

MINUTES
VILLAGE OF LOS RANCHOS DE ALBUQUERQUE
6718 RIO GRANDE BOULEVARD NW
BOARD OF TRUSTEES WORKING SESSION
Thursday, May 28, 2020
8:00 A.M.

Present:

Donald T. Lopez, Mayor
Pablo Rael, Mayor Pro Tem/Trustee
Sandra Pacheco, Trustee
Allen Lewis, Trustee
Tom Riccobene, Trustee

Ann Simon, Administrator
Danielle Sedillo-Molina, Clerk
Tammy Silva, CFO
Will Fisher, Treasurer

The working session was streamed live through the Village of Los Ranchos website and its Facebook page.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Lopez called the working session to order at 8:15 a.m.

2. DISCUSSION OF THE FY21 BUDGET

- Mayor Lopez began by announcing that the working session is dedicated to the discussion of the draft budget. He stated that there would be departmental staff attending to answer any questions as needed.
- Mayor read a letter from the State of New Mexico Director, Mr. Donnie Quintana of Local Government Division indicating that all Government bodies should submit their budget on July 31st. This allows all municipalities to have a better projection of their revenues.

Administrator Simon spoke on the following:

- The draft budget was crafted with a 25 percent reduction.
- Tracking GRT, as it comes in, we can better gauge revenues.
- The method and factors in which she derived the current figures.
- Current revenue streams, such as the storage facility and the mobile home park.
- Starting carryover number is \$3,173,605.00 but may have a better number July 1st.

Trustee Lewis pointed out that we have the opportunity to revisit the budget mid-year, if the numbers are much better, we can adjust the budget accordingly and possibly add back in some of the things we have cut.

Administrator Simon:

- The budget discussion began with Executive Legislative and Judicial Funds. Items budgeted were explained.
- Financial Administration includes the CFO and the Village Treasurer and associated costs.

Trustee Riccobene asked for more information regarding the Public Employee Retirement Association (PERA) and how those figures are calculated.

Trustee Lewis asked about the bank fees and possibly looking at a local bank.

CFO Silva responded by providing the breakdown of the structure of contributions by the Village and the employee for PERA distributions. Also explained the bank fees and will be reviewing other banking options.

- Planning and Zoning Director Tiffany Justice discussed some of the items in the budget that will affect the department in the upcoming year. Shared some of the upcoming expenditures for 2021, as well as, the cost savings in other line items.
- Administrator Simon discussed items listed under general administration and explained that most expenditures come out of this fund.

Trustee Lewis asked about the Attorney fees.

Administrator Simon explained the costs associated with the fees.

Trustee Lewis felt it was on the low end, commented that he felt some of the other categories were low as well.

Discussion ensued regarding better utilization of the Attorney, what issues are essential, such as litigation and representation at meetings, etc. vs. issues that we could solve in house or resident's calling the Attorney directly, which will not be paid by the Village.

Break 9:45 am

- Agricultural Program Manager Fergus Whitney discussed the department budget and upcoming year needs. He expressed the need for a full-time administrative staff person and stressed that with the partnerships he has developed and with the increasing need for coordination of activities there is justification. Currently, he has a temporary employee assisting with administrative tasks, and has budgeted for a full-time employee for FY21. He cannot sustain working in the fields and trying to manage events and collaborative efforts without a full time assistant.
- He also discussed other budgeted items for the center and his plans for making the center a hub for agricultural excellence.
- Discussed potential grants.

Trustee Pacheco asked about the educational piece at the Center.

Fergus provided the upcoming farm camp dates.

Trustee Riccobene was concerned about the supply budget being too low.

Administrator Simon responded mentioned that she cut the budget because it's made up with other partnerships that offset the costs.

Trustee Riccobene and Trustee Lewis both asked several questions regarding equipment, maintenance and other supply items in the budget.

Fergus answered accordingly

Administrator Simon discussed plans for remodeling the facility.

- Administrator Simon spoke about public safety and reducing the budget.

Trustee Lewis emphasized how important it is to not cut public safety, it's expected from the residents.

Trustee Pacheco also indicated how important safety is in the community.

Trustee Rael also spoke about an increased number of homeless people along Osuna and it will need to be addressed soon.

All the Trustees agreed that public safety is important to the Village, and expressed minimal cuts to that line item.

- Administrator Simon spoke about the facilities maintenance budget, discussed the conditions of the roads and the costs associated with repair.

Discussion ensued about prioritizing repair to the roads that are in the worst condition and how to handle it based on the complexity of each.

- Facilities Supervisor Keen Heinzleman spoke about the costs of roads and the details associated with each.
- Keen mentioned he has a priority list of the roads that need immediate attention.

It was agreed upon that repairs to the roads are needed. Discussed options on matching funds and how-to better leverage Village money.

- Keen also mentioned that the department can do some of the work to the roads, such as cracked seal and pothole repairs.
- Administrator Simon spoke about the old Village Hall and possible repair and updating the building. It could be utilized for a multi-use facility for activities such as HOA meetings and to give people a place to congregate.
- Would like to keep some money in the budget to repair the facility.

Trustee Pacheco said that it would make for a great community center and would provide a safe place for some of the aging population to feel safe at.

Trustee Lewis loves the idea of a community center, however, disagrees that the old Village Hall is the place to put money into. He indicated that the age of the building and the costs associated with the repair can be used to put bathrooms and heating/cooling in the barn.

Trustee Riccobene said from an economic standpoint that we should think about it.

Trustee Lewis is also concerned about the neighbors with the noise coming from that area. Also stated that he thought it was agreed that if we were going to sell it; we went out and got an appraisal on the property.

A field trip will be coordinated for the Trustees to inspect all the facilities and pursue which facility they would like to repair or remodel.

All Trustees thanked staff for the hard work being put into the budget during this challenging time.

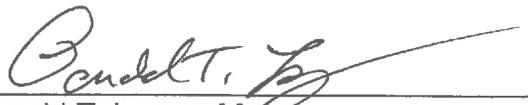
Administrator Simon concluded the budget discussion, will make the adjustments as suggested and will have another draft budget for distribution.

3. ADJOURNMENT

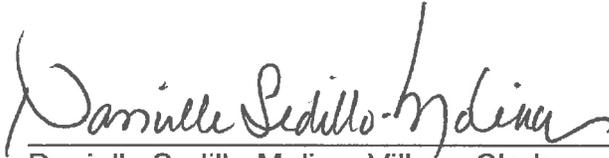
The working session was adjourned by Mayor Lopez at 12:15 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Los Ranchos de Albuquerque on this 22nd day of July 2020.

{SEAL}



Donald T. Lopez, Mayor



Danielle Sedillo-Molina, Village Clerk