

Village of Cuba  
Regular Council Meeting  
May 25, 2022 6:00 p.m.  
Municipal Court Complex

**Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Pledge was recited

**Roll Call**

Mayor Herrera	present
Mayor Pro Tem Dominguez	present
Council Member Herrera	present
Council Member Delgado	present
Council Member Olivas	present

**Approval of Agenda**

Council Member Delgado made the motion. Council Member Olivas seconds. There was no discussion.

**Introduction: Mr. Mario R. Martinez, Candidate for State Representative District 41**

Mr. Martinez introduced himself. He said he is from Espanola NM and has lived there all his life. He said he had a small business, which his son just took over, and he has been married for 28 years. He said he wants to represent Cuba in the State Legislature. He said he and the Mayor are working well with each other so far and for the needs of the community he wants to bring in more capitol outlay and funding for the projects. He said he thinks there is money available for these things. He said he is here to humbly ask for support. He said the district includes 4 counties. Mayor Herrera asked if anyone had any questions for Mr. Martinez. Mr. Martinez asked if everyone knew what the State Representative does. He said they represent at the round house. He said he is a former probate judge for Rio Arriba County where he served 3 terms, he worked for the legislature for 10 years so he has past experience in business legislative affairs as a public official so he thinks he is the person who can represent Cuba the best. Mayor Herrera asked if anyone had questions. Council Member Delgado asked Mr. Martinez if he is a republican or a democrat. Mr. Martinez said he is a democrat and election is June 7. Council Member Olivas asked if he can help with grants to make the Eichwald Center a bigger facility. Mr. Martinez said this year the State Representative got 1.7 million dollars to spend in Capitol Outlay. He said the senators get about 3 million and that money is available for the district. He said there is a bigger need for the communities that exist. He said the money doesn't go very far. 700 million went to the residence or a tax rebate and that money could have gone to the federal government to build brick and mortar projects that are needed. He said there is money for things that need to be done. He said he is not going to promise anything but he appreciates being invited to address the crowd but the decisions are to be made by the community. Mr. Martinez was asked what he thinks the largest need is for Cuba. Mr. Martinez said in talking with people there is a concern with the acequias, the road and

infrastructure needs. He said there are a lot of needs as there are in any community but there is a lack of funds so that is why he is here to listen to what the needs are so when he gets in, the network of people can get it done. He said it is all about relationships, and getting your fair share. He said he doesn't know if Cuba has gotten their fair share. He said Cuba has been represented by 3 – 4 representatives in the past 10 years, which they are constantly changing and that is not good. He said he is sure the Police Officers need higher pay but that money has been taken away from other agencies. He said he feels society in general is getting in bad shape, in decay, a deep-rooted problem that needs to be addressed and the best thing about him is he will sit and listen to the needs and use a common-sense approach and move to the middle where all sides can be worked with, not choose sides. He said he wants to be fair.

**Introduction of proposed construction of a Allsup's Convenience Store addressed by Mr. Michael Keith, P.E. Project Manager for ATWELL, LLC.**

Mr. Kevin Fadden spoke on Mr. Keith's behalf. He said the plans are for a travel center. He asked if he could call Keith to listen in and answer questions if there were any. Mr. Fadden said what is needed for a commercial transaction is a purchase and sell agreement which is for 120 days or 1 or 2 – 30 day extensions for the inspection period. He said this is for all the studies that need to be done which includes environmental, to permitting, to land acquisition and engineering. He said this can be cumbersome and tedious so that is why that time is needed. He said if that doesn't happen in this first sight, they will look for another one. He said they need 3 to 3 ½ acres for the facility. Once the purchase and sell agreement is done, they will close and they are looking at 4 – 6 months for construction to be completed at which time they will officially be a part of the economic community in which they will be have 12-18 employees and they will be open 24 hours which they will need round the clock employees. Mayor Herrera asked if they are going to be open 24 hours if they will address light pollution towards housing. Mr. Fadden said yes and if those issues come up during the process they will be addressed. Council Member Olivas said Cuba does need a 24-hour store. Council Member Delgado asked when they construction will begin. Mr. Fadden said they are hoping to get the purchase and sell agreement done in the next few weeks. He said after that they have the 120 days for their studies. Council Member Olivas asked if he knows what the employees will get paid. She was told Allsup's pays at or well above the average. He said he doesn't know for sure but he will find out. Council Member Herrera asked if they do any sponsorship with the community or the schools. He said they are very involved with the community. Council Member Herrera said they are working on a project and they need a sponsorship through businesses. Mayor Herrera asked if they will be selling liquor. He was told yes. He asked if they will be using an existing license because new ones can not be brought in. He was told that depends on availability. Mayor Herrera asked if there are any other questions. The question was asked if another gas station is needed in Cuba. Mr. Fadden said he has not been involved in any of the studies but he knows there are several places now. Council Member Herrera said one of them just closed so there is now another vacant building, which is a concern and an eyesore. Mayor Herrera was asked why that station closed down. He said it was because there were two of the same company and maybe they felt is more economical to just have one, so the workers went to work at the other location.

**Introduction of the expansion of Broadband Technology addressed by Program Manager Ovidiu Viorica**

Mr. Viorica was not present. Ms. Diane Lindstrom was present on his behalf. She said broadband is what connects people and because the internet now is so slow people can not do what they need to. She said there are students in parking lots all over the place taking their classes. She said there is a lot of

federal money coming. She said there is 42 million dollars coming so the state will apply for some of that grant money. She said one of the ways New Mexico is going to expand broadband is through the schools. She said all but 2 schools in New Mexico are connected by fiber to the internet. She said the schools have speed but not as much bandwidth so the capacity is not there, so there are schools where the students are taking mandated tests and the administrative staff can not work on their computers, and do the jobs they need to do. She said her agency is working with the school system where they are creating a network of all the schools in New Mexico and that will provide more capacity for every school and schools will be able to share information with each other. She said this will give all the students the opportunity for a good education. She said there was a law passed by the Federal Government, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, which is 65 billion dollars, and that will make sure as the broadband is being built jobs will be provided for New Mexicans, provide training for those jobs and they have a network of universities and community colleges who are starting to provide certificate training for people to do the fiber connections and to operate networks. She said each community is different and has different needs so they need to listen to each community and make sure what is needed is part of the network that is created. She said the state wide education network becomes the foundation for an entire state-wide network that will include everyone, businesses, health, homes, state agencies, schools, everybody. She said anyone in the community that wants to be involved in broadband, build a coalition, so they can set a plan and then apply for grants. She asked that the community do that and once that is done to call her and she will help with the grants from there. Mayor Herrera asked if anyone had any questions. Council Member Olivas asked how much it would cost to do that. Ms. Lindstrom said it varies and depends on geography and location where and if the fiber can be run.

Council Member Olivas asked, once the connection for communication is done, is there a chip that goes in a laptop or computer. Ms. Lindstrom said no. She said the internet outlet, the cable that comes to the house is the broadband. Mayor Herrera asked if there is any further questions.

Mr. Nicholas Maestas introduced himself, a build representative for Representative Ben Ray Lujan. He said they are pushing in Washington DC for the money to get the infrastructure to get broadband to come to New Mexico and they feel with the right people at the table and coordination they can really get to 100% broadband connected in New Mexico which is what they are pushing and hoping for. He said Senator Lujan is ready and committed to work with the community to work together to meet the needs of the school districts, the PSFA and the State Broadband Commission and whoever else is needed to make sure they are getting access to Broadband in any community. He said there is a lot of funding in New Mexico so if they work together and build coalitions in communities, they can really advocate the need of importance in each area.

Ms. Lindstrom said Senator Lujan and Senator Heidrick are both focused on broadband in New Mexico. He said Senator Lujan's office works all over the state and they worked with a group that put in an application for a grant for planning for broadband. She said Senator Lujan has a powerful position in Washington that helps get money in New Mexico for broadband expansion for everyone to have internet access. Ms. Lindstrom asked if there are any other questions. Council Member Herrera said there will probably be more questions once a committee is formed and there can be a more detailed agenda. Ms. Lindstrom said she wants to leave everyone with one thought. If nothing is done right now, it will be taking away our children's and grand-children's futures.

## Introduction of FIRSTNET, AT&T addressed by Consultant Mr. Peter Conticelli

Mr. Conticelli introduced himself and Mr. Jesus Delgado, an Executive for Local Government and Education. Mr. Jesus Delgado said they are working on a bid for broadband, they are trying to get everything connected in New Mexico so they are one of the companies that came into bid with Public Facilities. He said he and Mr. Conticelli are there to talk about the Public Safety side of things. Mr. Delgado said he works with education and FIRSTNET which works with public safety and a lot on the education side and he agrees there are a lot of students missing out on the basic necessities.

Mr. Conticelli said he's going to begin with the history of FIRSTNET. He said everyone remembers where they were on September 11, 2001, when the towers came down they get the 9/11 commission and the conclusion was that public safety needed a non-destructible communications platform, so FIRSTNET was born. He said it is congressionally mandated, a 40 billion contract and the Federal Government oversees what is called the FIRSTNET Authority. They put it out for RFP and AT&T is the only one who answered the RFP. He said they are their own carrier. He said they have their own towers, they have their own physical core and they serve public safety but, that is anyone who helps public safety during a catastrophe is essential and can be on the FIRSTNET Network. He said construction, public works, electric technicians, water, all besides police, fire, paramedics are eligible for this service. He said everyone on the network has priority, they go straight to their network. They do not compete with any commercial traffic, they go straight to Band 14 – the FIRSTNET tower, an ideal spectrum within 700 megahertz and it is reserved for the ones on FIRSTNET. He said he knows everyone is asking why is this better than Sprint or T-Mobile. He said the reason it is better is because they have a physical core for the users. He said Fire Chief Romero is trying out 2 of their phones and is enjoying them. He has asked for a quote for 10 phones. He has started the ball rolling for Cuba, and that is why they are here. On the network the members get priority, they get pre-emption, and if anything ever does happen, everyone else will be kicked off the network except the first responders and essential government workers. There will never be any throttling, and it is unlimited data. He said they have 3 pages of an Excel spreadsheet of FIRSTNET members across New Mexico. Farmington PD, San Juan County Sheriff, Office of Emergency Management, Santa Fe, Santa Fe PD, County of Santa Fe, the whole town of Raton, working on all of Grants, all of Gallup, and McKinley County are all members. He said this has been going on for 5 years. He said across the United States, there are 3.3 million users and 12,500 agencies. He said they have 2 guys that handle New Mexico. He said his background is in Law Enforcement. He worked State Police for 32 years. Before that he was a roughneck in Farmington and would get a speeding ticket in Cuba every time he passed through. He said he was a young kid and couldn't slow down, so he contributed to Cuba in the late 80's. He said they have every phone made as FIRSTNET certified, which is a process to do. Mayor Herrera asked if FIRSTNET only works where there is cell service and if there are canyons where there is no cell service it will not work. Mr. Conticelli said right now they have 99% coverage. Mr. Delgado said, when Mr. Conticelli said they will "kick everybody off", he said to imagine people coming down the highway and open up the bottleneck, they open it up for first responders and for the commercial people they will bring in other utilities to help those people in case they are not on FIRSTNET. He said for instance, if someone goes into a canyon up north, they have trucks that have satellites that come in and provide network in the areas where there is no cell phone coverage. He said the Police and the first responders that have land mobile radio can't get service but the FIRSTNET phones, with the talk feature can make a call across the nation. Mr. Conticelli said it is a new technology called LTE, (Long Term Evolution), to LMR (Land Mobile Radio), and get ahold of anyone. Mayor Herrera asked what the turn around time is when there is an emergency and a satellite truck is needed. Mr. Delgado said there is one in Albuquerque and the plan is to have 2 more in Farmington and 2 more in the southern part of New Mexico. Mr. Conticelli said it depends on the drive time. Mr. Delgado said

why he is here and why he piggybacks on FIRSTNET is because the education. Mr. Conticelli said the essential works at a school are eligible for the FIRSTNET service. He said right now they have a SAC Hold in Jemez Springs, they have a commercial and a Band 14 in Mora and they pulled back 2 SAC Holds from the Hermits Peak fire. He said they also have an emergency response kit for the firefighters where they need to communicate, the kit has 20 phones and 2 hot spots that can be used. They have 2 of those kits out now, and they are free of charge. He said they have in building solutions as well. Mayor Herrera said they have walkie-talkie service as well. Mr. Conticelli said different groups can be set up on those. Mr. Delgado said all the entities that enter into FIRSTNET will be together. Mayor Herrera said that can save valuable time. Mr. Conticelli agreed. Mr. Delgado said the problem with New Mexico the funding is there it is just people are not pointed in the right direction. He said he knows of people who can help with the grant writing. He suggests every entity apply alone for the funding. One of the members of the Fire department said it worked on the reservation. Mr. Conticelli said when you do something meaningful it matters.

**Discussion, Consideration and Action of the 2022 – 2023 Interim Operating Budget to submit to the Department of Finance and Administration on June 1, 2022 for review and approval**

Council Member Delgado made the motion. Council Member Olivas seconds the motion. Mayor Herrera asked if there was any discussion. Council Member Herrera asked if this is the final being submitted or are they going to review it as a council. Ms. Casados said this is an interim budget to inform DFA there is enough funding for the next month. The final budget will be submitted by July 1<sup>st</sup> and that is for the new fiscal year. Council Member Herrera asked if they will meet in executive session to approve the final. Ms. Casados said they can have a workshop in the middle of June. Council Member Herrera said he thinks it is a good idea to review as a council especially for the newly elected people. Ms. Casados said for a workshop. Council Member Herrera said yes. Ms. Casados said okay. Mayor Herrera asked for a roll call vote.

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

Motion carries

**Discussion, Consideration and Action to hire Certified Police Officer, Mr. David W. Coleman as Chief of Police for the Cuba Police Department for an effective date of May 5, 2022**

Council Member Delgado made the motion. Council Member Olivas seconds the motion. Mayor Herrera asked if there was any discussion. Mayor Herrera asked for a roll call vote.

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

Motion carries.

**Discussion, Consideration and Action to hire Mr. Augustine Lovato as a full-time employee for the Cuba Water & Sewer Department for an effective date of May 9, 2022**

Council Member Delgado made the motion. Council Member Olivas seconds. Mayor Herrera asked if there was any discussion. Mayor Herrera asked if he was present. Mayor Herrera was told no because he didn't know he was going to be on the agenda. Council Member Olivas asked what he will be doing. Mayor Herrera asked Ms. Esther Herrera to answer that. She said he will be assisting in the daily operations at the filter plant, the wastewater treatment plant and anything else that needs to be done such as flush out water meters, the same thing the other guys do. Council Member Delgado asked if he is already working. Mayor Herrera said he has been working for 2 weeks already. Council Member Olivas asked about him helping with the new water meters, or if that is still on hold. Mayor Herrera said they are looking for a certified backhoe operator. Ms. Esther Herrera asked what she meant by water meters. Mayor Herrera said any meters. Council Member Olivas said she is still waiting. Council Member Delgado said the connections that were approved by the council. Council Member Olivas said her water and sewer on Cuban. Ms. Esther Herrera asked how many illegal connections are up there. Council Member Olivas said she is hooked up to her mom's. Ms. Esther Herrera said those are considered illegal connections and she will need to get an operator to dig and she will have to go to the office and get an estimate to do it the proper way. Council Member Olivas said ok. Mayor Herrera said to stick to the matter at hand. Mayor Herrera asked for a roll call vote.

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

Motion carries.

**Discussion, Consideration and Action of the Employee Roster updated on May 25, 2022 per state statue 3-8-33, Section H**

Council Member Delgado made the motion. Council Member Olivas seconds the motion. Mayor Herrera asked if there was any discussion on this. Mayor Pro Tem Dominguez asked if there is an open slot for the Police Department. Mayor Herrera said there is another opening for a police officer. Council Member Delgado asked about the Janitorial slot. Mayor Herrera said they are looking for someone for the janitorial. Mayor Herrera asked for a roll call vote.

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

Motion carries.

**Discussion, Consideration and Action of the minutes for the Regular Meeting held on April 27, 2022**

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

Mayor Pro Tem Dominguez	yes
Council Member Herrera	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 May**

Council Member Delgado made the motion. Council Member Olivas seconds the motion. Mayor Herrera asked if there was any discussion. Mayor Pro Tem Dominguez asked about a payment for JP Mainline, LLC, and why are there two different prices. Ms. Esther Herrera said it is difference is for mobilization. Council Member Delgado asked where the work was done for \$19,000.00. Ms. Casados said that is for 4 invoices. Mayor Herrera asked for a roll call vote.

Mayor Pro Tem Dominguez	yes
Council Member Herrera	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 May**

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

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

Motion carries.

**Discussion, Consideration and Action of the Cuba Housing Authority Financial Statements for the month of February 28, 2022 and March 31, 2022 submitted and prepared by the Payroll Company**

Council Member Delgado made the motion. Council Member Olivas seconds the motion. Mayor Herrera asked if there was any discussion. Mayor Herrera asked for a roll call vote.

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

Motion carries.

**Discussion, Consideration and Action of the State of New Mexico Audit Contract by and between the Village of Cuba and Beasley, Mitchell and Co., LLP for the June 30, 2022 Financial Audit, submitted to the office of the State Auditor on May 10, 2022 for approval**

Council Member Delgado made the motion. Council Member Olivas seconds the motion. Mayor Herrera asked if there was any discussion. Council Member Herrera asked if that went out for bid. He was told yes. Mayor Herrera asked if there was any other discussion. Mayor Herrera asked for a roll call vote.

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

Motion carries.

**Discussion, Consideration and action of the Ordinance No. NM-CRO-05-25-2022-1 (Cannabis Regulation Ordinance), and ordinance adopting the Legislative Intent, findings and purpose relating to the Regulation of Cannabis, setting forth violations and providing for enforcement and penalties**

Council Member Delgado made the motion. Council Member Olivas seconds the motion. Mayor Herrera asked if there was any discussion. Council Member Olivas asked what this is for. Mayor Herrera said this is basically the general framework for cannabis in the city limits. Council Member Olivas asked if this is if they want to grow. Mayor Herrera said yes, so the growth can be controlled. Mayor Herrera asked for a roll call vote.

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

Motion carries.

**Discussion, Consideration and Action of the Department of Finance and Administration who has published the Fiscal Year 2023 Per Diem Rates as required by 10-5-4 (B) & (C), NMSA 1978, established by the United States General Services Administration effective July 1, 2022**

Council Member Delgado made the motion. Council Member Olivas seconds the motion. Mayor Herrera asked if there was any discussion. Mayor Pro Tem Dominguez said if they are going to get together to work on the budget, this is one thing they will have to take a look at. Mayor Herrera asked for a roll call vote.

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

Motion Carries.



**Discussion, Consideration and Action of the application to install a Watch-Fire LED Message Center, Double Sided Display and Hold Harmless Agreement, on the property owned by Mr. Mark Martinez for the Cuba Volunteer Fire Department**

Council Member Delgado made the motion. Council Member Olivas seconds the motion. Mayor Herrera asked if there was any discussion. Council Member Herrera asked how someone is to go about having something put on this sign. Ms. Loretta Hidalgo said they can get ahold of anyone at the Fire Department. Mayor Herrera asked for a roll call vote.

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

Motion carries.

**Discussion, Consideration and action of the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management project distribution in the amount of \$194,253.00 for fiscal year 2023 for the Fire Protection Fund**

Council Member Delgado made the motion. Council Member Olivas seconds the motion. Mayor Herrera asked if there was any discussion. Mayor Herrera asked for a roll call vote.

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

Motion carries.

**Discussion, Consideration and Action of the Amendment Ordinance No. 1984-03-3 for Mobile Food Units on Public Streets**

Council Member Delgado made the motion. Council Member Olivas seconds the motion. Mayor Herrera asked if there was any discussion. Council Member Olivas asked what this means. Mayor Herrera said they have to have a license with the Village and the State. Mayor Herrera asked for a roll call vote.

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

Motion carries.

**Discussion, Consideration and Action to adopt the Department of Workforce Solutions to “New Mexico’s paid Sick Leave Law”, a benefit called “Earned Sick Leave”, the “Business Policy Compliance Check List for Healthy Workforce Act” and the “Paid Sick Leave Notice of Employees Rights” of Chapter I Labor General Provisions effective July 1, 2022**

Council Member Delgado made the motion. Council Member Olivas seconds the motion. Mayor Herrera asked if there was any discussion. Council Member Olivas asked if this is for all business. Ms. Casados said yes, statewide. Mayor Herrera asked for a roll call vote.

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

Motion carries.

**Discussion, Consideration and Action to disburse \$5,000.00 from the Miscellaneous Grants for the July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Mud Bogs Event for the purchase of T-Shirts, Trophies and the Distribution of Prizes for 1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Contestants**

Council Member Delgado made the motion. Council Member Olivas seconds the motion. Mayor Herrera asked if there was any discussion. Council Member Olivas asked where the mud bogs were going to be. Mayor Herrera said at the park. Council Member Delgado asked who was doing it. Mayor Herrera said Gary Crespín and some others. He said they will be discussing it. Council Member Herrera asked if there are certain things to come out of the Miscellaneous Grants. Ms. Casados said it is a distribution from the State of New Mexico the Village receives every March and it is for \$90,000.00. Council Member Herrera asked what it can be used for. Ms. Casados said it is called a “Small Cities Assistance Grants”. Mrs. Alexandra Herrera asked where it came from in previous years. Ms. Casados said it would come out of the Lodgers’ Tax. Mrs. Alexandra Herrera asked what the Miscellaneous Grants was used for before. Ms. Casados said it was used for sanitizing equipment during Covid. She said that if a grant given at the state level is to be used but the Village does not have the money at the time, the Miscellaneous grants money is used and the Village is reimbursed. Council Member Herrera asked if the Covid Funding should be different from the Miscellaneous Grants. Ms. Casados said it is separated by departments. Council Member Delgado said there used to be mud bogs but they stopped due to the insurance. Council Member Herrera said he doesn’t think that is what she is asking. Council Member Delgado said she knows what she is asking, she is just saying it was stopped due to the insurance cost. Mayor Pro Tem asked if there is enough people for this. Mr. Gary Crespín said yes. Mayor Herrera said this is being run as a non-profit and any money made will go back to Parks and Rec. Mayor Pro Tem Dominguez said the only concern he has is the entrance and exit and who will monitor it. He said it was hard to get the trail put it and he is afraid of that being destroyed. Mr. Crespín said the only parts that will be travel on are the cement parts designated for vehicle travel. He said it the trail will be fenced off. Mayor Herrera asked if they can give Mayor Pro Tem Dominguez a layout of the property. Mr. Crespín said they are working with the State and the County to put up barrier walls and fencing. Council Member Herrera asked if the layout they saw before is the right one so it can be posted on the website. Mr. Crespín said more or less yes. Mayor Herrera said one of the main concerns was the trail. Mayor Pro Tem Dominguez said we need to take care of what we have. All agreed. Council Member asked Mr. Crespín if he is the one that did the mud bogs years before at the fairgrounds. He said yes. She said they did a great job and she is glad they are doing it now. Mr. Crespín said thank you.

Mayor Herrera was asked about traffic control on Highway 126. He said the police and fire department help a lot. He said he the County and State will be around as well. He said they will accept any volunteer helpers as well. Council Member Herrera said it was discussed the other day that any volunteers will be given a free entry after a certain number of hours worked. Mr. Crespin said they are still willing to do that. He said they figured after 3 hours of work they will have a free entry. He said that will be for anyone who wants to help out with the fencing and such. The question was asked about the prairie dogs. Mayor Herrera said that will be addressed before the event. Mayor Herrera asked for a roll call vote.

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

Motion carries.

**Review of the Notice of Public Hearing posted on May 13, 2022 to consider the Village of Cuba's Petition for Annexation in accordance with NMSA 1978, State Statute 3-7-14 (B) (1965)**

Mayor Herrera said the meeting will be at 1:00 with the people from the State and public comment will be heard at that time.

**Review of the Notice of Publication for RG-24169-POD10 and Emergency Authorization to Add a Groundwater Point of Diversion from Mr. Ian Hewitt, Water Resource professional II, NM Office of the State Engineer**

Reviewed – no comments.

**Update from the Cuba Police Department addressed by Chief of Police David W. Coleman**

Chief Coleman thanked Mayor Herrera and Council, and the citizens of Cuba present the opportunity to talk with them. He said Officer Bustamante just graduated from the Police Academy and while there the officers can have an area to excel whether it is in academics, driving and shooting, and, Officer Bustamante was the top gun for the class. He will start back at the Department the weekend and hopefully they will be in full swing soon. Chief Coleman said to expand on what Mr. Conticelli was saying as far as the communications, traditionally based on the geography of New Mexico, radio communications for Law Enforcement, Fire and any other emergency service is not what it should be. He said the FIRSTNET will be win win for everyone. He said response time will go down, communication will be clear. He said in recent events, at a structure fire it was hard to communicate. He said they were trying to yell at each other and do hand signals and it was not good with all the semi's on the road. He said any additional capabilities for the Village will be huge. He said he and Mayor Herrera have sat down and discussed concerns and his intention is to get them addressed, increase the operational tempo of the Cuba Police Department similar to what it was 10 years ago. The vehicles will be seen in town more interacting with individuals, making stops, and what will be seen with that is the decrease in the crime rate. He said it will take time but the keep in mind if it is going to be good, it will take time because it is a process. Chief Coleman said that if anyone has any questions or concerns, he is available to talk with everyone. He said to go by the department or make an appointment with him and he will meet to discuss the concern. Chief Coleman asked if there were any questions. Council Member Olivas asked

Chief Coleman if they will have 5 officers. Chief said the 5 includes him. She asked if the 4 officers will be on the clock Monday through Friday. Chief Coleman said no. He said he does not believe the Village of Cuba can support a 24/7-365 department. He said it is statistically impossible. He said in the past when Jason Griego was the chief, where they had a program in place where the officers were "on call". He said the officer was available if needed. Chief Coleman said weekend coverage and nights are his priority at this point in time, as well as visibility, having the officers out, having the units out moving and making contact with people coming through town, and they know to slow down. Council Member Olivas said the people coming down the hill are still going 70 when they get to the 45mph sign and they are going 60 at the 35. Chief Coleman said he can take anyone out to see how the radar works. Council Member Delgado asked Chief Coleman if he worked here before. He said yes. Ms. Alexandra Herrera asked what happened to Chief Romero. Ms. Casados said he resigned. Chief Coleman was asked if there has ever been a discussion of a stop light at the intersection of 126 and 550. Chief Coleman said he is not sure but that is something he would be willing to speak with DOT. Mayor Pro Tem Dominguez said there was a study done 5 years ago by the DOT and it was determined a stop light was not needed. Mayor Herrera said a lot has changed in 5 years and it would be nice to have the study done again. He said all they can say is no. Mayor Pro Tem Dominguez said it has a lot to do with the money, having the funds. Council Member Herrera asked Chief Coleman if he was aware of the break in that was discussed at the last council meeting. Chief Romero was having meetings for the public to voice their concerns and if those were still going to happen. Chief Coleman asked if he was talking about a neighborhood watch. Council Member Herrera said Chief Romero did bring that up but the instance was that the woman called 911 and no one from the local police was available to assist her. He said he is curious about it and it was also discussed having a Public Safety Event Day to introduce the Police Officers, to show their faces, who they are, what they do and this will also include the EMT's and Fire Department, to show who the emergency response people are and to get to know their faces around town. Chief Coleman said he is all for that. He said other things he is trying to get going is seat belt clinics, car seat clinics. He said car seats have expiration dates. Council Member Olivas asked if there is an expiration date on the seat. Chief Coleman said yes, there is a label. Mr. Delgado said they co-sponsor these events where they can come and help Chief Coleman out, they give donations. He said AT&T has a lot of employees and this is a global effort. He said they help out with the local communities and charities. Ms. Carey Beam asked Chief Coleman if he plans on doing local recruiting, going to the high school or local young people so they do not have to bring in officers from the outside. Chief Coleman said that is a good point and there is a need for home grown talent. He said he would like to begin an internship program and maybe a scholarship program. He said kids are motivated and they do want to give back and leave the world a better place. Council Member Herrera said the school does currently have an internship program and Ms. Brown will discuss that at public comment. Ms. Alexandra Herrera said she had discussed with Officer Romero one of the officers able to do VIN Inspections. She said it is frustrating to have to go to Albuquerque to get that done because there is no one here to do it. She asked if one of the officers can get trained. Chief Coleman said absolutely. He said he has already discussed that with Officer Martinez. He said there are courses that they can take. He said as far as he knows all State Police can do VIN inspections. Ms. Alexandra Herrera said there are usually 2 but they are both out. Chief Coleman said the course is a week long and when able, one of the Officers will take that course and they will coordinate with the MVD. Council Member Olivas asked Chief Coleman if he is willing to take the time and speak with the graduates about becoming a police officer. He said there are a lot of students that don't even know what they want to do after they graduate. She said all they may need is a little motivation. Chief Coleman said absolutely. He said that would be a good thing. He said he and Mayor Herrera have discussed this and they looked at it from a couple of perspectives. One is, is this a place I want to live. Is this a place I want to raise my children. Is this a place I feel safe, and is the place I can see myself growing old. He said if there is a no or negative to any of these, then there is work

to be done. He said Cuba is a great little community. He said he has been all over the United States and this is a beautiful area. Council Member Olivas said there will be money saved on fuel because the officers will live here. Chief Coleman said he drives the black car and if they want to chat, to flag him down.

**Update review of the Notice from the Cuba Volunteer Fire Department in relating to outdoor burning addressed by Chief Romero**

Chief Romero is not present. Ms. Loretta Hidalgo spoke on his behalf. They handed out paperwork of the restrictions showing what can and can not be done. Ms. Hidalgo said they are getting a lot of calls from dispatch about the burning in pits and barrels. She said due to how dry it is, there is no open flames allowed and that is State wide. She said once the sign is up she will be recruiting to join the Fire department. She said the stipends have been raised to 10 dollars per call. Mayor Herrera said a good place to set up for recruitment would be at the fireworks and mud bogs. She said she will have a booth there as well as put it on Facebook. She said the business meetings are the first Tuesday of each month. Ms. Cynthia Herrera asked about the fireworks are still going to happen. Ms. Hidalgo said as far as what Chief Romero has said, they are going to have the fireworks and they firetrucks will be out in the surrounding fields as well as members of surrounding Fire Departments and the Forest Service out as well. Council Member Olivas said Chief Romero mentioned that if anyone wants their weeds burnt and they are in a big area, the Fire Department will go out. She was told that is postponed until the burn band is lifted. Ms. Hidalgo said they can find out about burn permits on the Fire Department website. There is information to be filled out and the Fire Department will be notified of the burn. Council Member Olivas said so they will not be there the entire time, just if it gets out of control. Ms. Hidalgo said no, they will not be there the entire time. Ms. Carey Beam said she believes the Fire Department can burn a field, a controlled burn for a training exercise. Mrs. Gutierrez said they are not doing that right now. Mayor Herrera asked if they have reached out to the acequia associations when they burn weeds in the spring time, to help them monitor and help them out. He was told they did not know he would have to talk to Chief Romero about that. Mr. Nicholas Norberto, the Battalion Lieutenant for the Cuba Volunteer Fire Department said once the burn permits open back up, they can send a truck and some people to help out and monitor and if it does get out of control anyone of the Fire Department as well as Sandoval County fire dispatch can be contacted. Council Member Olivas said it should not be bad if they decide to burn because they have the rock hill on one side. Ms. Hidalgo said fires jump. Council Member Olivas said thank you, that is good to know. Ms. Hidalgo was asked about shooting, target practice. Ms. Hidalgo said that is a fire hazard and that is something that needs to be discussed with the police. If there is a fire from that, then the Fire Department will get involved.

**Update of the Municipal Court report for April 30, 2022**

Reviewed – no comments

**Public Comment**

Mayor Herrera asked if there was any public comment.

Ms. Brown, counselor at Cuba High School, said they do have internship at the school. She said there are kids who need places to internship at and if a business is interested in having an intern to let the internship coordinator, Jeanette Paiz know. (tape ended)

*The minutes for the Regular Council Meeting held on Wednesday, May 25, 2022 have been officially approved by the Governing Body on June 29, 2022. The approved minutes have been submitted to the Village of Cuba Website.*

*Vandora P. Casados, Clerk-Treasurer*

*Vandora P. Casados*

