



Village of Cuba

PO Box 426
Cuba, NM 87013
575.289.3758

Mayor

Denny Herrera

Mayor Pro Tem

Gilbert Dominguez

Council Members

Rebecca Salazar

Kyle Sandoval

Monica Olivas

Administrative Offices

Village of Cuba
Regular Council Meeting
Wednesday, January 28, 2026
214 SR 197, Fire Station
Cuba, New Mexico
MINUTES

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited**Roll Call by Ms. Martinez**

Mayor Herrera-Present

Mayor Pro Tem Dominguez-Present

Council Member Salazar-Present

Council Member Sandoval-Present

Council Member Olivas -Present

Approval of Agenda

Council Member Olivas makes a Motion

Council Member Salazar Seconds

Public Comment Two Minute Limit:

AJ Pacheco: "I have a couple quick things. There are a couple of petitions that I don't know if the community is aware of, that I started. One of them is to encourage Sandoval County to improve the solid waste transfer station, to expand hours and improve the infrastructure. Umm, I got about 700 views online and only about 70 signatures, so only about one in ten people reviewed the petition for signing. There's going to be hard copies at my office on Mainstreet and at the NAPA, and it's also on Change.org. I really encourage everyone to sign these, maybe get some improvement on that. The County has been saying for 5 years they were going to change it, not a thing has changed."

Council Member Salazar: "Can we get some at the library?"

Mr. Pacheco: "Yeah, absolutely, I'll drop some off tomorrow."



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Mayor Herrera: "Or some of the different businesses if they're willing to help you gather signatures and stuff also is a good idea."

Mr. Pacheco: "Absolutely, I know Mark Martinez is going to start going door to door on Mainstreet and see who would like to. I just got back from Santa Fe, or I would've done it earlier in the week but yeah."

Mayor Herrera: "What's your goal for signatures?"

Mr. Pacheco: Sigh...

Mayor Herrera: "The more the..."

Mr. Pacheco: "The more the better yeah, I mean truly I don't think they'll listen with less than a couple thousand signatures."

Mayor Herrera: "Ok."

Mr. Pacheco: "I mean the dump serves several thousand people."

Mayor Herrera: "Yeah, it serves ah, a very big area, correct?"

Mr. Pacheco: "Yeah, yeah. Umm, and then the second petition is to encourage both the County and State to improve pedestrian safety on Hwy 126 and County Rd. 13 from 550 to the schools. There was the basketball tournaments happening a couple of weekends ago and there was kids walking in the mud on the hillside, same thing, the County has been telling me for 7 years that we're looking into it looking into it. Someone is going to get run over at some point, so same thing, petitions..."

Mayor Herrera: "Ok."

Mr. Pacheco: "I'll have them all down Mainstreet, same thing. I know there is a two-minute limit, I brought a letter that I wrote to the Village Council and to you Mr. Mayor, I won't read it just for the sake of time, but ah essentially, I know you guys are busy you have a lot going on. There is so much happening with the audit, the mold, everything else, but I worry that we are repeating past mistakes by ignoring maintenance and umm my concerns with the walking track. When the weather is nice, I use it to run, a lot of people seem to use it and I see a lot of trucks parking on it. This last week there was even one of the Village trucks driving on it to empty the trash cans. I'm glad they're emptying the trash cans; that needs to be done, but the track was never designed to hold a vehicle. It's not wide enough, it's not rated for that weight, we're going to end up ruining it ourselves, and we've already lost what? 5-6 million dollars' worth of property to..."

Mayor Herrera: "Yeah, lack of maintenance."

Mr. Pacheco: "Lack of maintenance. Rocks, trees, shrubs, we can get rocks for free from BLM to just put them where people can't park or drive on it."

Mayor Herrera: "We have a, we have a, we have a grant and we're waiting to hear from it still for fencing for the whole park."

Mr. Pacheco: "Yeah absolutely."

Mayor Herrera: "It's just been stuck in there ah, it's a recreational grant and it's been, ah, we've been waiting on it more than a year now and they still haven't made their final decision who's going to be awarded on it."



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Mr. Pacheco: “Even if it’s interim and even after it’s, it’s fenced in which is a great idea. The area between 126 and the playground, ah, even if it’s fenced in people still drive on it, they still drive on it.

Mayor Herrera: “Ok.” No this is a fully fenced the whole perimeter of the park.

Mr. Pacheco: “Right.”

Mayor Herrera: “The outside of the track, yeah.”

Mr. Pacheco: “Yeah, so if it’s, if I could just give you guys...”

Mayor Herrera: “Yeah, no no...”

Mr. Pacheco: “the copy of this letter, is that alright?”

Mayor Herrera: “Yes, that’s fine.”

Mr. Pacheco: “And that’s my public comment.”

Mr. Pacheco handed out a letter to the Council, Mayor Herrera and Mayor Pro- Tem Dominguez and as each person said Thank you, Mr. Pacheco in return said, "thank you."

Mayor Herrera: “Anybody else have any public comment?” “Carey?” “Ok, go ahead.”

Carey Beam: “Good evening, Council, Community, Carey Beam, I am speaking as a contractor for the Village of Cuba in regard to the proposed Library website. This was brought up in a previous meeting, and I just wanted to give a status update that the library's website is built. Um, I just spoke to our library director this afternoon, she was pretty happy with it going public. It is built to grow so it is very basic right now, but, um one of the main features and the reason why we moved forward on this project is that we could post obituaries from the community as a public service as function of the library to document our community’s history. So um, I will be working in the coming weeks to publicize the new website encourage people to use it, also if they have obituaries to submit, I will provide instructions, but it does have a form on the website that anyone can submit an obituary if it is online obituary they can simply submit the link from the funeral home or newspaper wherever it came from and we can post it from that again this is documenting community history so if you have obituaries from the past that are not published online if they’re pre internet, if they’re newspaper clippings, if they’re in your scrapbooks or bulletins from church um you can still request that those obituaries be posted online on the library website and we will work with you to get them up there in the best way. So, um if anyone is interested here in this meeting you can preview it’s cubanmlibrary.org, but um just be on the lookout there will be more ah coming out in the community about that.”

Council Member Olivas: “Thank you.”

Carey Beam: “Thank you.”

Council Member Olivas: “I like that.”

Mayor Herrera: “Thank you. Anybody else has a comment.”

Mr. Pacheco: “One more?”

Mayor Herrera: “One more.” Giggles.

Council Member Salazar: “No, jokingly.”



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Mr. Pacheco: "I want to remind everybody that the County will be here on Friday for the EMS meeting and we need the community to show up to voice your concerns about our public safety."

Council Member Salazar: "And that will be..."

Mr. Pacheco: "at 6:00 p.m."

Mayor Herrera: "and that meeting, that meeting will be held at the county yard?"

Mr. Pacheco: "At the county, 6:00 p.m. Yep."

Kerin Sparks: "It specifically, it will be held at the Paula Enyeart building."

Council Member Salazar: "At the what?"

Kerin Sparks: "The Paula Enyeart building, they call it the Rec Center."

Council Member Salazar: "Oh."

Council Member Sandoval: "It's the first one."

Council Member Salazar: "It says Paula Enyeart on it."

Kerin Sparks: "Yeah."

Council Member Sandoval: "It's the first one."

Council Member Olivas: "Where's that?"

Karin Sparks: "At the Fair Grounds, it's the first building on the left."

Council Member Olivas: "Oh, ok, ok."

Mayor Herrera: "Any further comment, anybody else have comment?"

Mayor Herrera: "Next item will be the presentation retirement of Municipal Court Clerk, Lynette Crespin."

Clapping from audience, Mayor, Village Clerk, Village Deputy Clerk and Council.

Kerin Sparks: "On behalf of the Village we would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude for your 25 years of service to us and uh we got together a little bit of money to get you something,"

Mrs. Crespin: "Thank you."

Kerin Sparks: "And then we also have a plaque for you."

Mrs. Crespin: "Awe, Thank you."

Kerin Sparks: "So again, thank you for your commitment and your great dedication to our community and we just appreciate you and everything you've done."

Mrs. Crespin: "Thank you."

Mayor Herrera: "Thank you Lynette, it was a pleasure working with you for the 4 years I've been working."

Mrs. Crespin: "Thank you. Thanks, thanks for having the opportunity to be able to do this and for me to serve my community, I did enjoy it. I tried to help who I could when I could."

Mayor Herrera: "Thank you."

Council Member Salazar: "Jokingly, can we call you in an emergency?"

Laughs from all present.

Ms. Martinez: "Can I get a picture for the website?"

Mrs. Crespin: "I would be happy to"



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Mrs. Martinez: "Ok. With the Council members and the Mayor."

Council Member Sandoval: "Lynette, and thank you thank you for thinking and letting us know ahead of time to be able to get the next person...you know..."

Council Member Salazar: "Trained."

Council Member Sandoval: "Trained up to where it wasn't such a burden or you know there's such that of that dead space in between trying to find somebody get them trained up that we had the best training them to be able to just fill that spot seamlessly."

Mrs. Crespin: "It was my job, but it's not my job exclusively, I mean it's the communities' job, so you know there's no reason why I wouldn't have done it."

Council Member Salazar: "Ah, in your opinion, she ready to go?"

Mrs. Crespin: "Oh yeah."

Council Member Salazar: "She's good?"

Mrs. Crespin: "Yeah, yeah, she has only text me twice in this whole time and that's pretty good so."

Laughs from all present.

Council Member Salazar: "Then your job is done."

Mayor Herrera: "That could mean two things though." giggles...Haven't had a lot of tickets right?" Giggle

Council Member Olivas: "You will be missed."

Mayor Herrera: "You guys, you guys want to stand up and take a picture with her for the...?"

Council Member Olivas: "Yeah."

Mayor Herrera: "Get back here Lynette."

Clapping from all present.

Council Member Salazar: "Thank you again."

Council Member Olivas: "Can you get everybody? Can you see Gilbert?"

Ms. Martinez: "You all good? Uno, dos tres...beautiful."

Mayor Pro Tem Dominguez: "Congratulations."

Mrs. Crespin: "Thank you."

Clapping from all present.

Ms. Martinez: "Congratulations."

Council Member Sandoval: "Keith Is in training right, for the next, to be the next mayor."

Council Member Salazar: "Keith or Ruby."

Mayor Herrera: "Next item on the agenda is the Presentation Dark Skies Ordinance by Roger Sweet and Kylo Winters."

Roger Sweet: "I'm here Roger sweet I appreciate you inviting me to talk about ah, I was the mayor, maybe I'll move over here where I can see everyone."

Mayor Herrera: "No, no, yeah."



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Roger Sweet: "I'll get my notes."

Carey Beam: "Sure, and I have a statement from Kylo, he was um not able to join us this evening. Mr. Sweet if you don't mind, I'll just read Kylo's statement to open, and then I can hand it off?"

Mr. Sweet: "Yeah, sure."

Carey Beam: "Some of you may know Kylo Winters, he operates the ah Navajo tours USA business here um, and so this is his statement regarding the Village of Cuba Dark Sky Initiative. Thank you for the opportunity to speak on this important topic. I am the indigenous business owner and community member. I want to share four key reasons why earning Dark Sky designation would be a powerful step for the Village of Cuba and surrounding area.

1. An ideal natural amphitheater for the Cosmos. Our location nestled between Cuba Mesa and the Jemez mountains creates a natural corridor of darkness and little light pollution. This makes Cuba uniquely positioned as a gateway for astronomy, stargazing and Night sky photography. Few places in the world offer such stunning celestial visibility so close to a main highway.
2. Economic renewal through stargazing tourism, more and more travelers are seeking quiet, authentic and grounded experiences. The modern world is overstimulated. In the decades to come, Cuba can become a refuge for those craving slower starlet nights. A dark sky status invites photographers, wellness seekers and families looking to reconnect with nature, especially through a "inaudible" business in and around the Village of Cuba.
3. Bridge for global and regional visitors every year our business offers travelers from around the world visiting New Mexico's Chaco Canyon and the Ah-Shi-Sle-Pah Wilderness. Shiprock and Angel peak and iconic stops along US 550. A dark sky designation would help create a regional Night sky trail connecting the village of Cuba to this constellation of scenic landmarks. This makes the village of Cuba not just a stop, but a destination.
4. Protecting what's sacred for all who call this home. Our night skies are part of my heritage and your heritage. They guide ceremony, storytelling, and identity. As development continues, We must protect the darkness overhead for all who live, learn and play here, especially for future generations. A commitment to dark skies Is a commitment to balance, not just for tourism, But for the soul of this land. I apologize for not attending this evening, the stars are calling and the Village of Cuba has a chance to answer beautifully. Mr. Sweet."

Mr. Sweet: "That was great."

Carey Beam: "It really is."

Mr. Sweet: "Yeah, I can understand his perspective. I appreciate the Council having me here, Since it's our Cuba valley here. I honor that you wanna go the dark sky route because I was mayor of Jemez Springs until 2004 and



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I spent probably a good seven years of that council position and mayorship working towards work dark skies designation and it was, it was a journey. We ah, um as um a Village we had a dark sky ordinance in place probably for almost 20 years, but it was based upon selfishness. We wanted to do it because we wanted to preserve our night sky, and what's difficult to enforce, enforcement is that they cut out a big, big part of any big dark sky journey in there, and we also, when I became Mayor, we examined the ordinance that we had in place all those years and it was based upon archaic language it referred to wattage of light bulbs Hornell it's called lumens and it's a different vocabulary because of levy's and technology, so ordinance really was not enforceable it was not um anything that we ah um we could ask our citizens to step up and participate in. We did have an agreement with the Jemez Mountain Electric Coop. that when streetlights burned out, um because, I'm sure, like the Village of Cuba, we paid for the running the monthly fees for the streetlights when they burnt out they would replace them with dark sky lighting. We found out that there was a lack of understanding of what dark sky lighting is, and when the lights started to burn out streetlights they would replace them with the bright brightest LED lighting you could imagine you know like you're in a Walmart parking lot or something. And so as me being Mayor, I put a stop and said as they burn out let's leave them burned out until we can figure out a different solution. So, the route that we went for, in order to come up with um, um, an adequate ordinance and also to get money to help us facilitate making the Village of Jemez Springs a dark sky ordinance Is that we looked around for grant opportunities that can help us with this and the Regional development corporation in Los Alamos, they they're um told to reach out to outlying communities to help them with projects because they have a lot of money in Los Alamos and they share it with opportunities. So Regional Development Corporation helped us create an ordinance and also did a feasibility analysis about how it would affect the Village of Jemez Springs if we had a dark sky ordinance, and the feasibility study deals with economics, you know as Mr. Winters statement fares. It became part of our economy of the village of Jemez Springs to pursue dark sky ideas and so on and so forth. It also gave us the ability to um, we felt as a Village as uh we were probably one of the major polluters of the dark sky in the vVillage through street lights, Village facilities like our fire station, like this one here, I noticed the lights are just blinding when you come up to it and such, so, you know, we really felt like we couldn't start to lean on and ask our citizens to do the state of New Mexico there, yeah. dark skies implementation unless we were pretty much 100% ourselves compliant dark skies, the Village Itself. I think that's where the journey really started in the hard part of the journey. Once we got a feasibility study and got a new ordinance in place with the council passed and there's a lot of ordinances out there that you can pick from and choose from, and ours was kind of built from..."Inaudible" We could go to the Legislature in the State of New Mexico and then yeah, our representative is Chris Chandler. I don't know who your representatives are."

Mayor Herrera: "Susan Herrera."

Mr. Sweet: "Oh, Susan Herrera. OK yeah, and we went to Chris and we asked her to help us support center of dark sky initiative and she, Legislature and was able to get into 168,000 to replace the street lighting within the Village of Jemez Springs to dark sky lighting. And that, that was a major factor. We also the Valles Caldera is like Chaco Canyon to you here in that they wanted to become a Dark Sky National Park, and they finally got the designation, but part of doing that they had to reach out to the surrounding communities and help them become Dark Sky compliant. So, the friends of the Caldera took the Village complex, they bought new lighting for the entire Village complex, reinstalled it and they could check box for the, International "Inaudible" society that



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get, get money, and it helped us in our goal to become Dark Sky compliant. one thing that we tried out in the community that you might not try is that we had to use our... our community is a lot smaller than Cuba i think we have officially within the Village about couple hundred, couple hundred people, residents in the Village, so, we decided to get some lights turned off around the Historic Bath House and Library and had a Star party. We contacted the Astronomy Club in Los Alamos, and one member brought down a telescope and set it up for us and we, about 20 people showed up for the Village, and it's a pretty good percent of people that you know showed up and uh, and it was really, really fun. Everybody just couldn't believe that, what you could see you know and how fortunate we are to see it being so close to Albuquerque. So, we got the idea that how the larger community could, we're a tourist destination and so are you, you have a lot of traffic coming through

Council Member Salazar: "Has it affected the Village of Jemez in a negative way?"

Mr. Sweet: "In terms of...No. It has not."

Mayor Herrera: "Before we get into the agenda, I would like to thank you Ben for helping on the Zoning and Planning."

Ben Yeargin: "Yes sir."

Mayor Herrera: "Yeah, I know. It's been a, it's been a challenge." Giggles and ah I, we'll, we'll still attempt to be moving this forward. You've gone to meetings AJ? You've been to the meetings also; I missed the last meeting correct?

Mr. Pacheco: "Umhm yep."

Mayor Herrera: "Ok."

Council Member Salazar: "I would like to know when the next one is so I can be present."

Mayor Herrera: "Next, I would like to introduce our new Police Chief. Chief Huckeby. Would you like to talk to us a little bit?"

Clapping from all present

Chief Huckeby: "Well I had everything prepared in my head, but now that I'm looking at everybody, I don't know what to say."

Giggles from all present

Chief Huckeby: "Nah I'm very thankful to be here, umm I have some experience in Cuba from my time with Sandoval County. So everybody kind of has an understanding of me, I'm part military, I spent a lot of years contracting, I worked privately for the government for a in Afghanistan and, I've been in law enforcement um too many years, giggles, I spent most, a vast majority of my career either in an undercover capacity or managing individuals in a specialty unit or undercover. I was hired here, for the whole goal is to try to modernize the Police Department and to take it into the 21st Century. Um, I'm going to make this promise, it's not going to



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happen tomorrow. Chuckle. Alright, um, what I can promise you is that it is going to be one step at a time process but it's going to be a step that I'm willing to take as far as it goes. Glad to be here and you know, no Police Department can function properly without the support and help of its community so I hope to foster a great community relations with every one of you to where you feel comfortable to be able to come to us with your problems and see that it gets fixed. Now, I can't say that for every 1,000 problems we're going to be able to solve to the 100th degree, every 1,000 problems, but I guarantee we'll try to exhaust ourselves to be able to do that, ok. But, again thank you glad to be here."

Council Member Olivas: "You're welcome."

Clapping from audience

Mayor Herrera: "Thank you."

Council Member Salazar: "I just have a quick comment, in the past our community has wanted our former chief of police to attend meetings, how do you feel about attending meetings once a month to update the community..."

Chief Huckleby: "No, I don't mind."

Council Member Salazar: "and how do you feel about um, interaction with the community?"

Chief Huckleby: "That's my job."

Council Member Salazar: "Nice."

Mayor Herrera: "That's one of the first questions I asked."

Giggles from audience

Council Member Olivas: "You pass the test."

Council Member Salazar: "That's very important to the community, to our little community, we've always wanted communication with our Chief of Police, with our Chief of Fire, with you know with our Mayor."

Chief Huckleby: "I come from a small town, I grew up in a very small town of a ranching community, so I get that completely. Um, I was just telling the Mayor earlier today coming back up here all the time I always feel kind of at home because it reminds me of my hometown which I'm very far from so it's very nice."

Council Member Olivas: "Where's your hometown?"

Chief Huckleby: "Inaudible, Oklahoma."

Council Member Olivas: "Oh yeah, you're far."

Chief Huckleby: "Yeah, really far."

Council Member Olivas: "So are you living in Cuba or in Albuquerque?"

Chief Huckleby: "I live in Rio."

Council Member Olivas: "Ok."

Mayor Herrera: "Today was his first day."

Council Member Olivas: "Ok, nice."

Carey Beam: "I'm sorry I didn't catch your name Chief."

Chief Huckleby: "Michael Huckleby."

Carey Beam: "Chief Michael Huckleby, welcome."

Mayor Herrera: "Put it on the website." Chuckles..." Thank you."

Chief Huckleby: "Yes sir."



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Mayor Herrera: “Next item is the Discussion, Consideration and Action of the Approval of the minutes of the regular council meeting held on October 8, 2025.”

Motion: Council Member Olivas

Second: Council Member Sandoval

Mayor Herrera: “Any discussion from the Council on this matter?”

Council Member Salazar: “There’s a couple um errors that I’ve seen. I didn’t get a chance to go through all of them but, this one just spelling and and I can send you that.”

Mayor Herrera: “We can do a conditional approval and ah”

Council Member Salazar: “Right.”

Mayor Herrera: “And then she can correct the spelling on it and that later inaudible.”

Council Member Salazar: “Right.”

Mayor Herrera: “You can bring whatever it is to their attention,”

Council Member Salazar: “MmmHmm.”

Kerin Sparks: “I would like to say, I appreciate you being willing to look through it and letting me know what’s incorrect on it.”

Council Member Salazar: “Yeah, well, you know like I mentioned previously it’s a legal document, once it’s approved it... that’s it and, and, and we want it done right. We want... you know... and you know you’ve been working hard, you’ve been doing it, you guys both have a lot on your plate and like I said in the past if there’s anything I can help with I’ll be more than willing to you know just to alleviate your stuff and I think with helping you with this would would help a lot and I’m willing to do it.”

Kerin Sparks: “I appreciate it.”

Ms. Martinez: “Thank you, and we may need some assistance in typing up minutes.”

Council Member Salazar: “I can do that, I can do that and it’ll help you guys with other... I mean this is important but help you with more important stuff because this takes out a lot of your time.”

Kerin Sparks: “It does.”

Council Member Salazar: “And you get away from what really needs to be done, and I, I’m willing to help.”

Mayor Herrera: “Is there a way to automate this so...”

Fire Chief Morales: “Couldn’t you go through Teams, and they have ah AI?”

Kerin Sparks: “It issss... I didn’t mean to interrupt you sorry.”

Fire Chief Morales: “No, you’re good, because that’s what we use.”

Kerin Sparks: “So teams for us and our experience and on our side of things is very inaccurate it is very inaccurate. It’ll say some outrageous things that we didn’t say anything close to it, so I’m working on there’s a dictation software for the recorder I’m working on seeing how we can download it and that’ll help us...”

Mayor Herrera: “Print everything out a lot easier.”



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Council Member Salazar: “Or maybe even um like I mentioned um, try the old way that our ex-Clerk use to have with the tapes. I mean if you need to order more tapes or whatever because like I said um, there were discrepancies, there was typos whatever but um I think it would help just to see which one works best for you, and I mean if I'm gonna help you I'd like to see which one would work best for me too.

Mayor Herrera: “I think the thing the thing to deal with is clarity. “

Council Member Salazar: “Right.”

Mayor Herrera: “From everybody speaking out loud everybody stating and stuff and not over talking of one person over the other and then it's a lot easier for them to interpret it and to put it out exactly how it is. Any further discussion in this item from the Council? Would you like to do a conditional approval, or would you like just to approve the minutes?”

Council Member Salazar: “Approval with the condition.”

Mayor Herrera: “Ok. Roll call vote for conditional approval on the minutes for October 8, 2025. Roll call vote Mrs. Martinez.”

Mayor Pro Tem Dominguez: Yes

Council Member Salazar: Yes

Council Member Sandoval: Yes

Council Member Olivas: Yes

Motion Carries

Mayor Herrera: “Next item is the Discussion, Consideration and Action of the Approval of the minutes for the regular meeting, regular Council meeting held on October 29, 2025.”

Council Member Olivas makes a Motion

Council Member Salazar Seconds

Mayor Herrera: “Any discussion from the Council on this matter?”

Council Member Salazar: “Seeing that the...”

Mayor Herrera: “Inaudible...So if you'd like you can give the conditional approval on these minutes also until they're finalized and then. Let me ask you a question Mrs. Martinez, once they are, once they are Kerin, Ms. Buttry once they are final, once they are finalized would we have to re-approve at the next meeting?

Ms. Martinez: “No, if it's just fixing punctuation and spelling.”

Mayor Herrera: “Ok, ok, alright thanks. So, ah roll call vote for the...the conditional approval for the minutes for October 29, 2025.

Council Member Salazar makes a Motion.

Council Member Sandoval Seconds.



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Mayor Herrera: “Roll call vote Mrs. Martinez.”

Mayor Pro Tem Dominguez: Yes

Council Member Salazar: Yes

Council Member Sandoval: Yes

Council Member Olivas: Yes

Motion Carries

Mayor Herrera: “Next item is the Discussion, Consideration, Action of the Approval of the minutes of the regular Council meeting held on November 18, 2025.”

Council Member Olivas makes a Motion.

Council Member Sandoval Seconds.

Mayor Herrera: “Any discussion from the Council on this matter?”

Council Member Salazar: “Just with the corrections.”

Mayor Herrera: “Ok. Roll call vote for the...”

Ms. Martinez:

Mayor Pro-Tem Dominguez

Mayor Herrera: “Oh hold on.”

Ms. Martinez: “Oh, Sorry.”

Mayor Herrera: “Sorry, roll call vote for the conditional approval for the minutes of November 18, 2025.”

Mayor Pro Tem Dominguez: Yes

Council Member Salazar: Yes

Council Member Sandoval: Yes

Council Member Olivas: Yes

Motion Carries

Mayor Herrera: “Next is the Discussion, Consideration and Approval for the monthly warrants for the Village of Cuba for the November and December 2025.”

Council Member Olivas makes a Motion

Council Member Salazar Seconds.



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Mayor

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Mayor Herrera: "Any discussion from the Council on this matter?"

Council Member Salazar: "Um, on page one of the Law Enforcement Protection, um can you tell me what the Barrett Firearm Manufacturing is for \$17,065?"

Chief Huckleby: "So, we should not get that. That is a 50cal Sniper Rifle. That is military..."

Council Member Salazar: "So this this is showing that we already got it right?"

Ms. Martinez: "Yes."

Council Member Salazar: "It's already been purchased, um, so..."

Chief Huckleby: "We can figure out a way to re-sell that."

Council Member Salazar: "Ok."

Chief Huckleby: "So we get some of our, so we can get our funds back."

Council Member Salazar: "Ok. There's no need for this community to have a sniper rifle in their police force?"

Chief Huckleby: "No."

Council Member Salazar: "OK. Second one is the right to bear arms, was another \$18,000 what was...do you know what that was Patricia, or?"

Chief Huckleby: "So I went over it a little bit today with Loretta, it was kind of chaotic, so I came in at 2, so I'm gonna have to go back over all the right to bear arms to specifically look at that one..."

Council Member Salazar: "Ok."

Chief Huckleby: "so, um I'll come back to you on that one."

Council Member Salazar: "Ok, um then uh same page Mrs. Martinez, Bank of America for Chief Coleman \$1,687.13?"

Mrs. Martinez: "Yes ma'am, I included in your packet," Inaudible.

Council Member Salazar: "Ok

Mrs. Martinez: "Other purchases by card holder and on there is credit card monthly expense report so, you'll be getting those monthly in your packet, so you know all the credit card purchases, and the breakdown."

Council Member Salazar: "Ok, and I know that I've been going in and signing a lot of checks and asking a lot of questions, I think I may not have done these ones, so."

Mrs. Martinez: "Yeah, so this is new, with the new ones that we got so we're actually paying, Inaudible, with the statements and what the payments are. Something to avoid an issue we ran into in the past so, there's the breakdown there, they fill this out monthly, it's based off the individual statements and attach all the receipts before we pay the...Inaudible."

Mayor Herrera: "Ok and you guys will be supplied with the monthly statement at our regular meetings."

Mrs. Martinez: "Yes. It's in your packet there and there were additions to the packet so it looks like this."

Council Member Salazar: "I saw that it's in the back somewhere."

Mrs. Martinez: "Yeah. So, the breakdown there for his purchases are um on that paperwork."

Council Member Salazar: "Ok. Page 1 of the Lodgers tax. We just approved the 8000 was the total right cause this is broken down \$7,500 and 500?"

Mrs. Martinez: "Yes ma'am and as requested on the \$7,500 went to the science club."

Council Member Salazar: "OK. "



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Mrs. Martinez: "And then the \$500 went to New Mexico Science Teachers Association. So, the total of \$8,000, but the checks were..."

Council Member Salazar: "Separate."

Mrs. Martinez: "Separate, yes."

Council Member Salazar: "OK."

Council Member Sandoval: "Before we get too far on the law enforcement on the on page 1, the ammo from Salt Lake wholesale sports, is that a normal amount for..."

Chief Huckleby: "how much is that?"

Council Member Sandoval: "6 thou, \$6,335.31?"

Chief Huckleby: "What caliber?"

Council Member Salazar: "It doesn't, it just says PD ammo."

Mrs. Martinez: "Yeah, it's ammo and like 9mm."

Chief Huckleby: "OK, so that could be pretty normal. Especially with the amount of times that we have to qualify and depending on what kind of shooter you are, you might qualify a couple of times."

Council Member Salazar: "But you can check to see if this has anything to do with that sniper rifle or anything like that.?"

Chief Huckleby: "Yeah, if it's a 9mm and all that should be on to the pay stubs and everything that me and Loretta kind of went over. So, I'll go over anything that's pertaining to that sniper rifle, which to my understanding its a 50 caliber sniper rifle, uh we'll go over there and we'll start trying to figuring out how to sell all this stuff because we don't need it, but we could really use those monies for things that police officers actually need., so."

Council Member Salazar: "Right. Overtime."

Carey Beam: "Do you know where that 50 cal. Is?"

Mayor Herrera: "I think is just on order."

Kerin Sparks: "It's been ordered."

Chief Huckleby: "Yes, Yeah, so, if it's on order we'll have to look at the stipulation of what's on the order, to see if there's any way to cancel since we haven't taken delivery of it, because if we haven't taken delivery of it then we don't have it in fact, and so there is no reason why they can't refund us the monies...Inaudible."

Mayor Herrera: "And these are all law enforcement protection monies, so they didn't come out of the General Fund. Mrs. Martinez if you can just supply him with all the PO numbers and the description of the round that was ordered and the breakdown, I guess is what I'm trying to say. Give him some guidance on it."

Mrs. Martinez: "Inaudible"

Council Member Salazar: "Page 1 of the Emergency Medical Services, \$40,300 was that to stock the trucks?"

Mrs. Martinez: "\$4,300?"

Council Member Salazar: "\$40,000."



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Mrs. Martinez: "Oh the \$40,300...so actually that was an error on my part, it should have been deposited into the Fire Protection fund. So, you see there the payees, the village of Cuba Fire Protection funds. So, we paid out of the EMS fund to put it into the correct fund, the \$40,300."

Council Member Salazar: "Ok. And then the following page, the following page uh \$11,032.06 for the Presbyterian Medical Services?"

Mrs. Martinez: "Some of these were umm old invoices that hadn't been paid for prior years."

Council Member Salazar: "Ok. Would this be like for their trucks, or...why would we be paying Pres..or, the clinic?"

Kerin Sparks: "So they had x amount of funds left in the EMS fund that they had to zero out for their audit and they had turned in all these PO's that were never fulfilled by our offices so, when I attained them they came through as repayment to Presbyterian because they had to pay out of their own pockets for these supplies and it should have come from us as their fiscal agent."

Mayor Herrera: "So it's just a reimbursement."

Kerin Sparks: "So, it's just a reimbursement, if you look at Zoll Medical Corporation that was for their re-training on their medical device on Med3401 and that one was passed due as well."

Council Member Salazar: "Huh.. Thank you. Page 1 of the recreation. Uh, the Lindrith...Lindrith Septic Pumping \$500.00 for what? Rentals for? And then it doesn't say."

Kerin Sparks: "We did a rental for Kyle's 5k and now the Chili Festival."

Council Member Salazar: "Ok."

Council Member Sandoval: "Page 1 of the Water and Sewer, uh the \$4,800 to the Electric Coop, is that just the regular... for the wells?"

Mrs. Martinez: "Yes, and it would be for all of them. Umm that's the one for December, so, that I think was for 2 months."

Council Member Salazar: "I think it was 2."

Council Member Sandoval: "Yeah because on the next page on page 2, there's another one for \$6,875. "

Mrs. Martinez: "OK. So, your date up on the top for November..."

Mayor Herrera: "One was on the first the other was on the 29th, correct?"

Mrs. Martinez: "Yes. For November the \$7,000, those were for two months, and then for payment for December, that would cover one month over the Water and sewer accounts...Inaudible"

Council Member Salazar: "Umm. On the page one of the Water and Sewer fund, uh who's Manual Casados and what did we pay him to repair? And is he certified or..."

Mrs. Martinez: "Umm there was a water leak on 197 and there was nobody to assist Austin with it, so umm"

Mayor Herrera: "He worked a loader with Austin."

Mrs. Martinez: "So, he worked a loader with Austin on the Water Dept."

Mayor Herrera: "He was on uh, on uh"

Council Member Salazar: "But is he certified or, just helped him because he's a friend, or...?"

Mayor Herrera: "There was nobody else to help him it was on the weekend, I think it was a leak that was there in front of Rhonda's house, so he couldn't be there by himself, so he volunteered to help, well not volunteered but he got him to help him, and if we would've had to call somebody out it would have been 6 or 7 thousand."



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Council Member Salazar: "And our men weren't available? So, Hernandez, or nobody else that works for the village?"

Mayor Herrera: "They don't work on the weekends, you can try and call them they can come out if they want, they're not on call. Austin responded."

Council Member Salazar: "Austin always responds."

Mayor Herrera: "And thanks for this format, it's a lot easier to read other than it was before."

Mrs. Martinez: "To list and it shows you the deposits as well."

Mayor Herrera: Yeah, yeah, it's, it's really helpful."

Council Member Salazar: "From the General fund, the first page of the general fund, there's a payment for Mr. Coleman and Mr. Pleasant for \$780 for 2025, defensive something? Was that the meals, board?, was it for?"

Mrs. Martinez: "Uh, yes. It was.."

Council Member Salazar: "Was it for training?"

Mrs. Martinez: "Yes it was the meal per diem and the overnight accommodations."

Council Member Salazar: "And that Grant that they got that uh what is it the ELF fund or whatever, can't pay for their trainings for the Police Dept? Isn't that LEPD fund or whatever it is."

Mrs. Martinez: "When I asked that question Council Member Salazar, I was told it pays for the registration fee, but not the per diem."

Council Member Salazar: "So this is per diem and meals?"

Mrs. Martinez: "Yes."

Council Member Salazar: "So that's what this is?"

Mrs. Martinez: "Yes."

Council Member Salazar: "And how long was that training? That's a lot."

Mrs. Martinez: "It looks like uh, December 15 to December 16."

Mayor Herrera: "That was lodging also correct."

Council Member Salazar: "Two days."

Mrs. Martinez: "Yes."

Council Member Sandoval: "So on that, if that was the per diem, on page 2 there's another per diem for Coleman for \$70 and then on the page 1 this other page 1."

Mrs. Martinez: "Chief Coleman attended, is attending a weekly training every Thursday and putting in for per diem every Thursday for that training. I'm not exactly sure what it was, but we're looking into it to see what it was, but it was a weekly training that he was attending, umm on Thursday's" every week."

Chief Huckeby: "It was on the schedule as well..."

Council Member Sandoval: "Ok, umm..."

Chief Huckeby: "It didn't say specifically what it was, but I can try and look and see what it was."

Mrs. Martinez: "Yeah, I have the backup on each per diem, so..."Inaudible

Mayor Herrera: "And all per diems, sorry about that. And all per diems are paid to whatever the State mandates."

Mrs. Martinez: "Yes."



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Council Member Sandoval: "And then there's another per diem for Mr. Pleasant as well for \$780."

Mayor Herrera: "It isn't from the original \$780?"

Council Member Sandoval: "Well no because it's, there's \$780 here and then there's \$780 here."

Council Member Salazar: "Oh yeah, it's on the third page."

Mrs. Martinez: "Ok, so that's a different date so that will be November 17th and 18th."

Kerin Sparks: "And the 20th to the 22nd as well. The 21st excuse me."

Mayor Herrera: "So it was ongoing training, is that what you're saying?"

Mrs. Martinez: "Yes."

Council Member Sandoval: "So those are just all, they were all different trainings?"

Mayor Herrera: "Just different trainings."

Mrs. Martinez: "Inaudible...Different trainings."

Council Member Salazar: "The same for Mr. Coleman on 11/26 for \$210 for per diem from 11/6 to 11...?"

Council Member Salazar: "Are they, when any employee goes on training or is there a way of...justifying that they were actually there? Is there a way?"

Chief Huckleby: "From the law enforcement side of it?"

Council Member Salazar: "the law enforcement side, any of your employees, your officers, your secretary. Um, admin assistant, whatever. Is there a way of...actually knowing that they went, proving?"

Chief Huckleby: "Yeah, so every class in law enforcement, frankly every class, should have a roster, and then they also provide a certificate at the completion of the training, because those trainings are very important for our certification because there's certain amount of hours that we have to keep up to maintain certification and that's how they prove it is the certification. So, certification has dates of when the certificate was issued, and the dates of the training. So, it shows all the completed amount of hours."

Council Member Salazar: "So, you will be requiring that moving forward?"

Mayor Herrera: "So, you're thinking, you're thinking when they're done with the training, they could turn in the certificate or make a copy of it and attach it to the per diem?"

Council Member Salazar: "Well just like, I worked for a dentist for 20 years, I had my license, umm every year I had to get so many hours of CEU's right, continuing Ed. hours in order to keep my license."

Chief Huckleby: "Yes."

Council Member Salazar: "Officer Coleman went to these trainings once a week, who's to say he was there, is what I'm saying. Who's to say your secretary goes for a week to training, who's to say Karen went for a week or Patricia or you know, document, document, document, if not it didn't happen, right?"

Chief Huckleby: "Of course."

AJ Pacheco: "That's a good question. Where do trainings usually take place?"

Council Member Salazar: "Out of town."

AJ Pacheco: "Inaudible...If you live in Albuquerque and the trainings are in Albuquerque, are accommodations necessary? Or if the trainings are in Santa Fe that might be, I don't know where they're at so..."

Kerin Sparks: "All I know is the last few have been in Santa Fe, the one in October were in Grants for a defensive driving, but that's all Inaudible, so I don't know the rest."



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AJ Pacheco: "Thank you."

Council Member Sandoval: "And the \$70 would be just the per diem not the lodging."

Kerin Sparks: Not the lodging."

Council Member Sandoval: "Yeah."

Mayor Herrera: "Any further discussion from the Council on this these items? Roll call vote Mrs. Martinez."

Mayor Pro-Tem Dominguez- Yes

Council Member Salazar-Yes

Council Member Sandoval-Yes

Council Member Olivas-Yes

Motion Carries

Mayor Herrera: "Next item is the discussion, consideration and action of the approval of the monthly warrants for the Cuba Housing Authority for November and December 2026."

Council Member Olivas makes a Motion

Council Member Sandoval Seconds

Mayor Herrera: "Any discussion on the, this matter by the Council?"

Council Member Salazar: "Mr. Herrera is not here, right?"

Mayor Herrera: "No, he was not able to attend."

Council Member Salazar: "Do you know if the AT&T Mobility is that like...I thought they went with Verizon, right, or Windstream?"

Council Member Sandoval: "Mmmmm."

Council Member Salazar: "Did it change? Did Rod change the...?"

Chief Morales: "We've been on ATT&T for a while because when we had the outage for AT&T, they were able to get connection through the Fire department, we're also ATT&T uh. Inaudible."

Council Member Salazar: "Connection OK, I just thought that they had gone with something else. This is their cell phone then huh?"

Mayor Herrera: "Cellphone, yes. They offer that, they guarantee service then is what you're saying?"

Chief Morales: "Yes, exactly especially because were, inaudible"

Mayor Herrera: "And all the village phones huh?"

Chief Morales: "Well the Fire Department phones."

Mayor Herrera: "Ok."

Council Member Sandoval: "And the Windstream is just the on call one, right?"

Council Member Salazar: "The work phone I think, the work stuff."

Council Member Sandoval: "The landline?"

Council Member Salazar: "Right, yeah."



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Mayor Herrera: "I think Rod is going to install..."

Council Member Salazar: "Starlink."

Mayor Herrera: "Yeah. Go ahead Kerin."

Kerin Sparks: "Rod installed Starlink in July, and he cancelled his he was at his end of his term for Windstream, so he just replaced it. The only one that's there is the 51 and it's just a phone."

Council Member Sandoval: "Yeah, just the landline; I think that's what he had said. Do we know if he's running with the, if he got the part-timer or something like that, right?"

Mayor Herrera: "Oh, looking for, uh I don't know?"

Council Member Salazar: "Did he hire the part timer cuz the other guy was going to be out for a while?"

Kerin Sparks: "He hired a full-time person."

Council Member Sandoval: "Ok."

Council Member Salazar: "OK."

Mayor Herrera: "Any further discussion from the Council on this matter? Roll call vote Mrs. Martinez."

Mayor Pro-Tem Dominguez-Yes

Council Member Salazar-Yes

Council member Sandoval-Yes

Council Member Olivas-Yes

Motion carries

Mayor Herrera: "Next item on the Agenda is Discussion, Consideration, Action of Approval of Resolution Number DS-01-28-2026, Dark Sky Celebration and Preservation."

Council Member Olivas makes a Motion

Council Member Sandoval & Salazar Second

Mayor Herrera: "Any discussion from the Council on this matter?"

Council Member Sandoval: "So this would be the, basically the first step?"

Mayor Herrera: "Yes."

Council Member Sandoval: "To say that we are going to do..."

Mayor Herrera: "Get registered and becoming a dark sky community and stuff."

Carey Beam: "I can speak to it if you would like. Just a comment."

Mayor Herrera: "Sure."

Carey Beam: "Uh, this is a resolution that was offered or requested by the Continental Divide Trail Coalition. So as a CDT gateway community, they recognize our place in what they are trying to build. The Dark Sky Trail. The first community to have been presented this opportunity to adopt this resolution, basically it's giving Cuba the opportunity to just say we support dark skies. Our community stands behind preserving our dark skies with the passage of this resolution. It would be an indicator to other communities along the trail, and the Continental



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Divide Trail Coalition would love to acknowledge the passage of this resolution with our community at a day to be determined when a star party and a community event, perhaps somewhere on the trail, maybe at the 197 trailhead or up Nacimiento. So, it's basically just saying Cuba likes dark skies, but it really has nothing to do with the ordinance that is further to be developed and adopted later on down the road with a lot more Inns and with planning and zoning and all that. So, this is just really warm and fuzzy and fluffy."

Mayor Herrera: "State your name for the Minutes."

Carey Beam: "I'm sorry, Carey Beam speaking on behalf of the Continental Divide Trail Coalition community volunteer."

Mayor Herrera: "Thank you."

Carey Beam: "Yes, Sir. Oh, I'm sorry, I have one more thing. The Village of Cuba Website cubanm.gov also now has a page dedicated to Dark Sky should this resolution pass with your support, I would work to promote that page out in the community and so people really see that we do stand behind this resolution and saying dark skies are important to Cuba and our place as a gateway community on the final part."

Mayor Herrera: "Which would drive a lot of traffic to our local businesses correct?"

Carey Beam: "Absolutely."

Mayor Herrera: "Any further discussion from the Council on this matter? Roll call vote Mrs. Martinez."

Mayor Pro-Tem Dominguez-Yes

Council Member Sandoval-Yes

Council Member Salazar-Yes

Council Member Olivas-Yes

Motion Carries

Carey Beam: "Thank you."

Clapping from audience

Mayor Herrera: "Next, next item on the agenda is the Discussion Consideration and action and the approval of the Open Meeting Acts for 2026 calendar year."

Council Member Olivas makes a Motion

Council Member Sandoval Seconds

Mayor Herrera: "Any discussion from the Council on this matter? No further discussion, roll call vote Mrs. Martinez."

Mayor Pro-Tem Dominguez-No

Council Member Sandoval-Yes

Council Member Salazar-Yes

Council Member Olivas-Yes



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Motion Carries

Mayor Herrera: "Next item on the agenda is the discussion, consideration, action, approval of amendment of resolution #SAP22. I'm sorry about that. OK. Discussion, Consideration, Action of the Approval of the holiday schedule for the 2026 calendar year."

Council Member Olivas makes a Motion

Council Member Salazar Seconds

Mayor Herrera: "Any discussion from the Council on this Matter?"

Council Member Salazar: "I don't feel New Year's Eve should be observed, also if approved, umm."

Mayor Herrera: "Where's New Year's Eve?"

Council Member Salazar: "Half a day New Year's Eve and then New Year's Day. Everything happens at midnight."

Mrs. Martinez: "So, actually when we put this together Council member Salazar and behalf of that in our policy, it was observed as a holiday before let me pass this to you. I don't think it was included in your packet."

Council Member Salazar: "Because last year's wasn't, I mean it wasn't in their last year."

Mrs. Martinez: "right. So the holiday schedule for last year's is included in your packet but that came from our actual policy personnel manual. I'm sorry and, in the past, what was allowed was staff was allowed to leave at noon for Christmas Day and for New Year's Day, so we wanted to incorporate that in our holiday schedule so we can inform the community when we're open and when we're not, and also give the staff the opportunity to schedule accordingly. Instead of at the last minute say OK, you guys can leave that noon today. So that's why those were in there."

Council Member Salazar: "And so, who determined, umm, we're not gonna work this day or this day, we have it off, but let's work it because we want a week off at Christmas time?"

Mayor Herrera: "But we're not, we're not doing that anymore, right? We're trying to follow a Federal Holiday Schedule now, correct?"

Mrs. Martinez: "Right, so, so..."

Council Member Salazar: "So last year it was in there like that, that you're going to observe Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, but then got four days off because they worked a different day. So, who changed it?"

Mrs. Martinez: "So, I believe the former clerk presented it to the Council and the Council approved it and that's the copy behind it and so umm, instead of observing President's Day for President's Day it was observed like umm the day after Christmas, and we ran into a lot of issues this year with that with the holidays and the overtime issues working the holidays and that's why we wanted to change it and actually observe the holiday on the holiday and not have a week off for Christmas and be without coverage."

Mayor Herrera: "Yeah and we had a lot of problems with law enforcement at that time too."

Mrs. Martinez: "Correct. Well, law enforcement, even the water department, so, if they do work the Holiday they're paid at the double time and a half rate so it does cost the village a lot and if you have to rotate, you know, five days in a row for one pay period, it comes down to payroll too."



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Council Member Salazar: "I mean but it's, It was prior approved in the budget. The budget was approved after this."

Mrs. Martinez: "Well the Holiday Schedule was approved by the Council last year."

Council Member Sandoval: "The only one that I kinda, that I know it's this is our Policy?"

Mrs. Martinez: "So, it was pulled from our personnel policy, yeah."

Council Member Sandoval: "The only thing I have an issue with, not really an issue or whatever, would just be good Friday, because I understand and I'm Catholic as well, but."

Council Member Salazar: "Not everybody is."

Council Member Sandoval: "Not everybody is, and even being Catholic, I still don't even get the day off. It's not like uh..If we're gonna go by, If we're gonna go by the Federal, I don't think good Friday is Federally observed."

Mayor Herrera: "To be on there."

Council Member Sandoval: "Yeah. So, that's, that's the only one that I, I, to me like it would just be another day for somebody to kind of. Just like to have a free day off basically because the odds of them going and walking or doing whatever, you know, And like I said, I'm, I'm Catholic, and I don't even go to church on Sundays so I'm not a good Catholic. But I'm just saying it's not, it's not federally observed as a holiday."

Mayor Herrera: "That's right, if you're gonna do federal, let's do Federal all the way."

Council Member Sandoval: "Yeah."

Mayor Herrera: "So do you wanna, should we, you wanna just table this action until the..."

Council Member Sandoval: "I think if they want Good Friday, they would have to put in for it and use their..."

Mrs. Martinez: "Take it as a leave day instead of a holiday?"

Council Member Sandoval: "yeah, yep."

Kerin Sparks: "Mayor may I ask a question?"

Mayor Herrera: "Yep."

Kerin Sparks: "If, If, the Council, if it pleases the Council to table it, would you send me in your suggestions for the next meeting? So, I can edit this."

Mayor Herrera: "Just for the good Friday, correct? Because everything else, we're following federal, federal."

Mrs. Martinez: "And if you notice that there's Election Day. We added that on as 1/2 day. Umm, Christmas Eve, the half day and then the New Year's Eve 1/2 day and then continued with all the other holidays, but the day of the holiday instead of switching it over."

Council Member Salazar: "That one also, I would like to change the Election Day. Polls are open till 7. The village gets out at 4:30. They can vote then, or there's early voting."

Mrs. Martinez: "I believe there's something on our policy on Election Day."

Council Member Salazar: "On that one?"

Mrs. Martinez: "Umm, I believe so, but I can look into that, and we can get you that information for the next meeting. So, suggestion was to remove good Friday."

Mayor Herrera: "Election Day."

Mrs. Martinez: "And Election Day."



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Council Member Salazar: "This one doesn't show, so, if you could get that."

Mrs. Martinez: "And then we did include some guidelines there for the employee's birthdays and the employee's anniversary."

Mayor Herrera: "Just, just make sure that there's not a state statute allowed that that you have to let people out for Election, because then it will supersede the village's schedule."

Mayor Pro-Tem Dominguez: "I had a concern also with the employee's birthday and employee's anniversary where like saying you have to take that day off personal holidays and. I think the Council in the past we approved the one personal holiday per year. Personal holiday, that means, if you want to take it off for your birthday, if you want to take it off for your father-in-law's birthday, or for your anniversary, your kids' birthday, whatever. If you wanna go fishing, whatever you want, It's a personal holiday, but only one per year."

Council Member Sandoval: "OK."

Mayor Herrera: "On the birthday and the anniversary then, correct?"

Mayor Pro-Tem Dominguez: "Yes. Like the way it's written there, we're suggesting you take that day off."

Mrs. Martinez: "mmhmm."

Mayor Herrera: "Your birthday and then your anniversary as an employee, correct? Your one year, two year, three, year, four year or five-year anniversary, correct?"

Mrs. Martinez: "Right. So, we were in the past it was just employee's anniversary but there were no guidelines on when they took it. So, we tried to make it clear on this new one. Employees shall take their anniversary day off, or the week of, and shall request the day two weeks in advance. Just so there's some clear guidelines for employees on that. I'm coming into the issue where ohh, I had a I didn't take my anniversary date in October and now I want an extra day off after Martin Luther King Day. You know what I mean? So, it's kind of. We're having issues with umm, coverage."

Mayor Herrera: "Whispering to Council Member Salazar, That's from the Handbook, right?"

Council Member Salazar: "Whispering to Mayor Herrera, that's our policy."

Mayor Herrera: "OK, I see employees' birthday just one day huh?"

Council Member Salazar: "Just the birthday, they added the other one."

Mrs. Martinez: "And the Anniversary was from last year."

Council Member Salazar: "Last year, we're adding the Anniversary today?"

Mayor Herrera: "So, we'll, what we'll do is we'll table this action till the next meeting, and then we'll uh remove what days the Council Members thought were not appropriate and then we'll try and get a vote on it next time."

Mrs. Martinez: "OK, before the next Council meeting, we will have another holiday, Presidents Day on February 16th. That's a Federal Holiday?"

Mrs. Martinez: "It is a Federal Holiday."

Mayor Herrera: "We'll just observe it as being a Federal Holiday till we can get everything else updated before, after the next Council meeting, I'm sorry."

Mrs. Martinez: "Ok."

Mayor Pro-Tem Dominguez: "When is that?"

Council Member Sandoval: "The 16th."



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Mayor Pro-Tem Dominguez: "The 16th of February?"

Mrs. Martinez: "Yes."

Mayor Pro-Tem Dominguez: "Is that Trump's birthday or what?"

Mrs. Martinez: "It's President's Day."

Kerin Sparks: "Uh, Washington's actually."

Council Member Olivas: "laughs out loud."

Council Member Salazar: "Trump? We cannot have it, just kidding."

Mrs. Martinez: "You're bringing the cake."

Mayor Herrera: "So, we'll be tabling item number 16."

Council Member Salazar: "15."

Mayor Herrera: "We'll have a roll call vote, correct?"

Mrs. Martinez: "Yes, to table it."

Mayor Herrera: "Roll call vote Mrs. Martinez."

Mayor Pro-Tem Dominguez-Ok, yes

Council Member Salazar-Yes

Council Member Sandoval-Yes

Council Member Olivas-Yes

Motion Carries

Mayor Herrera: "Next item on the agenda is discussion, consideration, action of the approval of amendment of resolution #SAP22-G2405-STB to resign authorized officer and official representative."

Council Member Olivas makes a Motion

Council Member Salazar Seconds

Mayor Herrera: "Any discussion from the Council on this matter?"

Council Member Salazar: "What was this for?"

Mrs. Martinez: "So, for item 16 through 19, these are past grants, where the authorized signer was Ms. Casados. We are including the authorized signer to indicate me and or the successor. So, since we were missing or successor, I haven't been able to draw down any money on any of these grants since some of them are about to expire. So, it's just amending the original resolution to add my name or my successor in case I leave here or in case something else..."

Council Member Salazar: "Noooooo."

Mrs. Martinez: "But, so, it's just for future grants to draw down on the money."

Mayor Herrera: "So we don't run into the same problem for the future."

Mrs. Martinez: "Yeah, the Grants that were, the new Grants that are coming in we're adding that language we're adding that language in, so we don't have to do this again, but all the resolutions that were passed on passed grants don't have that successor language in there."

Council Member Salazar: "So they're not letting you get it."



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Mrs. Martinez: “No, I’m not authorized to sign on it until we get the successor.”

Mayor Herrera: “And we have a couple, yeah a of capital outlay money that's getting close to being reverted.”

Council Member Salazar: “The former clerk was the only one authorized at this point?”

Mrs. Martinez: “Umm, yes.”

Council Member Salazar: “Ok.”

Mayor Herrera: “On these, on these items.”

Jeanette Linville: “And Mayor if I could, I can clarify what these Grants are. The one you’re looking at the one you're currently looking at it was written in 22 and it is 150,000 for actually for the D Sal project and we're trying to get these funds spent so that we don't lose them. They revert now on June the 30th of this year.”

Council Member Salazar: “17?”

Mayor Herrera: “16.”

Council Member Salazar: “And 17 or sorry, I’m sorry.”

Jeanette Linville: “Pardon me, what was the question?”

Council Member Salazar: “No, you said you had all of the Grants.”

Jeanette Linville: “Yes.”

Council Member Salazar: “We’ll just go one at a time.”

Mayor Herrera: “Just one at a time.”

Jeanette Linville: “Do you want me to say all of them?”

Mayor Herrera: “No, we’ll just go one at a time, one action at a time. Any further discussion from the Council on this matter? Roll call vote Mrs. Martinez.”

Mayor Pro-Tem Dominguez-Yes

Council Member Salazar-Yes

Council Member Sandoval-Yes

Council Member Olivas-Yes

Motion Carries

Mayor Herrera: “Next item on the agenda is the discussion, consideration, action of the approval of the amendment of Resolution number SAP22-G2401-STB to reassign authorized officer Official representative.”

Council Member Olivas makes a Motion

Council Member Salazar Seconds

Mayor Herrera: “Any discussion from the Council on this matter?”

Jeanette Linville: “Um this Grant is actually, um, Let me see, 21, 22... It's for the water treatment facility, it's a \$200,000 grant and we're currently spending it, it also has a reversion date of June the 30th of this year. The mayor and I are working diligently to ensure that the scope of this grant. It's going to be met. Normally with “Inaudible” grants, you have a fairly broad scope which includes, you know, water system improvements



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because of a statement of that. So, we're able to use the funds a little more broadly. This grant, however, did not you know, fall into that category. It was strictly water treatment facility. So, we could not use anything but the water treatment facility."

Mayor Herrera: "And, and we've, we've already ordered the parts and stuff for the replacement of the media. So, it's on the way because it was like a 12-week wait. So, we're spending the money, so we need to clear this up to be able to pay the company back for the parts. Any further discussion from the Council on this matter?" Roll call vote Mrs. Martinez."

Mayor Pro-Tem Dominguez-Yes

Council Member Sandoval-Yes

Council Member Salazar-Yes

Council Member Olivas-Yes

Motion Carries

Mayor Herrera: "And one more last thing, the reason we're working on this thing, this will help clear up the, the coloration we're getting on the on the water now. I know, I know everybody has noticed it town."

Mayor Herrera: "Next item is discussion, consideration, and action of the approval of the amendment of resolution #SAP23-H2479-GF to reassign authorized officer, official representative."

Council Member Sandoval makes a Motion

Council Member Salazar Seconds.

Mayor Herrera: "Any discussion from Council on this matter?"

Any discussion from the Council on this matter?"

Jeanette Linville: "This Grant is for the La Loma tank improvements. It's \$500,000 and we're going to use this for any type of contingency expenses we have with regards to replacing and doing new construction on the La Loma tank. It also is going to serve as a match, part of the 25% match that U.S. Army Corps who's funding the majority of it requires as part of the funding that we get through them."

Mayor Herrera: "Any further discussion from the Council on this matter? Roll call vote Mrs. Martinez."

Mayor Pro-Tem Domingues-Yes

Council Member Salazar-Yes

Council Member Sandoval-Yes

Council Member Olivas-Yes

Motion Carries

Mayor Herrera: "Next item on the agenda is the discussion, consideration and action of the approval of amendment of resolution #SAP24- I2450-GF To reassign authorized officer, official representative."



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Council Member Olivas makes a Motion
Council Member Salazar Seconds.

Mayor Herrera: "Any discussion from the Council on this matter?"

Jeanette Linville: "This grant is for \$150,000 and it is for Cuba water meter project, for either installation or purchase of water meters, we chose to use these funds to actually pay for the installation of the water meters and the reason for that we used other funding to purchase the water meters because for whatever reason they, um, "Inaudible" was going to require that before we use this to purchase the water meters, we had to show that they were already installed and working and we couldn't do it, we didn't do it, and so, we went ahead I talked to Eric Gardner our Grant person at the State and he said that we could use this because of that wrong language that I put in the Grant, we can use it from the water uh, Cuba water generator project and so that includes the installation. So, we're going to use this \$1500.00 to pay the company that is going to actually start next week and installing, well install some of the meters."

Mayor Herrera: "Test, test pilot ones."

Jeanette Linville: "Test ones and March 2, they're going to start."

Council Member Salazar: "Because we purchased all of the meters already, right?"

Mayor Herrera: "Yeah, this is just for installing the "Inaudible."

Jeanette Linville: "Inaudible" "They jump from one, "Inaudible", and help them together and, "Inaudible", not only get the funding 100%, but funding for purchase the water meters but also for installation."

Mayor Herrera: "The County helped us with the, "Inaudible", funding to get the..." "Inaudible"

Council Member Salazar: "Also, thank you for your hard work in doing and writing all these grants for us it's, it's really appreciated the village the community appreciates all the hard work."

Council Member Sandoval: "This one, all it's all the meters on the system that are currently on the system, correct?"

Jeanette Linville: "Yes."

Council Member Sandoval: "Does that include the meters that are outside of village limits?"

Mayor Herrera: "Any meter that's on our system, yeah."

Jeanette Linville: "Yeah, every single meter, I think there's like 600 and 38."

Council Member Sandoval: "And then..."

Jeanette Linville: "It's gonna be a huge project."

Council Member Sandoval: "And then, but once this is in place, then we'll be able to address the past due?"

Mayor Herrera: "Yes. Well we're addressing the past due now we're gonna start..."

Council Member Sandoval: "Collecting."

Mayor Herrera: "Collecting, yes."

Council Member Sandoval: "OK."

Jeanette Linville: "What these water meter what these new water meters and their radio reads. So, what this means is we're going to and um, monitor, we're going to be able to read every meter every month..."

"Inaudible."



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Council Member Salazar: “And also turn them off at a...”
click?”

Jeanette Linville: “Yes ma’am.”

Council Member Salazar: “click and not have to go to the actual meter and turn off the...”

Mayor Herrera: “And then, “Inaudible” we will address the backlog with all the old meter applications or the billing and all the new ones and stuff, that way the water department guys will be training how to install these meters, so when they're done installing, helping the company do the 630, they'll be more certified to do all the other things. No further discussion from the Council about this matter? Roll call vote Mrs. Martinez.”

Mayor Pro-Tem Dominguez-Yes

Council Member Salazar-Yes

Council Member Sandoval-Yes

Council Member Olivas-Yes

Motion Carries

Mayor Herrera: “Next item is the discussion and consideration of the Open Meeting Act violation that occurred on November 12th, 2025.”

Council Member Olivas makes a Motion

Council Member Salazar Seconds

Council Member Olivas: “What's the violation?”

Mrs. Martinez: “Kerin is gonna go ahead and speak on that issue.”

Kerin Sparks: “Council I was informed by the New Mexico Municipal Leagues Legal Council that in lieu of reporting or self-reporting to the Department of Justice or the Attorney General, I have an obligation to address the Council about an Open Meetings Act violation that occurred on November 12th, 2025 during a interview for an applicant for a newly approved position for Administrative Assistant. We had already conducted 3 interviews prior to this date. At approximately 11:00 AM, Mayor Pro Tem Dominguez, Councilwoman Salazar, and Mayor Herrera entered into the clerk's office to conduct the interview. The interview was recorded because it was an unsanctioned or unscheduled quorum; we have an obligation to report, normally, but we were given a break. So, I do have to say that we did violate it and our corrective action is that we have a new hiring procedure to follow that will not allow for rolling, a quorum or a rolling quorum to occur. And we did get a document from our private village council on those procedures and how we should move forward with them. So, if we have another quorum that is unsanctioned or unscheduled, we are required to report to the Attorney General and there can be strenuous repercussions for it, so...”

Mayor Herrera: “And, and you put that process here in our packets, correct?”

Kerin Sparks: “It's on the very last page.”

Mayor Herrera: “OK.”

Kerin Sparks: “of the packet.”



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Council Member Salazar: "We'll just make sure we don't do that again, right?"

Kerin Sparks: "Yeah, yeah."

Mayor Herrera: "Next item is the discussion and the...Go ahead"

Council Member Sandoval: "A quorum for this body is 3, correct?"

Mayor Herrera: "Nodding, it could be electronic or in person also."

Council Member Sandoval: "Yeah."

Mayor Herrera: "The next item, the next item..."

Council Member Sandoval: "Need to make a motion."

Mayor Herrera: "No, we don't. There's no action."

Council Member Sandoval: "Oh, ok."

Mayor Herrera: "Next item is discussion and consideration of the special audit to begin on February 4, 2026."

Council Member Olivas makes a Motion

Council Member Salazar Seconds

Mayor Herrera: "I'll address this item. We're having issues going through a lot of the paperwork and stuff, so we're trying to get an extension on the audit and get it pushed back a little more to give us a little more time to make sure it's done correctly. We don't want to really rush through the issue. I'll let Mrs. Linville discuss this a little bit because she's the one that's working a lot with and everything."

Jeanette Linville: "Yes, Mayor. So, as you all know, we had to clean all the auditors and coordinating it with our village documents from the mold. That process took quite some time. In my estimation, there were approximately 250 to 300 boxes of documents that we have to go through now that they're clean; they're up at the new offices."

Council Member Salazar: "And everything is cleaned now?"

Jeanette Linville: "Everything is cleaned now, yes ma'am, and so I've been, I've been going through the boxes. I have the scope for the audit. I think Council received that scope as well. It basically is outlining the depth and in the all of the items that this audit is going to encompass it, it's going to audit all of the files of the village That's described in the scope from 20 of July 2020 to July 2025. So, it's going to be 5 years of audit, audits of material, and so as I've been going through the boxes, it's, it's, it's been kind of a challenge to try to, to categorize and umm, put everything in order. So, it's very labor-intensive. It's taken a lot of time. So I've been in contact with Robert Picherro, he is the gentleman who's doing the main audit and he's been kind of walking me through and saying, OK, get me these, get me these, get me these and uh, And uh so I, I talked to the mayor last Friday and I, I said I still have about, at least 100 more boxes to go through and then they thought is supposed to start on February the 4th."

Council Member Salazar: I have a quick question. How well are our employees helping you? Because they're on a different schedule. Um, Miss Herrera's only taking payments twice a week. What is she doing the other three days? Is she helping? Is the librarian helping? Is the, are you getting help?

Jeanette Lenville: Um. I am getting some help uh Manuela came and helped me with, some of the issues I'm facing is that I'm finding PO's original PO that this auditor needs to look at. It should be filed in all one huge file. I'm finding them interspersed first in grant agreements, in grant documents. So, what I'm having to do is



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and and Manuela helped me with that I'm having to have her make copies of these, put the copies back in the grant agreement and then place the original PO so we can file them.

Mayor Herrera: I think what Miss Cebada was saying miss Salazar sorry, are you getting the help that you need? Are they doing the job or are they not?

Jeanette Lenville: No

Mayor Hererra: ok

Council Member Salazar: Thank you.

Jeanette Linville: "ok, sorry.

Council Member Olivas: And you can use more help.

Jeanette Lenville: Pardon me?

Mayor Hererra: yes

Council Member Olivas: "You need help, right?

Jeanette Lenville: "I'm actually, my company is actually going to start providing that help. So, I've made arrangements for and then this would be under my company. I'm paying this person and this person has enough expertise to help me go through this. I've my company has signed an NDA. Any documents that I feel should be under the purview of the mayor or staff I give immediately to Patricia. My focus with this audit, which by the way, my company's name is on the state list for private help for this audit. So, I have to provide this as per the state. So, so my focus is what is on that scope. And that is if you look at it, you could access to it on the website. So that's my focus. I've been working with Patricia very closely. We finally got all as many of the minutes as we could find over to the auditor today. That was their foundational request. So, I called and wrote an email to a gentleman by the name of Sean Beck, and he is our contact over at the office of the State Auditor. and I told him what we were facing I told him about the mold issue about the challenges we were facing and I requested our specialized he instructed me to write a letter, put everything in there on getting that letter ready, had the mayor sign it and he pretty much said he pretty he already talked to the auditor. We're going to have that extension, so it's not in place yet. So, we officially are supposed to begin on February the 4th But they're gonna give us an extension until June.

Mayor Hererra: And the problem was, regarding auditor first thinking that out, it was gonna be performed in the existing building, then the mold was discovered. So that's what really threw us that we're needing to get the extension.

Council Member Sandoval: "For the record, the way that you're finding these files. It's because it was originally filed correctly. It was, it was from previous clerical clerks, yes, that that's all this stuff had been filed originally that was, and it wasn't done the proper way."

Mayor Herrera: "The company went in there, and they put whatever they found in the box; they put it in the exactly another box. They didn't they didn't make it; they didn't commingle any of the files."

Council Member Sandoval: "It was originally filed like that's the way..."

Jeanette Linville: "To answer your question. Yes, Sir."

Council Member Salazar: "My main concern, Mayor Herrera is that we have employees, Seems to me are refusing to help, and if they're refusing to help then...Send him home, let him take a leave day because this is important stuff that we need to get done and we need, She needs help. She's not even an employee at the



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moment. She's a contractor and she's doing a lot of stuff, and I hope you're being paid for it. So, if she's requesting help, I don't see a problem with our employees going and helping you if they're not taking the payment at the village on Wednesday, Monday, Wednesday, Friday. That person should be there, and she should be; she should be taking orders from her superior. Or send them home and get someone that wants to work."

Council Member Sandoval: "Yup."

Council Member Salazar: "Because this is very important to the village. It can make or break us."

Jeanette Linville: "It's extremely important."

Council Member Salazar: "Very ."

Jeanette Linville: "This audit is going to establish whatever the auditor finds, wherever the information takes him. One of the areas that he's gonna audit extensively is the water department. And so, I'm trying to get those documents in order. They're, they're pretty much not in order to understand bunch of boxes that need to be set up and, and whatever and, and then once the auditor finds what he's gonna find, then they're they're mandated by the state to then come alongside village staff and our consultants or whatever to establish appropriate internal controls. Appropriate personnel policies or whatever it is that we need to put in place things we've been doing wrong for years and years and years."

Council Member Salazar: "Right."

Jeanette Linville: "I just want to emphasize that what we're trying to do is fix approximately 30 years of stuff. And I know that's not in term, but that is all I'm going to tell you."

Mayor Herrera: Mr. Morales

Mrs. Morales: What I'm thinking and what I'm hearing is, Jeanette is going to be paying someone to help her when we still have people that could be helping.

Council Member Salazar: "That aren't."

Council Member Sandoval: "That are getting paid to not help."

Mrs. Morales: "That are getting paid not to help."

Mayor Herrera: "Or not wanting to help."

Mrs. Morales: "Or not wanting to help."

Mayor Herrera: "Exactly."

Council Member Olivas: "What are they getting paid for?"

Mrs. Morales: "Exactly, we don't need Jeanette's person to be there; we need our own people to be there to be doing the job. I don't understand what the big rhetoric is here, what we need to say is you go to work, we pay you what we say. If not, you get fired."

Mayor Herrera: "Fired."

Mrs. Morales: "Because that is what would happen in the real world.

I know that if I don't do my job, my job at the post office, they were going to be giving me a day without pay and then it was going to be going on until I got fired."

Council Member Salazar: "Exactly."

Council Member Sandoval: "Well, I think this is a perfect time. And it's probably gonna end up adding being on your guy's list, but just start performance appraisals for yeah..."

Council Member Salazar: "We already started."



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Kerrin Sparks: "We already started."

Council Member Salazar: "We already started, um right there's proof, that it's going to change."

Council Member Sandoval: "OK, because now there's proof that's going to be the only way that we move towards being able to terminate people is if we have the documentation to prove that they hadn't been doing their jobs for."

Council Member Salazar: "And maybe like..."

Member of the public: "It's obvious that everybody in the community knows what's going on in the village."

Mayor Herrera: "Yeah."

Mrs. Morales: "Exactly."

Council Member Salazar: "And, and, and maybe Mrs. Linville, you can document if they're being sent over there, and they're not doing anything. Document because if it's not documented, it didn't happen."

Mrs. Morales: "It didn't happen."

Kerin Sparks: "I, I can even attest that it's been documented."

Mayor Hererra: "Yeah."

Council Member Salazar: "OK, so that's good."

Kerin Sparks: "I need to interject, I'm sorry, but I would be very careful with talking about personnel matters when it's not on the agenda. I'm sorry. I just..."

Mayor Hererra: "Ok."

Jaenette Linville: "And I also want to reiterate that as as the owner of my own company who was responsible partially for this audit, I right now given the deadline for this audit, I cannot wait. For, for the type of help that I need. So, I'm bringing my own help, but this person will be able to hit the ground running. She knows exactly what we're looking at. And we'll get those boxes done, we'll get those files done, we'll get them, we'll get the PO's organized and and do whatever we can to get the water department ready for this audit. I've already been sending documentation to the auditor, and he's guiding me and Patricia and Karen and the mayor on how we do it. But with all due respect, I need to bring somebody on board is going to help my company get this stuff because I am on, on, on. I'm required to do that from the state. I just want to let you know."

Council Member Salazar: "Time limit."

Member of the public: "What is the villages termination policy? Does anyone have a policy on that, is it 3."

Mayor Hererra: "We have a hand we have a..."

Council member Salazar: "We have a policy."

Kerin Sparks: "I can provide that to you at another..."

Member of the public: "I'm just saying New Mexico is a right to work state if you guys update your policy so you can fire for any reason or without reason. You don't really have to abide by policy right now."

Council Member Salazar: "It's very tricky."

Member of the public: "You don't really need a reason to fire anybody."

Council Member Salazar: "Very tricky."

Member of the public: "New Mexico is a right to work state you don't legally need a reason to fire anybody."

Council Member Salazar: "You have to follow policy."

Mayor Hererra: "Or change policy."



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Council Member Salazar: "Exactly."

Member of the public: "Yeah. You gotta go by the policy you created because that's Trump's whatever the law is, but if you create policy, that goes with the laws that's at your discretion."

Mayor Herrera: "Policy doesn't make no sense. I agree with you 100%."

Mayor Herrera: "Next is the review of the Municipal Court reports for the months of November and December 2026."

Council Member Sandoval: "Chief, are you sending any? Tickets that are written with your officers to the municipal"

Chief Huckaby: That's where they're supposed to be sent."

Council Member Sandoval: "OK."

Chief Huckaby: "So I haven't had a chance to audit any of the ticket books or anything that's being said that's been written up to today, but from here on out, that's something I'll be verbalizing and making sure it happens because that's what should be happening."

Council Member Sandoval: "OK."

Council Member Salazar: "Obviously you walked into a little bit of a mess."

Chief Huckaby: "I'm trying to catch up right now."

Council Member Salazar: "On your first day. Thank you."

Mayor Herrera: "Next item is a brief update from Fire Chief Linda Morales."

Chief Morales: "I swear it will only be two minutes; it won't go over the two minutes. for the year 2025 We did 316 calls and that was both fire, EMS, public assist everything that we could do. And that is over from what we did in 2024, and we'll probably do even more in 2026. We do a lot of calls. January we've already done 22 calls. So that's pretty good. We're still at this point, uh, helping out the community by doing the the funeral processions and helping them out that way, we try to block traffic and try to make it safer for them to get to the different places that they need to it would be wonderful if we could work together chief to see if we could all kind of cuz we take it all right now."

Chief Huckaby: "Of course."

Chief Morales: "Perfect. Umm So what I've been doing right now as I've been trying to get everything um fixed at the fire station is I've been doing a lot of maintenance a lot of our trucks are going out because maintenance was not a big thing for us before with the prior chief, I am getting done with that. I want to also make sure that our filing system is up to par, and our bills and everything are paid."

Karin Sparks: "You're waiting on me., I know."

Chief Morales: "I'm looking at you. Umm, one of the things I did want to let you know I've already let Mayor Hererra know in July 1st will be my last day as the Uh fire chief."

Mayor Hererra: "You telling me till we put the new hydrants in."



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Chief Morales: “No, I know; I will be around to help with the hydrants. But I was really. One of the things that my the volunteers have been asking for it is they would like to turn it back to where we used to have it before Rick Velarde and we would be the people that would bring our own, we would vote in our own Fire Chief, our assistant. Every two years it would be different. Umm, and I wanna bring that up to you guys because it's in your bylaws that this is that we have to have someone appointed by the mayor, and we would like to be back to where we used to be before. We know our people and we, we feel like we know who is the most qualified at this time. And I think it would be a good thing for us to be back in charge of our own stuff. And we don't want to get paid. We're fine with not being paid and to us it's, in our hearts, to be volunteers, and I think it's actually harder for the village to have to pay us. Full time Fire Chief, I do it free and to me, that's, that's my heart.”

Council Member Salazar: “So, with that being said, do you think some of these that are making more than the others show up more because they want to get paid or because they actually have more time than another.”

Chief Morales: “Nobody gets paid.”

Council Member Salazar: “Well, I've seen it, it's like 300, 200.”

Mayor Hererra: “OH, just to go out on a call.”

Council Member Salazar: “That's what I mean.”

Chief Morales: “That's just to go out on a call. That's to pay their gas.”

Council Member Salazar: “Right.”

Member of the public: “That doesn't even cover that.”

Council Member Salazar: “So, are you in need of more volunteers?”

Chief Morales: “Yes, that is what we're doing. You know, that's why we do the stipend we give \$15.00 every time that they go out. I have a lot of them that go out every call. They're there...”

Mayor Hererra: “And you...,and the stipend funds get exhausted in some years and sometimes towards the end of the fiscal year.”

Chief Morales: Exactly. “We're going out without getting the stipend. We've put it to them, and they understand that, and they are fine with it. They're fine with it. At this point, the only thing that I am paying for that is a little bit different is for my admin because they take care of entering all of our stuff into I am responding into nexus, which is a very important for us because that's where they all are specialist for the state and you know the important stuff and that's the \$300 that I pay.”

Council Member Salazar: “And who is your admin right now?”

Chief Morales: “Ashley.”

Mrs. Martinez: “Where do your stipends usually come from?”

Chief Morales: “They are grants from the Fire Marshal.”

Mrs. Martinez: “Grant from the Fire Marshal. Is that something that is recurrent (Inaudible)”

Chief Morales: “Yes ma'am.”

Mrs. Martinez: “When is that coming up, do we know?”

Chief Morales: “It comes up when I do my regular um, November.”

Mrs. Martinez: “November?”

Chief Morales: “I have people that go in and request it.”

Mayor Hererra: “That comes out of your yearly funding that you guys get, correct?”



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Chief Morales: "No, this is separate."

Mayor Hererra: "No? This is Separate? Ok."

Chief Morales: "And it comes from you know the fire department, it's just a grant, and we get it every year."

Council Member Salazar: "OK, so would we need to put that into the next agenda to vote to have it go back to previous mayor Velarde?"

Mrs. Martinez: "We would need to do an amendment to our current policy because..."

Chief Morales: "But that's up to you guys. You guys have to let me know because I have to let them go off. It's just something that's."

Mayor Hererra: "I think it helps morale a lot better too. Yeah."

Chief Morales: "It would yes, because that's part of the thing that I've been working on. Also, I asked him what we're going to spend money on. I don't just spend money to do anything. I tell, OK, we have this here. I have a truck that's going to be gone with it. What do you guys think? Can we afford this? Can we can we buy me a truck, which I just got, I have another unit and, but they need to get the say so and that's the biggest part."

Mayor Herrera: "You guys have your own self policy. So, you, whoever you elect is not doing a very good job, they don't have to run the full term, correct?"

Chief Morales: "Correct, they can be It's all within the membership that they have they can be voted out of membership if they aren't doing their job."

Council Member Salazar: "Would it still be considered an appointed position?"

Chief Morales: "No, no. It is kind of an appointed position, but it's going to be the full command staff you get to, we all vote for our chief; we all vote for our assistant chief, our fire captain, our EMS captain. We have a command staff we keep going all the time. We have two lieutenant positions that we also use and then everybody else would just kind of be members, but everybody has a chance. They can come up and say I would like to do this job and here's why I'm going, I want to do this stuff, you know. I have so many years and whatever we have, so you know we're, we're talking between each other and then we vote and that's the biggest thing we, vote ourselves."

Mayor Hererra: "You vote for the most qualified person for the position. Instead of just voting for someone."

Chief Morales: "Exactly, it's not just because you say I really like him, it's because they are qualified."

Mayor Hererra: "We will take that into consideration."

Chief Morales: "Ok, thank you. I appreciate that."

Mayor Pro-Tem Dominquez: "Chief I've got a question. Do you know how many active members you have?"

Chief Morales: "We have 20."

Mayor Pro-Tem Dominquez: "20 active members?"

Chief Morales: "20 active members. That's actually very good for the volunteer firefighter department."

Aj Pacheco: "Mrs. Linda, quick question, Chief, has anybody reached out about the fire hydrant monies yet from the federal level?"

Chief Morales: "Mr. Denny and I need to talk about."

Aj Pacheco: "Ok, because we're watching to see make sure to see if..."

Mayor Hererra: "That we spend the money, yeah."



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Chief Morales: "Yeah, yeah. So yeah, Denny and I have 3...that's part of the reason that I told him I would stay even longer if I had to was for those fire hydrants."

Mayor Hererra: "That's why I'm dragging my feet."

Aj Pacheco: "If anything, if they're not being response I can always..."

Mayor Hererra: "Well, we've received the, uh, something from your office on the grant itself already, yes, and the amount and the match; we did get a match part of it also."

Jeanette Linville: "You need to get me that document because now I have to go apply for the match funding at 25% for that."

Mayor Hererra: "I Think I've already forward that to you."

Jaenette Linville: "What's that?"

Mayor Hererra: "I think I've already forwarded it to you."

Jeanetter Linville: "Yeah, I'll look through the emails again. Yeah, it came in about maybe 2 weeks ago, somewhere around there."

Aj Pacheco: "That sounds right."

Jeanette Linville: "OH, that's when I was in my face and all the boxes."

Mayor Hererra: "Oh."

Chief Morales: "Oh Yeah, and I forgot we did do fire hydrant flow tests ourselves, which we do every year, and that's probably why your water was kinda coming out brownish."

Mayor Hererra: "A little bit of everything mixed together."

Chief Morales: "But we have to follow those at least twice a year. We have to flow all the..."

Council Member Salazar: "When was that done?"

Chief Morales: "We're still doing it."

Council Member Salazar: "Oh ,ok, that's what is..."

Council Member Olivas: "So, when you guys are doing that, ours is brown?"

Chief Morales: "Yeah, because we have to open up the hydrants, and they have to be clear before we can turn them off."

Council Member Olivas: "Ok."

Members of the public: "They come out black sometime."

Chief Morales: "Because they haven't been, you know."

Mayor Hererra: "You have to clean the tank out before it comes out clear."
"Inaudible"

Chief Morales: "Inaudible" We're getting audited by the Fire Marshal now February 19th."

Council Member Salazar: "So, can you, can you go see Chief Morales down at Fire Station 1,"

Chief Morales: "Station 2, they'll come over here for Station 1, so Station 2."

Council Member Salazar: "Station 2, Oh, Ok."

Chief Morales: "Thank you."

Mayor Herrera: "No, thank you."

Council Member Salazar: "Thank you."



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Mayor Herrera: "We just have a couple of public announcements. The Grant award for the new "Inaudible" zero waste desalinization project, go ahead Jeanette."

Jeanette Linville: "Yes, we got funded."

Clapping from audience

Council Member Salazar: "12 million?"

Jeanette Linville: "Yes 12,000,000.00, yes. I'm losing my hearing, I think. Yes, we got funded 12,000,000.00, What that's going to do is allow us to drill a well. So right now, what we're doing is predeployment on this desal project. Last year I wrote a Grant to Capital Outlay for 1.5 million. We're using those funds right now; in fact, we spent them. This last week I don't know if you noticed the guy out there near where the Warehouse used to be for the forest service; that's where the aquifer is. This was a company that came out in April, and I guess monitors or..."

Mayor Hererra: "Inaudible" To look for the depth of the water table is what they are looking for."

Jeanette Linville: "Correct, trying to map out the aquifer so they're doing a lot of pre-deployment And preliminary work on this desal project so this 1.5 million is giving us some much needed, that we, we're Really, we are ahead of schedule. So right now, I'm waiting for the grant agreement to come through for the it's like 11,700,000 but "inaudible" so once we get that grant agreement, we're going to understand the scope what's gonna be required of us. What the procurement process "Inaudible" and also, I want to let you know that this is the first, the first, the first-time money has ever been done for Cuba's water supply and the Village of Cuba got the largest share, we got really 12 million. And..."

Mayor Hererra: "And we got, we got half of the money for the whole project." **Jeanette Linville:** "And the reason why we got half of the money is because the company that we're working with, "Inaudible" company already has improvement of process whereby they're going to be able to desalinate these water solutions. I think their gonna go like 2500 feet."

Mayor Hererra: No, 35 to 6000 feet."

Jaenette Linville: "I thought it was 2500."

Mayor Hererra: "2500 is the cap rate of the state engineer's office. They control the water from zero to 2500 feet and after 2500 feet."

Jaenette Linville: "So that Vulcan "Inaudible."

Jaenette Linville: "So, there is a lot of technical aspects to this, I'm not an expert engineer, but we're gonna be tapping into an aquifer that's never been tapped into before. And because Cuba is gonna be tapping into it first, we're gonna have first..."

Mayor Hererra: "We are going to have have, the..."

Jeanette Linville: "Primary right."

Mayor Hererra: Right primary right out of the brackish water, which yes."

Jeanette Linville: "So, this is gonna happen."

Mayor Hererra: "As things are developing there are all kinds of different things to use for these water recharging aquafers, water credits from cities pueblos, and stuff back in the San Jose Creek. Well, of course, number one clean water."



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Jeanette Linville: "Clean water. I was going to say don't forget that part. So, the water is gonna, we're gonna be getting the water, which is the side product from this and, and the Village of Cuba will have pristine water for the first time ever, ever, ever."

Council Member Salazar: "And that would be everybody on meter, right?"

Jeanette Linville: "Yes, ma'am, and water hollers and anybody doing water hauling, and I and I gotta tell you now that we've, we've kind of word has gotten out that this is that we got this project and the mayor and I sometimes were like dear you know."

Council Member Salazar: "In headlights."

Jeanette Linville: "In headlights kind of thing we have companies from New York approaching us to; to start housing projects the State of New Mexico wants to implement from their office they want to implement economic development around this desal project because, the plant itself is going to employ about 30 people, but there's gonna be, you know, truck drivers. There's gonna be all kinds of people that are going to be employed not just in the in, in the actual plant, but are surrounding. It's going to affect the whole area. And this will be a test pilot project for the whole State of New Mexico because this, the, the process this company is using is a process that utilizes and saves 95% of the water. It's not our own. It's not reverse osmosis. Reverse osmosis; you lose about 50% of the water. You have 50% usable water, but the water that's left is so brackish you have to dispose of it, almost a kin to nuclear waste, and you can only send it off to some sort of some place in Texas to deal with it, which made reverse osmosis to deal with brackish waters completely economically unfeasible for the State of New Mexico, which is why we haven't, there's no RO plants in the State of Mexico because they don't work. That's why we got funded, because these companies, the process, does work. And, and it's, I don't know how else to tell you but not only is it going to put the Village of Cuba on the map, but there's going to be, huge, huge positive impact not just on Cuba, but on the greater Cuba area, to include all those, all the surrounding community. It's gonna be huge."

Mayor Hererra: "It it's amazing how many that all the universities in New Mexico have expressed interest. That's why they pivoted to turn it into the city to give us water plus create a test facility right alongside it, so you have people coming from all over the world to test their technology on our brackish water."

Jeanette Linville: "Yeah, yeah, it's going to be huge."

Council Member Salazar: "And this is how long in the making?"

Mayor Hererra: "A few years."

Council Member Salazar: "No, but how long has it been since you started or since it was..."

Mayor Herrera: "Oh."

Jaenette Linville: "7 years."

Council Member Salazar: "That's a lot."

Jaenette Linville: Yeah, been 7 years. Well, we got funded people.

Council Member Salazar: "Well, thank you for your hard work."

Mayor Hererra: "We're gonna start drilling here probably early summer?"

Jeanette Linville: "Yeah."

Mayor Hererra: For the for the well itself."



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Jeanette Linville: "So, we're working on a special land use permit with, with the, "Inaudible," service and then I'm gonna start the annexation process to try to get some of that land annexed so the Village can claim those receipts taxes on that. That's, that's our next process. But we've, we've, we've submitted everything we need to, to the US Forest Service and we're working closely with them now to get it finalized, which should have a meeting with them next week to finalize that special land use permit. We need that one. We need that very, very badly. But yeah, we got funded guys."

Council Member Salazar: "Nice thank you."

Council Member Sandoval: What would be our next step to get the lines replaced so that we're not putting clean water in old..."

Mayor Hererra: Until that facility is fully up and running, then we're gonna have USDA, to yeah, "Inaudible," lines, yeah. And that's what they told us to have the water source it doesn't make sense to..."

Council Member Sandoval: "Put clean water down dirty pipes."

Mayor Hererra: "Yeah, yeah dirty water in clean new pipes."

Jeanette Linville: Were going to replace, the first thing we have to do is get a PDR for replacement of all water lines and I can get that funded through New Mexico Finance Authority Money grant. So, we have to have a plan in place of how we're going to break it up into phases on what parts of the water line system and where we're going to do it. I did that for Regina. OK, so we're gonna do that next. But we were told that we could start that process getting new water lines, but within two years, if we got new water lines with the old water, the new water lines would be completely destroyed. So, it didn't make any sense for us. That's why this, the desal project is so huge. It's so important, so now I'm going to start talking with USDA and find out about a water line, also, Water Trust Board, they have, they have water projects, and, and things like that so."

Mayor Hererra: "And will be chasing more money now at this session to."

Jeanette Linville: "Yes, sir."

Mayor Hererra: "We still lack funding because we didn't get fully funded. Our, our ask was 23 million from the strategic water and they gave us the 12. So, we'll be going out to Santa Fe trying to look for the rest of the money, State wise and Federally also, yes."

Jeanette Linville: "And the strategic water supply fund..."

Mayor Hererra: It's a, it's a renewable fund too."

Jeanette Linville: "It's a renewable fund so we get to apply for it again and in our letter our award letter we got from them, they indicated you, your project as partially funded. So, we welcome your application next year to fully fund your project."

Mayor Hererra: What they're doing is they're watching to see how we're going to spend this money on this project and make sure that we're following through."

Jeanette Linville: "Yes sir."

Mayor Hererra: "And we're actually spending the money they're giving us before they give us any more money."

Jeanette Linville: "Yes, yes sir. That's why it was important to get this old grant SAP 2022 to get this spent because this has been on the books since 2022. So now they're going to see that we spent this money. We spent the 1.5 million and now will be ready to spend the 12 million."



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Carrie Beam: "And I'm hearing new business and new housing, which means planning and zoning because this is if it's gonna go, like you say it's gonna go and we don't have anything any framework to work from for smarter growth that's gonna come back and bite us. So, like now is the time to really think about, what we want to see for Cuba in the future, you know, like, what are we willing to accept? People are gonna come with proposals out of the woodwork and we say yes to everything, that's ..."

Mayor Hererra: "That's not the way to do it."

Carrie Beam: "That's not the way to do it. We have to be smart about it so."

Mayor Hererra: "Once in a lifetime chance."

Jeanette Linville: "Yes, sir."

Carrie Beam: "You're right."

Jeanette Linville: "This is huge, absolutely huge."

Mayor Hererra: "OK. Last, next regular Council meeting will be held on February 25th, 2026, at 6:00 PM at 214 State Road, Road 197 Fire Station, Cuba New Mexico exactly where we are. And we're gonna be; we're gonna go into an executive session. So, thank you everybody for coming tonight."

Kerin Sparks: "I'm sorry I would like to remind everyone that we are still in session you are being recorded, so please keep it down to a minimum."

Audience talking over each other

Ben Yeargin: "I just have a quick question for the Planning and Zoning, everybody's been working real hard on that and we need to know what you guys want from Planning and Zoning?"

Kerin Sparks: "So, we're gonna have to address that in the next meeting we're interim between now and then, because we're kind of going out of order on our."

Ben Yeargin: "Yeah, no, that's fine, we've just been spinning our wheels, for almost like a whole year. We're gonna get on almost a whole year and we're trying to get this thing off the ground, so..."

Kerin Sparks: "Right, I. I understand and it will be on the February agenda."

Ben Yeargin: "OK."

Kerin Sparks: "It was my understanding that, that, you had resigned, so..."

Ben Yeargin: "That's what I was wondering because you didn't make the last meeting, so we were wondering where we were at."

Mayor Herrera: "OK. I will not miss another meeting."

Ben Yeargin: "No, that's fine, but..."

Mayor Herrera: "No, no, no, I need to do that."

Ben Yeargin: "Exactly, but actually i would like to have a meeting with you separately."

Mayor Herrera: "OK. Call me."

Ben Yeargin: "Every time I do, you never get back, you don't show up, you say email me."

Mayor Herrera: "NO, call me, we can meet."

Ben Yeargin: "OK."

Mayor Herrera: "OK."

Ben Yeargin: "Thank you."



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Mayor Herrera: "No problem, just give me a holler."

Ben Yeargin: "Will do."

Mayor Herrera: "So, we're...Do you want to read through this and then you can take it back?"

Chief Huckeby: "Say again?"

Mayor Herrera: "Inaudible" Do you want a copy so you don't lose..."

Chief Huckeby: "umm uh, yeah"

Mayor Herrera: "You're coming to work tomorrow, right?"

Chief Huckeby: "Yeah, uh I was gonna bring that to them to work tomorrow so whatever you can, uh, I'll bring that back to them tomorrow."

Mayor Herrera: "OK, well Patricia can make a copy and tomorrow and get us a couple of copies ok"

Chief Huckeby: "Perfect."

Mayor Herrera: "and we can take them in there. Because either way it's something that will have to go through the Council."

Chief Huckeby: "Got you, yeah."

Mrs. Martinez: Ok Mayor can I just get the motion to enter into executive session and a vote."

Mayor Herrera: "I'd like to make a motion to enter into executive session it is..."

Council Member Sandoval: "Before we go in to, can I go use the restroom?"

Mayor Herrera: "Yeah,"

Council Member Sandoval: "Before or..."

Mayor Herrera: "Go ahead."

Kerin Sparks: "No, you're fine, go ahead."

Council Member Sandoval: "OK."

Mayor Pro-Tem Dominguez: "Before we go into executive session, I would like to say congratulations to the Chief."

Council Member Olivas: "Congrats."

Chief Huckeby: "Thank you sir."

Council Member Salazar: "Thank you, and welcome."

Chief Huckeby: "You guys have a safe evening."

Mayor Herrera: "Be careful on the way home. What's that? Asking Council Member Salazar: Oh, these are for all those resolutions huh."

Council Member Salazar: "Here's a pen, because mine was purple. Are we done? asking Mrs. Martinez."

Council Member Olivas: "I'm gonna go get my jacket, because I am freezing."

Council Member Salazar: "So when did this happen?"

Mayor Herrera: "Is that it?"

Mrs. Martinez: "Kyle's signature on that one and that one, that one..."

Mayor Herrera: "How many is there, one, two, three, four..."



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Council Member Salazar: "Five."

Mrs. Martinez: "Yeah it was Seven, the only one we table was the holiday."

Mayor Herrera: "OK."

Mrs. Martinez: "Ok, that's mine, signature here. So for the sake of my time. So I don't have to sit out there for executive session. Would you just read this, indicate the time for the minutes and give it back to me?"

Mayor Herrera: "OK."

Mrs. Martinez: "Can you do that?"

Mayor Herrera: "Yeah."

Mrs. Martinez: "OK." When we come out of executive session?"

Mrs. Martinez: "Yeah. So, when you come out of executive session, indicate this the time and then that's it.

Mayor Herrera: "And then we return for the regular meeting."

Mrs. Martinez: "Even if you take a picture of that for the minutes and it's documented if you're OK with that, if not I can just stay here."

Mayor Herrera: "No, it's fine."

Mrs. Martinez: "OK."

Mayor Herrera: "So then, Kerin's staying then is what you're saying?"

Mrs. Martinez: "No."

Mayor Herrera: "And the recorder?"

Mrs. Martinez: "I'll stay, don't worry."

Mayor Herrera: "It's cold."

Council Member Salazar: "This wasn't on the agenda, was it?"

Mrs. Martinez: "That was for your information only."

Council Member Olivas: "It's freezing in here."

Mrs. Martinez: "I'll need your signature on all of them." handing resolutions to Council Member Olivas.:

Mayor Herrera: "Let's make a motion to enter into Executive Session, it is 8:17p.m."

Council Member Olivas makes a motion

Mayor Pro-Tem Dominguez seconds

Mayor Herrera: "Roll call vote Mrs. Martinez."

Mayor Pro-Tem Dominguez-Yes

Council Member Salazar-Yes

Council Member Sandoval-Yes

Council Member Olivas-Yes

Meeting adjourned 9:00p.m