

Town of Mesilla, New Mexico

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES (BOT) OF THE TOWN OF MESILLA WILL HOLD A
WORKSESSION AT THE MESILLA TOWN HALL,
2231 AVENIDA DE MESILLA.

TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2023 – 3:00 PM

WORKSESSION MINUTES

TRUSTEES: Nora Barraza, Mayor
Adrianna Merrick, Mayor Pro Tem
Biviana Cadena, Trustee
Veronica Garcia, Trustee
Stephanie Johnson-Burick, Trustee

STAFF: Rod McGillivray, Public Works Director
Enrique Salas, Marshal
Gloria Maya, Recorder

Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget – Nora Barraza, Mayor

Mayor Barraza presented the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget.

Trustee Garcia: what are the rental fees based on

Mayor Barraza: Plaza and Community Center Rentals

Trustee Garcia: only received \$8,000 for Business and Liquor License

Mayor Barraza: Business Licenses are only \$35; fee is state law.

Trustee Garcia: increase in Building Fees

Mayor Barraza: up to the board; resident was upset at one of the meetings and understood the board wanted to work with them.

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick: agrees there could be an increase in Building Fees

Trustee Garcia: fees were not being charged accordingly. Mr. Salazar is charging the correct fees, which upsets the residents.

Mayor Barraza: she met with the resident, contractor, and Mr. Maese making her aware of the fees and adjustments that needed to be made on her end. A moratorium was put in place due to this application.

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick: other permits

Mayor Barraza: fire permits, etc.

Trustee Garcia: setting up an Animal License Booth once a month.

Mayor Barraza: Ms. Sanchez can organize that.

Inaudible

Mayor Barraza: Clinic was set up at Ristramnn without a Special Event permit or licensing.

Fire Chief Whited: looking at a Fire Inspection fee.

Mayor Barraza: those would be in other permits.

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick: court fines are down.

Judge Toomey: will do research on the low numbers. The school zone project did well.

Mayor Barraza: what are the fees associated with a project.

Marshal Salas: from \$168 to \$308.

Mayor Barraza: is that what is being charged. Maximum fines are imposed by the state.

Judge Toomey: all get fines but may not get the maximum. Dismissed the insurance and registration citations.

Trustee Garcia: do they come to the town or are they sent to Magistrate Court.

Marshal Salas: we do not send them to Magistrate Court often.

Mayor Barraza: certain fees are going to be eliminated starting July 1st as per HB137. Asked if there is a lot of community service.

Judge Toomey: must be 18 years or older. Community Service is done in Mesilla.

Trustee Garcia: probation period increases.

Mayor Barraza: applies to Mr. Baca; no stipulation for Mr. Salazar. Probation increases only for deputies.

Marshal Salas: reviewed the records storage software being considered.

Trustee Garcia: asked about the loans, ammo, training, and overtime.

Marshal Salas: loan paid out of the Law Enforcement Fund; \$19,623. Ammo will also be paid from the Law Enforcement Fund. Requested \$5,000 for training and \$10,000 for overtime.

Mayor Barraza: salary savings will be used for overtime; 30 hours per pay period.

Inaudible

Marshal Salas: competitive pay is a must.

Mayor Barraza: there are many factors contributing to the shortages.

Trustee Garcia: Mesilla offers the detective program; good role models.

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick: asked if the department is okay with the increase.

Marshal Salas: not okay with the increase, need to make changes and look at the future of the town.

Mayor Barraza: projections are worrisome.

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick: need to invest in our town. Expanding businesses, finding sponsors for the fiestas.

Mayor Barraza: asked how much we want to grow and keep the ambience, the greenbelt, etc.

Marshal Salas: water is an issue with the farming communities.

Trustee Garcia: everything is going up.

Mayor Barraza: revenue comes from enterprise funds and property taxes. Businesses and vendors need to report GRTs to Mesilla.

Trustee Garcia: asked if we received money from cell tower.

Mayor Barraza: no

Trustee Garcia: asked who gets stipends and how they are calculated.

Mayor Barraza: Fire Department and Marshal's Department receive stipends for certifications.

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick: asked if it is a onetime stipend or added to salary.

Mayor Barraza: certifications are part of the job description.

Mr. McGillivray: certification stipends motivate them to move forward.

Mayor Barraza: asked why officers receive a stipend.

Marshal Salas: Specialized training

Trustee Johnson-Burick: asked if the training is shared with other departments/agencies.

Marshal Salas: yes

Mayor Barraza: asked if they receive compensation.

Marshal Salas: no

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick: recommends a one-time payment.

Trustee Johnson-Burick: recertification is done every two years.

Trustee Garcia: asked if the town pays the fees.

Marshal Salas: no

Mayor Barraza: recertification is paid for by the town for the water department.

Trustee Johnson-Burick: asked what stipends Ms. Maya was receiving.

Mayor Barraza: Ms. Maya received \$2,200 for minutes and \$4,500 for Accounts Payable. Stipends need to be reflected as a stipend. Removed if not recertified.

Mr. McGillivray: no incentives to get certifications.

Trustee Johnson-Burick: stipends continue upon recertification.

Inaudible

Mayor Barraza: job description requires certification; should it continue. Town pays for recertification training.

Trustee Garcia: Mr. Astorga met his job requirements; remove the \$1,000 (\$500 for Level 1 and \$500 for Level 2) and if he gets \$500 when he gets Level 3.

Mr. McGillivray: cannot see taking that away from an employee.

Inaudible

Mayor Barraza: stipends were added to hourly. Research who is receiving stipends.

Trustee Johnson-Burick: stipends should not be built into hourly.

Inaudible

Mayor Barraza: asked how the board wants to proceed.

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick: should not continue to pay a stipend if that is part of job description.

Mayor Barraza: that would apply to the Public Works Department; are deputies paid a stipend if they go beyond what is required. This will go into effect July 1st.

Trustee Garcia: pay a one-time payment.

Mayor Barraza: board agrees to a one-time payment for those that are certified.

Fire Chief Whited: certification stipends for volunteers.

Mayor Barraza: not aware of anything.

Judge Toomey: Ms. Molina is a certified translator.

Mayor Barraza: asked if there is a contract for that position. A certified translator is not on the job description.

Judge Toomey: has not seen a contract.

Mayor Barraza: presentation of amended budget at Monday's worksession.

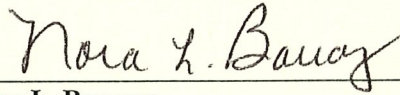
Trustee Garcia: review employees on probation. Marshal's Department did not get what they wanted but they should be happy with what they got; hopes they appreciate it.

Ms. Maya: Mr. McGillivray and Mr. Hernandez will be receiving longevity increases.

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

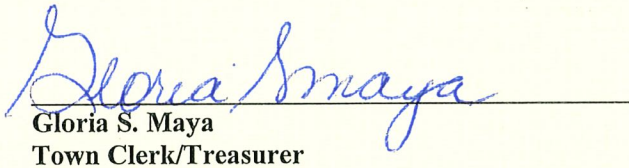
WORKSESSION ADJOURNED AT 5:05 P.M.

APPROVED THIS 12th DAY OF JUNE, 2023.



Nora L. Barraza
Mayor

ATTEST:



Gloria S. Maya
Town Clerk/Treasurer



