

# Town of Mesilla, New Mexico

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES (BOT)  
TOWN OF MESILLA  
MONDAY, APRIL 10, 2023 – 5:00 PM  
WORKSESSION MINUTES**

**Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget – Nora Barraza, Mayor**

Mayor Barraza reviewed the proposed budget worksheet by departments. Department Heads have been meeting to discuss expenditures.

Trustee Garcia: Ammo is getting expensive and hard to find.

Lieutenant Azcarate: supplier has indicated there will not be an increase.

Trustee Cadena: cost associated with an additional officer.

Mayor Barraza: looking at operating expenses; numbers are based on expenditures for this fiscal year and the needs of the department.

Trustee Johnson-Burick: line item for insurance

Ms. Maya: insurances were not paid last fiscal year. Every department pays the insurance based on number of employees, vehicles.

Mayor Barraza: reviewed the discrepancy in the insurance line item.

Trustee Garcia: late fees may be assessed.

Ms. Maya: will research that.

Trustee Garcia: travel expenses

Trustee Johnson-Burick: fire department is repaying the restricted funds.

Mayor Barraza: due to the salary difference funds will be available. Direction of the board for salaries. Budget discrepancy in the fire department was due to funds not being transferred to the correct line item.

Trustee Cadena: Brush Fire funds were used and will not be reflected next fiscal year.

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick: Ms. Bush was moving line items around.

Mayor Barraza: Ms. Bush stated there were too many line items. Feel they should be separated to show accurate expenditures and revenues.

Fire Chief Whited: Ambulance is on order.

Mayor Barraza: DOH line item needs to be deleted.

Mr. McGillivray: funding for projects match.

Mayor Barraza: new public works personnel will be paid from the Enterprise Fund.

Trustee Cadena: Public Works will be under budget this year.

Ms. Maya: NMSIF is liability, property, and worker's compensation insurances.

Mayor Barraza: each department has contracts for services.

Trustee Garcia: office supplies

Ms. Maya: Ms. Sellers purchased a computer this year.

Trustee Cadena: funds to notify/communicate with community.

Mr. McGillivray: revisit the utilities.

Trustee Johnson-Burick: reviewed the utilities line item.

Mayor Barraza: cost have gone up, offices rented, more activities. Worksession on April 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.  
Employee increases feedback.

**MONDAY, APRIL 10, 2023 – 6:00 PM**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**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 Merrick, Trustee Cadena, Trustee Garcia, Trustee Johnson-Burick.

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

**Motion: To approve agenda, Moved by Trustee Johnson-Burick, Seconded by Trustee Garcia.**

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

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick Yes

Trustee Cadena Yes

Trustee Garcia Yes

Trustee Johnson-Burick Yes

**4. PUBLIC INPUT – The public is invited to address the Board as allowed by the chair.**

Ms. Walkenshaw stated the minutes need to be corrected to show that Mayor Barraza was not in attendance. Would like to participate in Keep Mesilla Beautiful on April 24<sup>th</sup>. She has submitted a letter of interest to serve on the Lodger's Tax Committee; has not received a response. She asked that communication be made with the town attorney to discuss the cell tower.

**5. PRESENTATION**

**a) National Public Safety Telecommunications Week Proclamation**

Fire Chief Whited read the National Public Safety Telecommunications Week Proclamation.

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

**a) \*BOT MINUTES - Minutes of Regular Meeting, March 27, 2023**

Mayor Barraza asked that the minutes reflect she was not present and did not lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Motion: To approve consent agenda w/correction, Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Merrick, Seconded by Trustee Garcia.**

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

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick Yes

Trustee Cadena Yes

Trustee Garcia Yes

Trustee Johnson-Burick Yes

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

**a) PZHAC Case #061553 – 1930 Calle de Pacana, submitted by Margarita Fraga, to request a building permit to install solar panels on her property. Zone: Historical Residential (HR)**

**Motion: To approve PZHAC Case #061553 - 1930 Calle de Pacana, submitted by Margarita Fraga, to request a building permit to install solar panels on her property. Zone: Historical Residential (HR), Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Merrick, Seconded by Trustee Garcia.**

Trustee Garcia stated the application is missing the Contractors Tax ID number. This application took two months to be processed.

Mayor Barraza responded that one meeting was cancelled due to lack of a quorum.

Trustee Johnson-Burick confirmed they would not be visible from the street.

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

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick Yes

Trustee Cadena Yes

Trustee Garcia Yes

Trustee Johnson-Burick Yes

- b) **PZHAC Case #061549** – 2488 Calle de Guadalupe, submitted by Juan Albert, to request building permit to install commercial equipment in his business. ZONED: **Historical Commercial (HC)**

**Motion: To approve PZHAC Case #061549** - 2488 Calle de Guadalupe, submitted by Juan Albert, to request building permit to install commercial equipment in his business. ZONED: **Historical Commercial (HC)**,

**Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Merrick, Seconded by Trustee Garcia.**

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick confirmed there would not be anything done outside.

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

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick Yes

Trustee Cadena Yes

Trustee Garcia Yes

- c) **PZHAC Case #061535** – 2590 Calle de Colon, submitted by Daniel Bustamantes to build a 15 x 30 feet pool on property. Zone: **Historical Residential (HR)**

**Motion: To approve PZHAC Case #061549** - 2590 Calle de Colon, submitted by Daniel Bustamantes to build a 15 x 30 feet pool on property. Zone: **Historical Residential (HR)**, **Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Merrick, Seconded by Trustee Garcia.**

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

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick Yes

Trustee Cadena Yes

Trustee Garcia Yes

Trustee Johnson-Burick Yes

## 8. CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a) **Discussion concerning attorney/client privilege matters pertaining to threatened or pending litigation in which the public body is or may become a participant pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1(H)(7)**

**Motion: To enter Closed Executive Session: Discussion concerning attorney/client privilege matters pertaining to threatened or pending litigation in which the public body is or may become a participant pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1(H)(7), Moved by Trustee Johnson-Burick, Seconded by Trustee Garcia.**

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

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick Yes  
Trustee Cadena Yes  
Trustee Garcia Yes  
Trustee Johnson-Burick Yes

**Entered Closed Executive Session at 6:15 p.m.**

**Motion: To enter Regular Meeting: discussion concerning attorney/client privilege matters pertaining to threatened or pending litigation in which the public body is or may become a participant pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1(H)(7) - no action taken, Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Merrick, Seconded by Trustee Garcia.**

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

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick Yes  
Trustee Cadena Yes  
Trustee Garcia Yes  
Trustee Johnson-Burick Yes

**Entered Regular Meeting at 7:28 p.m.**

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

Trustee Johnson-Burick: MPO Meeting Wednesday, April 12<sup>th</sup>

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick: MPO Meeting Wednesday, April 12<sup>th</sup>

Mayor Barraza: MPO Meeting Wednesday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, SCCOG Meeting March 31<sup>st</sup>, NLC Conference in Washington, DC; Border Plex held a Celebration of the Platinum Jubilee in Mesilla with a designation of one of the trees on the plaza for the Green Queen Canopy, Chupa premiered, Easter Bunny April 5<sup>th</sup>.

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

Fire Chief Whited stated he will be more concise in his monthly report. Things are going well; the spirit is coming back.

Marshal Salas stated the Mesilla Crime Scene department was asked to assist the City of Anthony with a murder. Drug Kick Back this Saturday 10 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick stated the Green Canopy was very nice. The Alcohol Task does not affect the small businesses. Thanked Mr. McGillivray for notifying the businesses regarding the sidewalks being addressed.

Trustee Johnson-Burick stated there are rumors of cannabis dispensaries in the City of Las Cruces operating outside of the regular business hours. She did some research on the businesses in Mesilla and found there is a business operating 24 hours a day and offering delivery.

Mayor Barraza responded Codes will be following up on that.

Trustee Garcia stated she would like to know who is on the Lodger's Tax Committee. Mr. Salazar cleared up the issue regarding the posting of the minutes for Board of Trustees and PZHAC.

Mayor Barraza responded she has not appointed anyone to the Lodger's Tax Committee.

Trustee Cadena thanked the residents for their attendance and staff for all their hard work. She asked if the minutes would continue to be posted on the town's website.

Mayor Barraza responded they will continue to be posted as a courtesy when they become available. There will be a budget worksession before the next meeting at 5:00 p.m. Cinco de Mayo fiesta will be on May 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Sellers has been working diligently on this fiesta.

Trustee Garcia stated there will be a PZHAC meeting on May 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> in Albuquerque.

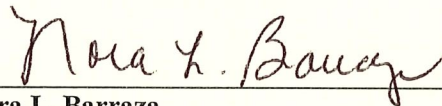
Mayor Barraza stated if any of the trustees are interested in attending let staff know. Ms. Maya and I will be attending a Finance Conference next week in Albuquerque. Capital Outlay projects approved are Public Works Sweeper, Marshal vehicles, roads improvement, and waterline improvements. We will also receive Junior Money to help with the Marshal's vehicles. Mr. McGillivray was informed of the TPS \$750,000 award for Calle de Santiago. We will continue to apply for grants for our needs.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

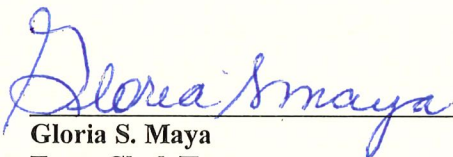
**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:49 P.M.**

**APPROVED THIS 24<sup>th</sup> DAY OF APRIL, 2023.**



Nora L. Barraza  
Mayor

**ATTEST:**



Gloria S. Maya  
Town Clerk/Treasurer

