



THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES (BOT) OF THE TOWN OF MESILLA

REGULAR MEETING
AT THE MESILLA TOWN HALL, 2231
AVENIDA DE MESILLA

MONDAY, December 8, 2025 - 6PM

MINUTES

TRUSTEES: Russell Hernandez, Mayor
Adrianna Merrick, Mayor Pro Tem
Biviana Cadena, Trustee
Stephanie Johnson-Burick, Trustee
Gerard Nevarez, Trustee

STAFF: Ben Azcarate, Marshal
Lourdes Hernandez, Sergeant
Lorenzo Astorga, Public Works Director
Gloria S Maya, Town Clerk/Recorder

PUBLIC: Raul Esparza, Jr Richard Moreno
Cynthia Hernandez Katyn Hazen
Andrea Broyan Greg Lester
Janice Cook Bill Cook
Dasa

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Barraza led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ROLL CALL & DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

Roll Call.

Present: Mayor Hernandez, Mayor Pro Tem Merrick, Trustee Cadena, Trustee Nevarez, Trustee Johnson-Burick.

Mayor Hernandez read a statement before the meeting.

3. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA & APPROVAL

Motion: To approve agenda, Moved by Trustee Nevarez, Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Merrick.

Motion carried unanimously

4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: (The Board will be asked to approve by one motion the following items of recurring or routine business)

a) BOT MINUTES – November 24, 2025 - BOT Regular Meeting

Motion: To approve consent agenda, Moved by Trustee Johnson-Burick, Seconded by Trustee Nevarez.

Motion carried unanimously

5. PUBLIC INPUT ON CASES – The public is invited to address the Board as allowed by the chair.

No Public Input

**6. ACTION AND CONSIDERATION
NEW BUSINESS**

- a) **APPROVAL** – SIGN PERMIT CASE #062076 –2470 Calle de Guadalupe, C. Submitted by Kalyn Hazen. Applicant is looking to put up two signs for her potential new business, Just Peachy Double Wide Designs. ZONE: Historical Commercial (HC).

Motion: To approve Sign Permit Case #062076 – 2470 Calle de Guadalupe, C. Submitted by Kalyn Hazen. Applicant is looking to put up two signs for her potential new business, Just Peachy Double Wide Designs. Zone: Historical Commercial (HC), Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Merrick, Seconded by Trustee Cadena.

Roll Call Vote: Motion passed (summary: Yes-4)

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

- b) **APPROVAL** – CASE #062067 – 2185 Calle de Guadalupe, submitted by Richard Moreno. Requesting approval to construct an accessory building on the property. ZONE: Historical Residential (HR).

Mayor Hernandez reviewed Case #062067.

Motion: To approve Case #062067 – 2185 Calle de Guadalupe, submitted by Richard Moreno. Requesting approval to construct an accessory building on the property. ZONE: Historical Residential (HR), Moved by Trustee Nevarez, Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Merrick.

Roll Call Vote: Motion passed (summary: Yes-4)

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

- c) **APPROVAL** – Commemorative Park Engineering Proposal (Preliminary Planning)
Mayor Hernandez reviewed Commemorative Park Engineering Proposal (Preliminary Planning).

Motion: To approve Commemorative Park Engineering Proposal (Preliminary Planning). ZONE: Historical Residential (HR), Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Merrick, Seconded by Trustee Cadena.

Roll Call Vote: Motion passed (summary: Yes-4)

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

- d) **DISCUSSION** – Wireless Telecommunication Facilities Ordinance Update – Attorney
Led discussion

Mayor Hernandez gave an update.

Mr. Cabellos gave an overview of the Wireless Telecommunication Facilities Ordinance Update.

Trustee Nevarez commented

Trustee Cadena commented

Mayor Pro Tem commented

Trustee Johnson-Burick commented

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

Daso commented

8. BOARD OF TRUSTEE COMMITTEE REPORTS & LIASION UPDATES

Trustee Nevarez: SCTRDR made an announcement

Trustee Johnson-Burick: MPO meeting Wednesday, 1:00 at the City of Las Cruces

Trustee Cadena: Taylor Historic Site meeting Wednesday.

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick: MPO meeting Wednesday

Mayor Hernandez: MPO meeting Wednesday, DOT meeting, Lodger's Tax Committee meeting last Monday, Colonias Emergency Funding Application meeting, Water Trust Board Readiness Application, Audit Exit meeting Thursday, Souder-Miller meeting, SCCOG meeting cancelled.

9. BOARD OF TRUSTEE/STAFF COMMENTS

a) *Ongoing Projects Listing*

b) *Calendar of Events*

Marshal Azcarate gave a department (Marshal) update.

Director Astorga gave a department (Public Works) update.

Mayor Hernandez gave a department (Fire) update.

Mayor Hernandez gave a department (Econ/Comm Development) update.

Trustee Nevarez commented

Trustee Johnson-Burick commented

Trustee Cadena commented

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick commented

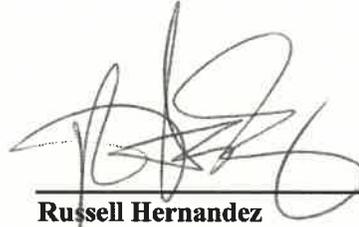
Mayor Hernandez commented

10. ADJOURNMENT

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

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:12 P.M.

APPROVED THIS 22nd DAY OF DECEMBER, 2025.



Russell Hernandez
Mayor

ATTEST:



Gloria S. Maya
Town Clerk/Treasurer



****BOT MEETINGS ARE AVAILABLE LIVE ON TOWN OF MESILLA'S YOUTUBE PAGE****

Mesilla Re-Zoning Workshop Questions to Consider

If re-zoning for commercial and residential building, how might you preserve or improve quality of life (QOL)?

Some specific factors to consider and for which you might offset negative impacts by offering incentives, imposing requirements, seeking grants, etc.:

- Traffic safety
- Air quality
- Noise reduction
- Electric grid stability
- Green space
- Crime

Where's the mitigation?

Background thoughts.

Traffic safety. The ongoing construction of University Avenue will provide significant improvements for vehicles, pedestrians, bicycles, and vehicles for persons with mobility issues. Some variation in the width of the street may help discourage excessive speed. Growth through re-zoning, however, may require additional measures to assure safety. I am concerned that increased housing will lead to more people driving through the Mesilla Farms neighborhood.

Air quality. I acquired asthma after moving to Mesilla. Air pollution from seasonal allergens and blowing dust, construction digging, agricultural chemicals and mold, and car exhaust contribute to my breathing issues. The idling vehicles at Zia Middle School during drop-off and pick-up contributes to air pollution. Project Jupiter may contribute more pollution if it uses gas turbines for power. Added vehicle traffic and commercial processes may increase negative effects on residents' health.

Noise reduction. Traffic on University Avenue has grown since I moved to Mesilla 20 years ago, and no longer feels as peaceful as it once did. Enhanced, loud mufflers are disturbing, as are sirens. Electric vehicles offer some noise reduction, but they are unaffordable for most drivers.

Electric grid stability. Solar panels on homes and businesses have helped offset some residential consumption, but we would need more solar to reach critical mass. Re-zoning will add to electricity demands in our town. Nationally, there are already signs of higher grid demand (and costs) from data centers, EVs, etc. I have noted recent throttling of my Internet access.

Green space. I enjoy parks, xeriscaping, and bioswales. I hope we continue to prioritize green space in any re-zoning efforts, as it supports health and well-being, as well as community pride.

Crime. Friends who live in Mesilla Park have had past difficulties with theft and vandalism. Mesilla Farms subdivision neighbors have reported a few issues as well. We even considered ~~creating~~ gating the neighborhood recently. I sincerely hope commercial and residential re-zoning will not increase crime.

Sylvia Acchione-Noel, 2845 Boldt Street

