

Village of Cuba  
Regular Council Meeting  
Wednesday, August 25, 2021 – 6:00 p.m.  
Municipal Court Complex

**Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 6:05

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Pledge of Allegiance was recited

**Roll Call**

Mayor Velarde asked for the roll call

Mayor Velarde	present
Mayor Pro Tem Dominguez	present
Council Member Delgado	present
Council Member Olivas	present
Council Member Weippert	absent

**Approval of Agenda**

Mayor Velarde asked for a motion. Council Member Delgado made the motion. Council Member Olivas seconds. Mayor Velarde asked if there was any discussion. Council Member Delgado said she wanted to amend item 8 to \$138,000.00. Chief Romero said the amount was an error on his part and it has already been corrected. Ms. Casados asked Chief Romero which is the correct amount. Chief Romero said the \$138,000.00 is the correct amount.

**Discussion, Consideration and Action of the minutes for the Regular Meeting held on July 28, 2021**

Mayor Velarde asked for a motion. Council Member Delgado made the motion. Council Member Olivas seconds the motion. Mayor Velarde asked if there was any discussion on the minutes. There was none. Mayor Velarde asked for a roll call vote.

Mayor Pro Tem Dominguez	yes
Council Member Delgado	yes
Council Member Olivas	yes

Motion carries.

**Discussion, Consideration and Action of the monthly warrants for the Village of Cuba for the month of August 2021**

Mayor Velarde asked for a motion. Council Member Olivas made the motion. Council Member Delgado seconds the motion. Mayor Velarde asked if there was any discussion. There was none. Mayor Velarde asked for a roll call vote.

Mayor Pro Tem Dominguez	yes
Council Member Delgado	yes
Council Member Olivas	yes

Motion carries.

**Discussion, Consideration and Action of the monthly warrants for the Cuba Housing Authority for the month of July and August 2021**

Mayor Velarde asked for a motion. Council Member Delgado made the motion. Council Member Olivas seconds the motion. Mayor Velarde asked if there was any discussion. Mayor Pro Tem Dominguez asked if July and August are combined. Mayor Velarde said there was nothing at the last meeting. Mayor Velarde asked if there was any discussion. There was none. Mayor Velarde asked for a roll call vote.

Mayor Pro Tem Dominguez	yes
Council Member Delgado	yes
Council Member Olivas	yes

Motion carries.

**Discussion, Consideration and Action of the USDA Grant in the amount of \$140,870.91 for the purchase of three Police Units, \$105,653.19 USDA Grant portion is 75%; 25% General-Police portion is \$35,217.73 for equipment**

Mayor Velarde asked for a motion. Council Member Delgado made the motion. Council Member Olivas seconds the motion. Mayor Velarde asked if this amount was budgeted for. He asked Chief Romero if this is coming out of the General Police Budget. Chief Romero said yes. Mayor Velarde asked what his budget for last year was. Chief Romero said he is not sure. Ms. Casados said she can look into it and if needed they can do a budget adjustment with DFA. Mayor Velarde asked if the LEPF is taken. Chief Romero said yes. Mayor Velarde said they will have to check into this. He asked when the grant is due. Chief Romero said it has already been completed and they are waiting on the final approval. Mayor Velarde asked Ms. Casados if it is on this budget. Ms. Casados said it is not, but she will check to be sure. Mayor Velarde asked what is the time frame they are looking at. Chief said all paperwork was due on the past Friday which all was done. He said they are waiting for approval and the minutes for the meeting. Mayor Velarde asked if all that is needed is to wait of DFA. He asked Chief Romero how many units they have. Chief said they have 2 new with one coming. He said these will be three additional. Chief Romero said the most they can qualify for is the 75%. Mayor Velarde asked if the money will be on this years or next years budget. Chief Romero said this years. Mayor Velarde asked Ms. Casados if she knows what they are appropriated for right now. She said she will have to look at the budget not no miss-inform anybody. She said she wants to make sure the figures are correct. Mayor Velarde said the

only thing holding him up is the amount. He asked Chief Romero if they can re-do the grant for a less amount. Chief Romero said it is done as it is. Ms. Casados said if the grant amount is \$138,000.00 the 25% will change and be less. She said she will check. Chief Romero said the terms of the loan are the Village will pay back the adjusted rate within 6 years. He said it will be \$5,000.00 per year. Mayor Velarde said that is better. He said that is information he needed. Mayor Velarde asked for a roll call vote.

Mayor Pro Tem Dominguez	yes
Council Member Delgado	yes
Council Member Olivas	yes

Motion carries.

**Discussion, Consideration and Action of the Amendment No. 1-2021 to Resolution Number: MVD-29N-06-16-16 enactment the collection of an administrative fee in connection with providing services to the State of New Mexico Motor Vehicle Division Partner Management Services**

Mayor Velarde asked for a motion. Council Member Delgado made the motion. Council Member Olivas seconds the motion. Mayor Velarde asked Ms. Casados to explain this. Ms. Casados said this is to amend the administrative fees collected. She said it is the \$5.00 fee per transaction per person, and now they are including \$5.00 for a driving record fee, \$5.00 for a MVD Lien record, \$15.00 for a VIN inspection, \$30.00 for a road test, and \$40.00 for fingerprinting through Cuba Police. She said these are the fees being charged by other MVD's the same size as Cuba MVD in New Mexico, and the fees will go back to the General MVD fund. The road test and fingerprinting will go to General Police. Mayor Velarde asked for a roll call vote.

Mayor Pro Tem Dominguez	yes
Council Member Delgado	yes
Council Member Olivas	yes

Motion carries.

**Discussion, Consideration and Action of the Sandoval County DWI and prevention Program and the Cuba Police Department, Professional Services Contract for overtime projects in the amount of \$4,000.00**

Mayor Velarde asked for a motion. Council Member Delgado made the motion. Council Member Olivas seconds the motion. Mayor Velarde asked if there was any discussion. Mayor Velarde asked Chief Romero to explain this. Chief Romero said this is the Overtime projects which allows them to provide DWI enforcement, money for patrols, and they want to do DWI checkpoints in the Village limits. He said this falls into special things as DWI trainings at the schools. He said this will take some of the strain off the Village to get these things done. Mayor Pro Tem Dominguez asked if they will be assisting Sandoval County with these projects. Chief Romero said this can go either way. He said this is for things the Department is not obligated to but they can do. He said this is also for others who come and help out. Mayor Velarde asked for a roll call vote.

Mayor Pro Tem Dominguez	yes
Council Member Delgado	yes

Council Member Olivas yes  
Motion carries.

**Discussion, Consideration and Action of the Resolution No. ICIP-VOC-FY-2023-2027 Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan Prepared by Souder, Miller and Associates to be submitted to the Capital Outlay Bureau on Friday, September 17, 2021**

Mayor Velarde asked for a motion. Council Member Delgado made the motion. Council Member Olivas seconds the motion. Mayor Velarde asked if there is any discussion. Mayor Velarde said they need to file the ICIP plan prior to the next fiscal year legislature. He said it is a wait list for projects that need to be done. He said there are problems with water lines within the Village which is number 1 on the ICIP. Also, number 2 is the replacing the storage tank at La Loma, number 3 is a fire hydrant and flush valve replacement project, 4 is the the Municipal Complex, 5 is water meter replacement and 6 is Cubita and Nacimiento Road main line waterline distribution. Mayor Velarde was asked if all fire hydrants will be replaced. He said yes but it is just line a wish list and the most important will have to be done first. Mayor Velarde said that with capital outlay money if the money is not secure the projects can not go out for bid, and some are 1 to 2 million dollar projects and we don't expect to see any of that, the most we will probably receive out of our representative is far less depending on what is available, and also what the senator will give us. He said these are things that were asked to look at right away. Ms. Herrera asked if on number 6, the low pressure loop can be added. Ms. Herrera said in order for Nacimiento to have pressure, all the lines will need to be replaced. She said the Booster pump on Hwy 126 and CR 13 needs to be there too. Mayor Velarde said it can be added as a documentation thing but he said they do not plan on getting to 6 at all. Ms. Herrera asked about the Lift Station. Mayor Velarde said that is included. Mayor Velarde said she can look at the ICIP. Mayor Velarde asked for a roll call vote, to include the corrections.

Mayor Pro Tem Dominguez yes  
Council Member Delgado yes  
Council Member Olivas yes

Motion carries.

**Discussion, Consideration and Action of the Letters of Support and Feasibility Study submitted by Knew Company introducing an unconventional solution to a water problem that threatens the survival of the Village of Cuba**

Mayor Velarde said no one is there for this so they can look at the feasibility study and the letter of support. He said letters of support is needed to seek funding from the ARCA funds from Sandoval County. He said they are asking for 7 million to get projects done. He said with this money they can begin the projects needed. Ms. Carey Beam asked if they can put the feasibility study on the website. Ms. Casados said they can after it is approved. Mayor Velarde said they will post that as well as the letter of support. Mayor Velarde asked for a roll call vote.

Mayor Pro Tem Dominguez yes  
Council Member Delgado yes  
Council Member Olivas yes

Motion carries.

**Discussion, Consideration and Action of the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management FY 2022 Fire Protection Fund Distribution in the amount of \$283,245.00**

Mayor Velarde asked for a motion. Council Member Delgado made the motion. Council Member Olivas seconds the motion. Mayor Velarde asked Fire Chief Romero to explain this. Chief Romero said the distribution to the Fire Fund went up about 60,000.00 this year. He said that is because of the addition of the new station. Mayor Velarde asked for a roll call vote.

Mayor Pro Tem Dominguez	yes
Council Member Delgado	yes
Council Member Olivas	yes

Motion carries.

**Discussion, Consideration and Action of the Application for Fiscal Year 2022 Fire Protection Apparatus of \$460,000.00 Grant Portion is \$300,000.00. Fire Protection Fund Portion is \$160,000.00 and a separate Grant in the amount of \$25,000.00 for Stipends, Recruiting, Retention and Educational Costs**

Mayor Velarde asked for a motion. Council Member Delgado made the motion. Council Member Olivas seconds the motion. Mayor Velarde asked Fire Chief Romero to explain this. Chief Romero said this is the grant they are applying for. He said they are putting in for a new Class A Pumper Apparatus. He said their newest is a 2004 with a lot of time on it. He said with this apparatus, they will be able to retire 2 of the older ones. He said there is no money to match, this is a full grant. He said the \$25,000.00 is something new legislature has allowed. He said this is for stipends, recruiting, community advocational and retention of the members. He said this is good for the Village is the Fire Funds will take over the stipends. He said this is a win, win for the Village and the Fire Department and he will receive all paperwork shortly. Mayor Velarde asked for a roll call vote.

Mayor Pro Tem Dominguez – asked if they will be able to recruit members with this. Chief Romero said the intention of the Fire Marshall's office is to give communities such as Cuba, funding for recruitment efforts. Signage, ads in the news paper and stipends. He said right now they pay \$7.00 and are the lowest in the state. He said if they can give each member \$10.00 to \$14.00 per call, per meeting, per training, it will recruit and retain more. He said community education can come from here as well.

Mayor Pro Tem Dominguez	yes
Council Member Delgado	yes
Council Member Olivas	yes

Motion carries.

**Discussion, Consideration and Action of the Resolution No. 07-13-2021 for the Water and Sewer Fund "Correction of Penalties" for Fiscal Year End June, 30, 2021, June 30, 2018, June 30, 2019 and June 30, 2020**

Mayor Velarde asked for a motion. Council Member Delgado made the motion. Council Member Olivas seconds the motion. Ms. Casados said the correctio of penalties is \$251,695.07 for the past 4 years. She said this information was given to the Village by the Office of the State Auditor and Department of

Finance to make the correction of the penalties. She said this resolution will go to DFA, the Office of the State Auditor, the Village Accountant and the Procured Auditor for this fiscal year audit. Mayor Velarde said the Village was able to forgive the penalties, and asked if they have already been corrected. Ms. Herrera said yes. Mayor Velarde asked if the customers have been contacted. Ms. Herrera said there have been calls asking about the adjustments on the bills, at which point she explains it to the customer. Mayor Velarde asked if the penalties are being assessed. Ms. Herrera said no, it has stopped since March. Mayor Velarde asked if there is any other discussion. There was none. Mayor Velarde asked for a roll call vote.

Mayor Pro Tem Dominguez	yes
Council Member Delgado	yes
Council Member Olivas	yes

Motion carries.

**Review of the letter dated August 13, 2021 from the Department of Finance and Administration approving the Fiscal Year 2021 – 2022 Operating Budget for the Village of Cuba**

Reviewed, no discussion. Ms. Carey Beam asked if the budget can be placed on the VOC website for public review. Mayor Velarde said yes they can. Council Member Delgado said there is nothing to hide.

**Review of the Municipal Court report for July 31, 2021**

Report reviewed, no discussion.

**Update and Status Report addressed by Chief of Police Romero for the Cuba Police Department**

Chief Romero said they will be conducting meetings at the Cuba Police Department starting September 1, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. He said on August 9<sup>th</sup> they conducted a community wide operation. There were 22 US Marshals from Albuquerque. He said they worked on this for about 4 months. He said they served 4 search warrants, 8 raids, on different houses. They arrested 2 fugitives and made arrests for harboring fugitives. He said all together they arrested about 10 people. He said they managed to return stolen vehicles and they will continue in that direction. He said they want to enter into a MOU with Cuba Schools. He said the schools are willing to pay \$100,000.00 to pay for an officer to be the SRO which will include their pay and benefits which will be almost no cost to the Village of Cuba. He said he has done research and the PD has one position open and they can fill that with the SRO memorandum. He said it will help the Village and the schools as well. Chief Romero said one thing that concerns him is school shootings. He said there are issues with children on the reservation that they would like to close the gap with. Chief Romero gave Mayor Velarde a copy of the MOU which will be sent to the Village attorney for review. Chief Romero said the SRO will be an Officer with the Cuba Police Department and will have their duty and obligation. Mayor Velarde said the school is paying for it so the officer would have to be there for games and such. Mayor Velarde asked if the Officer would be certified or non-certified. Chief Romero said it will be a certified SRO, someone who has the credentials to hold that position. Chief Romero said the Officer has to have at least 5 years SRO experience. Mayor Velarde asked if the Officer will be allowed to live on campus. Chief Romero said he does not think they have an availability at the moment. He said whoever they hire will live close. Ms. Carey Beam asked if the SRO will also do DARE programs or Predator programs. Chief Romero said yes, the only thing they are not able to do is a teaching position. The officer can not be placed in a classroom without a teacher being present.

Chief Romero said in the summer time, the officer will respond to calls and be an employee of the Cuba PD. He said if there is an emergency call and the officer is not needed at the school, the officer will be obligated to assist with what is going on. Mayor Velarde asked if that will include a unit as well. Chief Romero said the unit will be provided by the Village being they are utilizing the officer for traffic and other means. Mayor Pro Tem Dominguez asked about page 5 letter D. Chief Romero said if the SRO is absent for unforeseen reasons, any officer of the Cuba Police Department should have the basic requirements for SRO to fill the position in the meantime. Chief Romero said they had foreseen this so they subscribed to an online training that they will take when this is approved. Mayor Velarde asked what would happen if they hire an SRO and they leave 2 weeks after hired. Would that money be moved to the following year? Chief Romero said that is at the discretion of both parties being the Village of Cuba and the Superintendent, if they can not agree on an amended MOU the position will be terminated with 90 days notice. Mayor Velarde said they are obligated to find an SRO but what happens if they can't. Chief Romero said he is almost certain they will find someone.

#### **Public Comment**

Mayor Velarde asked if there was any public comment. Fire Chief Romero gave the update for the Fire Department. He said to date they are at 225 calls. He said they have applied for several grants and they have helped the Village with flood control. They have helped law enforcement with some of their activities, and traffic control. Mayor Velarde said they are very much appreciated.

Ms. Alex Herrera asked Fire Chief Romero if the Fire Department with the grants they have applied for, will be able to go in with the Village and get the hydrants replaced. Chief Romero said the Fire Protection money is for one project only. Ms. Herrera asked him if that was not important. Chief Romero said the Fire Funds allow testing the hydrants but not purchasing them. He said they are very specific on what the money is used for.

Mayor Velarde asked if there was any further comment. There was none.

#### **Adjourn**

Mayor Velarde asked for a motion. Council Member Delgado made the motion. Council Member Olivas seconds the motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

*The minutes for the Regular Council Meeting held on Wednesday, August 25, 2021 have been officially approved by the Governing Body on September 29, 2021.*

*Vandora P. Casados, Clerk-Treasurer*

*Vandora P. Casados*

