Regular Meeting Minutes–September 16, 2026 6:00 pm

The Mayor and the Board of Trustees of the Village of Tularosa met in a Regular Meeting on Wednesday Sept. 16th, 2026, at 6:00 P. M. in the Court Conference Room of the Public Safety Facility located at 609 St. Francis Drive, Tularosa, New Mexico.

Present: Mayor Deborah Cooksey
Trustee Manuel Brusuelas
Trustee Mark Garwood
Trustee Christopher Rupp
Trustee Casey Otero-Absent

Also present was Rebekah Garcia Village Clerk also in attendance Village Attorney Nann Winters via Zoom.

At 6:00 P. M. Mayor Deborah Cooksey called the meeting to order asking that all rise and join her in the Pledge of Allegiance and the Salute to the Flag of the State of New Mexico.

Roll Call was taken:

Brusuelas-present, Garwood-present, Rupp-present, Otero-Absent

1. Trustee Brusuelas made a motion to accept the agenda; Trustee Garwood seconded the motion. All members voted aye; motion carried.

2. Unscheduled correspondence:

Greg Guiterrez of the Village advises that he has started a Facebook page. "PNM Customers United" for the ongoing billing issues and invites all to join. Also added that he is on board with the new well with R/O system and recycled waste projects.

Micheal Gruger of the Village has concerns on the new animal ordinance for the # of animals a villager can have. He was advised by the Mayor that there can be more than 5 dogs for example if they are all checked and good, ex; food, shelter and so on. Then and only then can they be grandfathered in.

Larry Barry Village Judge advises that the new flooring in the court offices and the roof are now done. Wants to thank Ralph and crew for the job that they did. Also wants to recognize Casey Otero for all the help with the school zones, they are working out great. And of course, he opposes the cell tower.

3. Geraldine Martinez, Chief of Police recognized Dean Lester of his exceptional

public service. He helps wherever and whenever he can. He was instrumental in the findings of an elder villager. Officer Lester took hold of the situation and started a grid path from ¼ mile to the residents home. Locating him. Chief feels that this could have been real bad due to the weather being so hot out. Thank you! Dean Lester.

4. Rebekah Garica, Village Clerk asked to adopt Resolution # 2026-2027-9 an agreement between the State of New Mexico, New Mexico Environment Department and the Village of Tularosa for grant SAP 26-k2455-gf in the amount of $500,000 to plan, design construct and install water system improvements in Tularosa in Otero County. Trustee Brusuelas made a motion to discuss; Trustee Rupp seconded the motion. Trustee Brusuelas motioned to approve, Trustee Garwood seconded the motion. All members voted Aye; motion carried.

Roll call- Brusuelas-Aye, Rupp-Aye, Garwood-Aye

5. Rebekah Garcia, Village Clerk, is asking to adopt Resolution #2026-2027-10 Participation in Local Government Road Fund Hardship Match Waiver Program administered by New Mexico Department of Transportation. TPF Project 1st Street Planning and Design for the reconstruction of 1st Street from Highway 70 to Darby Ln. The total estimated cost for the project is $340,000 with a local match requirement of $17,000. Trustee Brusuelas made a motion to discuss; Trustee Rupp seconded the motion. Trustee Brusuelas motioned to approve, Trustee Rupp seconded the motion. All members voted Aye; motion carried.

Roll call- Brusuelas-Aye, Rupp-Aye, Garwood-Aye

6. Rebekah Garcia, Village Clerk asked for approval of Resolution #2025-2026-11. A resolution to apply for funding from the New Mexico Water Trust Board for Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements Phase 2 (Wastewater collection, Conveyance and Treatment). Trustee Brusuelas made a motion; Trustee Rupp seconded the motion. Trustee Brusuelas motioned to approve, Trustee Rupp seconded the motion. All members voted Aye; motion carried.

Roll call-Brusuelas-Aye, Rupp-Aye, Garwood-Aye

7. Discussion and Approval (final hearing) of ordinance amending title XV, chapter 151, Sections 151.01, 151.03 and 151.04 of the code of ordinances of the Village of Tularosa; Repealing Section 151.05; Establishing a Requirement that the fee schedule for site location, permits, manufactured homes. Residential and commercial plan reviews, and variance applications

be established by Resolution. Trustee Brusuelas made a motion; Trustee Garwood seconded the motion. Trustee Brusuelas motioned to approve, Trustee Rupp seconded the motion. All members voted Aye; motion carried.

Roll call- Brusuelas-Aye, Rupp-Aye, Garwood-Aye

8. Approval of NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT ORDIANCE NO. 286 AN ORDIANCE ADMENDING TITLE IX, CHAPTER 95 (ANIMALS), SECTION 95.01 THROUGH 95.99 OF THE CODE OF ORDIANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF TULAROSA CONCERNING GENERAL PROVISIONS, PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES, ADMISNISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT, AND DANGEROUS AND POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS DOGS. Trustee Rupp made a motion; Trustee Brusuelas seconded the motion. Trustee Brusuelas made a motion to approve; Trustee Rupp seconded the motion; motion carried

9. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A FEE SCHEDULE FOR SITE LOCATION PERMITS, MANUFACTURED HOMES, RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL PLAN REVIEWS, VARIANCE APPLICATIONS AND OTHER PERMITS-20262027-12. Trustee Brusuelas made a motion; Trustee Rupp seconded the motion. Trustee Brusuelas motioned to approve, Trustee Rupp seconded the motion. All members voted Aye; motion carried.

10. Mayor Cooksey asked for approval for changes made to the personnel policy. Trustee Brusuelas made a motion; Trustee Rupp seconded the motion. The PD schedule has been added to note that their hours of operation are different that the regular employees. Trustee Brusuelas motioned to approve changes to the personnel policy. Trustee Rupp seconded. All members voted Aye; motion carried.

11. 2026-2lp-001 Nancy Carr Two Plat Split on Riata Rd. P&Z recommendation of approval for Mrs. Carr's two lot split. Trustee Brusuelas made a motion; Trustee Rupp seconded the motion. Trustee Rupp motioned to approve; Trustee Brusuelas seconded the motion; motion carried

12. 2026-SUP-002 Flagship 1. LLC Cell Tower on 44 Sunset Rd. Presentation of P&Z findings and facts and condition recommendations. Sworn in Virgil Johnson & Rusty Helton of the P&Z commission. Discussion on the requirements and propose site as well as the pacts and findings of the meeting with Mr. Milks via zoom. Proper written notice will be sent out to the closest residents in the area of 44 Sunset Rd.

13. Code enforcement recommendations. Recommendations for Code

enforcement Title XV schedule. Trustee Brusuelas made a motion; Trustee Rupp seconded the motion. P&Z proposes cleaner and safer streets-the neighbor's arguments are concerning when coming upon one of these residences. P&Z proposes a street clean up month for each street. A roll off trash bin to be located at the end of the street when this is occurring. At the end there will be a such street party for the most improved. Those that are elderly and cannot perform such activities will be helped by their street neighbors. Notices will be delivered by the Code Enforcement Officer Dean Lester. Chief advises that Mr. Lester has a lot of hats to wear and may need assistance.

14. Kendra King, Grant Coordinator presented information regarding a potential Dog Park location. Kendra advised that the Grant money was approved for a potential Dog Park. Insurance and location need to be discussed. Findings are behind the Community Center, 5th Street, or the Conveniance Center off of HWY 70 behind Veterans Park. Other discussion would be the parking and location of the recycling bins for trucks to pick up and deliver. And parking for the Dog lovers. Set on location needed for approval. Mesa Verde and Dogsbreath have both advised that they will be donors.

15. Matt, Bohannon Huston with project updates:
1. Ground water source and land purchase in review with the attorney.
2. Pipeline Easement raw water and brin, land and Geotech work all needed. Design is proceeding target date is June 2027, need to move forward.
3. Community Center Splash Pad- Ex. Grant from DFA footprint and fence line permit pending- parking lot EV charging stations have been added to plans.
4. Wastewater lift station plan has been executed.
5. Reconstruction is closed just waiting on the new street signs.
6. Small task is needed, a ground water map.

Pending Projects:
1. Rehab of Chris Dr., Darby Ln and Lucille Ln. Need ASAP
2. Granado Street P&Z design in Oct. Meeting with NMDOT
3. Ver the Horizon Projects- 1st-Higuera
4. Co-op program-grant approved L200710, waiting on response.
5. Phase II of the Splash Pad, more funding Summer 2027
6. Sludge basin wastewater.

Department updates:

Geraldine Martinez, Chief of Police, all has been calm. Still waiting on money needed for radios. Moreno property is still vacant except for a few animals that are being fed by the Village. Have filed competency and they will hold her for 6-8 weeks. Shelter is full and 5-6 of those dogs belonging

to Mrs. Moreno.

Rebekah Garcia, Village Clerk advises that the renovations at the Village Hall are complete. New roof on the Hall and Police Department are also complete. Rebekah is working on a notification system to let those that do not have social media know of the Village situations. Text my Gov.

Kendra King, Grant Coordinator, states that the Police Department grants are coming along. A/C system is completely installed at the animal control building. Working on deadlines for other grants at this time.

Angel Voorbach, Utility Supervisor, states that the lift station operations are still ongoing. An aerator is still needed for the winter. Westfall road is done. Eloise Circle to Bookout should be next. Marin Drive is a total redo- will fill in potholes until this is completed. Copper and Lead tests to begin soon. New intake valve is here and will get done next week. Cleaning of the pond will start as soon as the tanks are full. Testing of each employee needs to be done by the first of the year 2027. Manhole lids and cans. Tank levels are holding at 35ft. recommends that the tanks be cleaned as well due to sediment in them.

Clarisa Betancur, Senior Center Director, states that all good, they served 1094 congregate meals, and still have 50 homebound that get transportation to and from. 846 home delivered meals. States that she will be attending the 48th Aging Conference in Glorietta and Deborah Ostic will be joining her. States that they would like to be involved in the Trunk or Treat, adding that the seniors need to be included in more community functions. Oct. 22nd is Audit and they will check all. Sept. 28th Walgreens will be at the Center for shots that are needed, and Oct. 15th Albertsons will be there for the same. States that a bike rack was suggested for those members that do ride their bikes to the Center.

14. Old Business:

Moreno- Nann Winter, Village Attorney advised that they have located persons and advised court of finding. Waiting on court.

Removal of Kim Skaggs- resigned-

15. New Business:

Trustee Brusuelas advised that there are some trees needing sprayed soon due to worms. Will be tasked to find which ones and a quote on the spraying of them. Also states that he would like to change the flags to be in

the medians. Some do not want them up and some are not there and when he puts up, they complain that they were not asked.

Mark Garwood, Trustee states that there needs to be a committee for the fallen heros.

Christopher Rupp, Trustee states that the Kiwanas Club is still interested in the Christmas light Parade and this year the theme is "250 Let Freedom Glow". Courts and fines meeting with the courts went good with the court and addition of the speed limits. Advised that a special meeting is needed for evaluations and approvals of raises

16. Adjourn: 8:23 pm

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Deborah Cooksey, Mayor

ATTEST: (seal)

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Rebekah Garcia, Village Clerk