon in public school setting.

38
39 **Motion: To approve a resolution repealing and adopting a job description for Community Services Officer**
40 **(CSO) position, Moved by Trustee Arzabal, Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick.**

41
42 Trustee Caro agrees with Marshal Lerma.

43
44 Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick stated her concerns with the job description where the CSO is not carrying a
45 firearm; asked if there is an SRO?

46
47 Mayor Barraza responded Officer Madson will be the SRO at Rio Grande Prep.

48
49 Marshal Lerma responded Officer Madson will be overseeing the CSO. Officer Madson has passed the
50 Defense Tactics Training, is a certified officer and will be allowed to carry a firearm.

51
52 Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick stated she understood the SRO and the CSO had the same classifications. She
53 recommended correcting language in the sentence under Major Duties where it states the CSO would be

1 directing the SRO to avoid liability issues.

2

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

4 Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson-Burick Yes

5 Trustee Arzabal Yes

6 Trustee Caro Yes

7 Trustee Garcia Yes

8

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

10 Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick: Wednesday, April 14th MPO meeting at 1:00 p.m.

11

12 Trustee Arzabal: Thursday, April 15th CEO meeting with Governor Lujan-Grisham at 1:00 p.m.

13

14 Trustee Garcia: Wednesday, April 14th MPO meeting at 1:00 p.m.

15

16 Mayor Barraza: RTD, SSCOG, Mayor's Caucus, OEM meetings.

17

18 **11. BOARD OF TRUSTEE/STAFF COMMENTS**

19 Fire Chief Hoban gave an update on the vaccine clinic held at the town hall and the possibility of another clinic.
20 They attended training on administering the vaccine to shut-ins and homebound residents in and around the
21 Town of Mesilla.

22

23 Mayor Barraza asked how we can get that message out to the residents.

24

25 Fire Chief Hoban responded the Department of Health has looked at different avenues to get the message out.
26 The list has anyone in Dona Ana County and is being broken down by Zip Code. Accepting applications for an
27 academy which will be this summer.

28

29 Mayor Barraza recommended sending something through Senior Meals to get the message out.

30

31 Mr. McGillivray stated a revision was sent to NMDOT and has been approved for us to retain the funding for
32 Phase 2 of Calle de Norte and filling in the trail from the levee road to La Llorona trail. Plaza lighting project is
33 looking at the end of May for completion.

34

35 Marshal Lerma gave an update on the stolen property search warrants that were executed.

36

37 Ms. Stoechner-Hernandez stated she forwarded information to the trustees regarding the New Mexico Municipal
38 League District meeting which will be held on Friday, April 16th at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom.

39

40 Mayor Barraza stated will be starting the budget process at the next meeting with a worksession.

41

42 Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick congratulated Mr. Astorga on his promotion. Thanked town staff for all they
43 do.

44

45 Trustee Arzabal commended town staff for doing a good job.

46

47 Trustee Garcia asked what the plans are for the \$430,000 that the town will be receiving? Thanked staff for
48 working so hard.

49

50 Mayor Barraza responded we are still getting direction and clarification from the Federal and local Government.
51 We have until 2024 to utilize the funds. There are some limitations since this is for recovery. We will be
52 getting between 50% to 60% upfront 60 to 90 days from when it was approved. We understand it can be used
53 to promote tourism for the communities that have been hit hard, as well as for infrastructure and broadband.

1 Once we received more information, we will inform the board.

2
3 Trustee Caro congratulated Mr. Chavez.

4
5 Mayor Barraza stated Commissioner Prieto and Commissioner Houston have resigned from the Planning and
6 Zoning Commission. Interested residents may submit a letter of interest to her. Reiterated the New Mexico
7 Municipal League District meeting will be on Friday, April 16th at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom. On Tuesday, April 20th at
8 1:00 p.m. there will be a re-election meeting for District 7 director.

9
10 Ms. Stoechner-Hernandez stated a meeting will be schedule this week to discuss definitions regarding the
11 Historic Residential Ordinance. A joint worksession will be held for further discussion in May.

12
13 Mayor Barraza stated correspondence from Mr. Leifield and Mr. Taylor was sent to the board.

14
15 Ms. Stoechner-Hernandez stated she forwarded the correspondence to the committee who has been working on
16 the ordinance as well.

17
18 Mayor Barraza asked Trustee Garcia if she received correspondence from Mr. McGillivray regarding the yuccas.

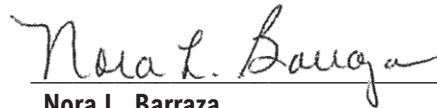
19
20 Trustee Garcia responded yes and forwarded the information to NMDA who will be contact Mr. McGillivray.

21
22 **12. ADJOURNMENT**

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

24
25 **MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:57 P.M.**

26
27 **APPROVED THIS 26th DAY OF April 2021.**

28
29
30 

31
32 **Nora L. Barraza**
33 **Mayor**

34
35 **ATTEST:**

36
37 

38
39 **Cynthia Stoechner-Hernandez**
40 **Town Clerk/Treasurer**

