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**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
TOWN OF MESILLA
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 14, 2021
6:00 P.M.**

IN PERSON AT THE MESILLA TOWN HALL, 2231 AVENIDA DE MESILLA (SPACE IS LIMITED) OR 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 (via Zoom)
Jesus Caro, Trustee (absent)
Veronica Garcia, Trustee

STAFF: Cynthia Stoechner-Hernandez, Town Clerk/Treasurer
Rod McGillivray, Public Works Director
Enrique Salas, Marshal
Larry Shannon, Community Development
Gloria Maya, Recorder

PUBLIC: Eric Liefeld Trina Witter
Chris Schaefer

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 Garcia

3. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA & APPROVAL

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick requested removing Case #061226 and Case #061227 from the consent agenda.

Motion: To approve agenda as amended, Moved by Trustee Arzabal, Seconded by Trustee Garcia.

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

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick Yes

Trustee Arzabal Yes

Trustee Garcia Yes

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

1 Public input in writing shall be received at cynthias-h@mesillanm.gov 24 hours in advance to the
2 meeting and will be read into the record. You will also be given an opportunity to speak during this
3 time by pressing *9 while in the teleconference. You will be prompted when to begin speaking. Space is
4 limited and may require persons giving public input IN PERSON to rotate, if capacity of the room is
5 exceeded.

6 Mr. Liefeld read letter regarding Resolution 2021-11 stating that he made it clear the fence would be
7 on his mother's property within the legal setback; will not encroach on neighbor's property. Asked
8 the board to reconsider the vote.

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

12 **Motion: To approve consent agenda as amended, Moved by Trustee Garcia, Seconded by Mayor Pro**
13 **Tem Johnson-Burick.**

14
15 **Roll Call Vote:** Motion passed (summary: Yes =3).

16 Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick Yes

17 Trustee Arzabal Yes

18 Trustee Garcia Yes

- 19
20 a) ***PZHAC Case 061223** – 2220 Calle de Parian, submitted by Teresa Sanchez (property owner)
21 for T.R. Frieze LLC; a request for a zoning permit to allow the applicant to replace deteriorated
22 parking bumpers in a commercial parking lot at this address. Zoned: Historic Commercial (HC)
23 *Approved by consent agenda*
24 b) ***PZHAC Case 061224-** 2424 Calle de Parian, submitted by Cecilia Quintana; a request for a
25 zoning permit to allow the replacement of an exterior bedroom door on a dwelling at this
26 address. Zoned: Historic Residential (HR). *Approved by consent agenda*
27 c) ***PZHAC Case 061225** – 2557 Calle de Parian, submitted by Andrea Bryan; a request for a
28 zoning permit to allow the installation of a shade structure at the rear of a dwelling at this
29 address. Zoned: Historic Residential (HR). *Approved by consent agenda*
30 d) ***PZHAC Case 061226** – 1680 Calle de Alvarez, submitted by Chris Schaefer; a request for a
31 zoning permit to enclose a breezeway between two commercial buildings at this address. Zoned:
32 General Commercial (C).

33 **Motion: To approve PZHAC Case #061226 – 1680 Calle de Alvarez, submitted by Chris Schaefer; a**
34 **request for a zoning permit to enclose a breezeway between two commercial buildings at this address.**
35 **Zoned: General Commercial (C), Moved by Trustee Arzabal, Seconded by Trustee Garcia.**

36
37 Mayor Pro Tem Johnson Burick stated she is concerned with the breezeway having no sprinklers and being
38 closed off at both ends. She saw where CID approved the permit and asked if the Fire Chief had also approved
39 the permit.

40
41 Fire Chief Hoban responded there have been no plans, at this time, to approve the permit.

42
43 Mayor Barraza stated there will be front and rear doors in the breeze way.

44
45 Mr. Shannon inaudible

46
47 Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick stated wanted to ensure it would not be a fire hazard.

48
49 Mayor Barraza stated since this is a commercial business, the Fire Chief will need to do an inspection. She
50 asked Mr. Shannon if the area will be used as a seating area for customers; if that occur will a sprinkler system
51 need to be installed.

52
53 Mr. Shannon responded not at this time but if that does occur a sprinkler system will need to be installed.
54

1 Mayor Barraza clarified that if any business expands the necessary inspections and requirements will be done
2 and enforced.

3
4 Fire Chief Hoban responded that is correct.

5
6 **Roll Call Vote:** Motion passed (**summary:** Yes =3).

7 Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick Yes

8 Trustee Arzabal Yes

9 Trustee Garcia Yes

10

11 e) ***PZHAC Case 061227** - 1740 Calle de Mercado, a request for a sign permit to allow a new sign
12 for a business to be located at this address. Zoned: General Commercial (C).

13 **Motion: To approve PZHAC Case #061227 – 1740 Calle de Mercado, a request for a sign permit to**
14 **allow a new sign for a business to be located at this address. Zoned: General Commercial (C), Moved**
15 **by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick, Seconded by Trustee Garcia.**

16

17 Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick apologized for removing Case #061227 from the consent agenda; stated she
18 had misread the information.

19

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

21 Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson-Burick Yes

22 Trustee Arzabal Yes

23 Trustee Garcia Yes

24

25 f) ***For Approval:** the hiring of three (3) temporary employees for the Summer Recreation
26 program. *Approved by consent agenda*

27

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29

6. NEW BUSINESS:

30 a) **Resolution 2021-11:** A resolution denying an appeal for case 061099 at 2320 Calle de Santiago
31 a request for a permit to install a coyote fence and a stucco wall around the property at this
32 address. – **Board of Trustees.**

33 Ms. Stoehner-Hernandez read resolution denying an appeal for Case #061099 at 2320 Calle de Santiago.

34 **Motion: To approve Resolution 2021-11: A resolution denying an appeal for Case #061099 at 2320 Calle**
35 **de Santiago a request for a permit to install a coyote fence and a stucco wall around the property at this**
36 **address, Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick, Seconded by Trustee Garcia.**

37

38 Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick stated she initially thought the fence would be on the property line; now she
39 understands that is not the case.

40

41 Mr. Shannon responded the fence would be 6 inches inside of property line. As per ordinance would need to
42 have a setback and fence would need to be 7 ft. inside the property line to entry to the property.

43

44 Mayor Barraza stated the applicant should have been brought forth that information during the appeal hearing.

45

46 Mr. Liefeld responded he was not aware there was false information.

47

48 Mayor Barraza asked Mr. Liefeld if he was aware of the ordinance.

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50 Mr. Liefeld read ordinance section.

51

52 Mr. Shannon read ordinance section 18.35.

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1 Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick stated Mr. Liefeld could provide other plans if he chooses to.

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

Mayor Barraza Yes
Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick Yes
Trustee Arzabal Yes
Trustee Garcia Yes

10 **b) Resolution 2021-12:** a resolution approving an appeal for case 061218 at 2355 Calle de
11 Guadalupe to allow a retracting cloth awning at the Double Eagle Restaurant. – **Board of**
12 **Trustees.**

13 Ms. Stoechner-Hernandez read resolution 2021-12 a resolution approving an appeal for case 061218 at 2355
14 Calle de Guadalupe.

15 **Motion: To approve Resolution 2021-12: A resolution approving an appeal for Case #061218 at 2355**
16 **Calle de Guadalupe to allow a retracting cloth awning at the Double Eagle Restaurant, Moved by**
17 **Trustee Garcia, Seconded by Trustee Arzabal.**

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Roll Call Vote: Motion passed (summary: Yes =3; No=1).

Mayor Barraza No
Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick Yes
Trustee Arzabal Yes
Trustee Garcia Yes

25 **c) Resolution 2021-13:** a resolution designating the Town of Mesilla as a “Colonia” for the
26 purposes of obtaining additional funding for projects. - **Board of Trustees.**

27 **Motion: To approve Resolution 2021-13: A resolution designating the Town of Mesilla as a “Colonia”**
28 **for the purposes of obtaining additional funding for projects, Moved by Trustee Garcia, Seconded by**
29 **Trustee Arzabal**

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Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick stated after serving on the board and seeing the needs of our town it would be
a disservice to the community to if we do not approve the designation.

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Trustee Garcia thanked them for educating our town and our residents. She is looking forward to working on
much needed projects.

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Trustee Arzabal thanked the trustees for getting educated. This designation will help the town get funding for
several needed projects.

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Mayor Barraza stated she is glad that this came back to the table. We will now have the opportunity to look
for funding for much needed infrastructure projects.

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

Mayor Barraza Yes
Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick Yes
Trustee Arzabal Yes
Trustee Garcia Yes

49 **d) Resolution 2021-14:** a resolution extending a moratorium on expanding non-conforming lots an
50 additional two months. - **Board of Trustees.**

51 Ms. Stoechner-Hernandez read Resolution 2021-14: a resolution extending a moratorium on expanding non-
52 conforming lots an additional two months.

1 **Motion: To approve Resolution 2021-14: A resolution extending a moratorium on expanding non-**
2 **conforming lots an additional two months, Moved by Trustee Arzabal, Seconded by Trustee Garcia.**
3

4 Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick stated this has been challenging ordinance.
5

6 Trustee Garcia stated there is no commitment from the members making it difficult to move forward and
7 causing this moratorium to be extended. We need to get this taken care of.

8 Trustee Arzabal thanked the committee.

9 Mayor Barraza stated the revisions to this ordinance are very important. As we extend the moratorium, we are
10 hurting our constitutes.

11 Ms. Stoechner-Hernandez named the committee members.

12 Mayor Barraza encouraged the committee to meet this week to move forward.

13 Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick stated Ms. Stoechner-Hernandez has worked hard in providing information to
14 the trustees and committee members.

15 Mayor Barraza stated she provided copies of the Comprehensive Plan. We need to set a meeting date and
16 move forward to get this done.
17

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

19 Mayor Barraza Yes

20 Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson-Burick Yes

21 Trustee Arzabal Yes

22 Trustee Garcia Yes
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25 **7. *STAFF REPORTS**

26 Community Development

27 Community Programs

28 Finance Department

29 Fire Department

30 Marshal Department

31 Public Works Department
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33 **8. BOARD OF TRUSTEE COMMITTEE REPORTS**

34 Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick: MPO meeting; no meeting in July
35

36 Trustee Garcia: MPO meeting
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38 Trustee Arzabal: CEO meeting Friday, June 11th
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40 Mayor Barraza: STRTD, NMML Mayor Caucus, NMDOT, MPO meetings
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43 **9. BOARD OF TRUSTEE/STAFF COMMENTS**

44 Fire Chief Hoban stated the ISO evaluation has improved to 4 rating and is committed to get to a 3 rating
45 which helps reduce premiums. He is proud of the department for what they do. Drought conditions will
46 continue to be monitored.
47

1 Marshal Salas stated they have received another vehicle. They have an appointment for the graphics to be
2 installed next week.
3

4 Mr. Shannon stated this will be his last Board of Trustees meeting as he will be retiring making his last
5 workday June 25th. He has truly enjoyed working for the Town of Mesilla.
6

7 Ms. Stoechner-Hernandez stated there will be late afternoon luncheon at La Posta on Friday, June 25th at 4:00
8 p.m. in honor of Mr. Shannon; asked everyone to RSVP to Ms. Sellers.
9

10 Trustee Arzabal stated we do not want political answers from Mr. Cervantes. Let us ask clear questions and be
11 straight forward. He asked the trustees if they would like to get together to do something for our employees
12 who stepped up to get the job done during the pandemic.
13

14 Trustee Garcia stated she is pleased the Colonia designation has passed. Thanked Mr. Shannon for his hard
15 work and wished him the best on his new endeavor.
16

17 Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick stated many of the decisions we need to make are not easy. Thanked Mr.
18 Shannon and appreciates what he has done for the town. She understands that New Mexico will be opening
19 fully on July 1st.
20

21 Mayor Barraza stated all future meetings will be in-person and not on Zoom. Once New Mexico is fully
22 opened businesses will go back to following rules and regulations; notices will be sent out to the businesses.
23 There have been two meetings regarding expanding broadband to the west side of Las Cruces; they will be
24 seeking funding to make that possible. Thanked the department heads and staff for their hard work in
25 providing services to the Town of Mesilla. Summer Rec begins on June 21st at the Community Center. A tree
26 will be planted in memory of Ms. Gloria Garza on June 24th at the park across the street from the Community
27 Center on Friday, June 24th. Thanked Mr. Shannon for his commitment and dedication to the Town of
28 Mesilla. Historic Preservation is very challenging. We need to continue what our forefathers put in place as to
29 preserve the history of Mesilla. PZHAC needs our support as they have done a great job in following the
30 ordinances. Our history is what brings tourist to our community.
31

32 Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick stated if we allow the little things to change then it will be the little things that
33 will change Mesilla; big things can be stopped.
34

35 Mayor Barraza stated her area of expertise is preservation. When something is destroyed it is gone. That is
36 not what we want for our community and future generations. She asked if the water fountains are available on
37 the plaza. She asked everyone to be conservative regarding electricity to avoid blackouts and to be safe.
38

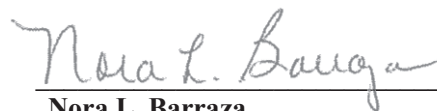
39 Mr. McGillivray responded there is one fountain in working condition.
40
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42 **10. ADJOURNMENT**

43 **The Town of Mesilla Trustees unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting. (Summary: Yes-4).**
44

45 **MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:15 P.M.**
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47 **APPROVED THIS 28th DAY OF JUNE, 2021.**
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51 **Nora L. Barraza**
52 **Mayor**
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1 ATTEST:

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Cynthia Stoechner-Hernandez

Cynthia Stoechner-Hernandez
Town Clerk/Treasurer

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