

TOWN OF DEL NORTE
Regular Town Board Meeting
October 8, 2025 – 6:00 P.M.

The Board of Trustees of the Town of Del Norte, Rio Grande County, State of Colorado, met in regular session at 140 Spruce Street, Del Norte, Colorado at the hour of 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 8, 2025. There being present at call of roll the following:

ROLL CALL

Town Board present at roll call: Trustee Leigh Anne Lobato absent, Trustee Brenton Williams Trustee Andrew Velasquez, Trustee Bob Muncy, Mayor Shelly Burnett, Trustee Louie Velasquez. Mayor Burnett declared a quorum present.

Members of Staff: Town Attorney Eugene Farish, Town Attorney Seth Walker, by zoom, Town Administrator Bernadette Martinez, Chief of Police Frank Archuleta, Public Works Kevin Larimore, and Nineah Martinez, Deputy Clerk.

AMENDMENT TO AGENDA-Town Administrator stated that she would like to amend the agenda to add D Towers to discuss the poles on top of D Mountain.

MINUTES AND FINANCIALS -With some discussion motion was made by Trustee Bob Muncy and seconded by Trustee Louie Velasquez to approve the minutes and the financial for them month of September. Roll call: All ayes, Mayor declared motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS-Ninth Street entrance Fire department, motion was made by Trustee Bob Muncy and seconded by Trustee Brenton Williams to table the Fire Department entrance discussion until more information is brought forward. Roll call: All ayes, Mayor Shelly Burnett declared motion carried.

D. CITIZEN COMMENTS/SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Issac Manobla approached the Town Board and wanted to give them an update on the Mineral Well median project. He stated that he and Lauren Coleman are still working toward this along with D Mountain Parks and Rec. They are looking for more grants since the cost has increased. He did give the Town Board a 3D model of what he was proposing as it related to the fish, since he mentioned that Trustee Andrew Velasquez wanted to see it before any decision was made. He also stated that he hopes the ballot measure that Rio Grande County is proposing passes because it will open more funding opportunities, that could go to infrastructure. Trustee Brenton mentioned that he would like to see more artists be allowed to showcase their art and it shouldn't be permanent. Issac did mention to the Town Board that he felt his artwork should be at the mineral well, and other artist could put their artwork in other areas of Town. He also mentioned to the Town Board that other artists are not coming to the Town and that the Town wouldn't be paying for the artwork. Mayor Shelly Burnett stated that might be the case but its Town property and it's needs to be Community sponsored and a collaboration of everyone.

Trustee Brenton mentioned to Issac before he goes and spends a lot of time and money into this that he should get on the agenda to discuss his final objective.

Glynnis William- mentioned to the Town Board that the Del Norte library had been approved a mural to be painted on the side of the building through grant funding next summer. Glynnis also wanted to tell the Town Board that our communication sucks, since she was only recently notified today of the Xcel power outage that is scheduled for this Friday. She stated that a notice should have gone out, that she gets notices from Rio Grande County when things happen. Town Administrator mentioned that she has sent out several textmygov. alerts and will continue to send those out. And if someone is not signed up, they will not get one. She put it on the website, textmygov, face book, a PSA in the newspaper, and did let Rio Grande County Commissioner's know of the outage. And due to the timeframe of notifying everyone by mail it would not have been feasible. Ashley Valdez, Xcel representative, was in the audience and shed some light that if you are an Xcel customer you will get a notification within a 24-hour advance notice. This is a large outage and the reason for that was to get the word out earlier than the 24-hour advance notice. And we only notified the number on the account, if they have a landline and they are not using it anymore and they haven't updated their account information they will not get the notification. Ashley stated it is hard to get the word out to everyone and some will not get the information no matter what means of communication you use.

PUBLIC HEARING

Xcel Franchise Agreement -Ordinance No 776 Xcel Franchise Agreement – Attorney Eugene Farish stated that is was approximately 6:20 p.m. at this 8th day of October 2025. A quorum of Town Board is present, and this matter was set for public hearing pursuant to public notice for consideration of an ordinance granting a gas and electric franchise to Public Service Company. The term of the franchise will be a 20-year term. Hearing Officer Eugene Farish read Ordinance No 776, not the 38-page agreement. Hearing Officer did open the hearing to anyone wanting to give testimony. For the record Ashley Valdez, Area Manager of Community and Local Government Affairs in Southern Colorado for Xcel Energy. Ashley mentioned that she didn't have any formal remarks but did want to recognize the Town administration staff and public works, that it has been wonderful to work with them, always on top of things and it makes her job easier. She also mentioned that the big 25KV project will greatly enhance the quality of power in Del Norte. The scheduled outages are associated with work in order for line crews to work safely and efficiently, and the Town has been so understanding. The outage will affect 370 customers; they did schedule the outage for Friday so there would be no interruption of the school district. Rio Grande Hospital will not be out of power nor will Del Norte Bank. Ashley wrapped it up by thanking the Town Board for considering the franchise and how it was a privilege to serve Del Norte. With no more questions for Ashley, Hearing Officer turned the matter over to Town Board for consideration of Ordinance 776 and closed the hearing. Motion

was made by Trustee Brenton Williams and seconded by Trustee Bob Muncy to approve Ordinance No. 776. Roll call: All ayes, Mayor Shelly Burnett declared motion carried.

STAFF REPORTS

Police- Approval of hail damage invoice new police car- Motion was made Trustee Brenton Williams and seconded by Trustee Louie Velasquez to approve the expenditure of the hail damage police vehicle. Roll call: All ayes, Mayor Shelly Burnett declared motion carried. **Public**

Works-Kevin submitted his written report for review. **Town Attorney-**Attorney Farish mentioned that the MTC is done, the food truck and natural medicine ordinances have been approved. Attorney Farish also mentioned that the Town Board is going to have to take a look at updating the nuisance code on drug houses. **Town Hall -**Motion was made and seconded to accept the Town 2026 Proposed Budget and set Public Hearing for November 12, 2025 at 5:45 p.m. *Discussion of USDA funding on Water/Wastewater project funding-*Town Administrator Martinez stated to Town Board that the Letter of Condition was received and she will get some amounts together of what the monthly utility accounts will look like to be able to get the both the water and wastewater project accomplished. Martinez also mentioned that she is looking at getting the cost of the monthly amount reduced if we were to pay off the loan to the Colorado Water Authority for the water meters. The balance is approximately \$166K that would have been paid off in year 2030, we would not have to pay the \$36 annual payment. Mayor Shelly Burnett asked if the water project needed to be engineered. Kevin, Public Works stated it is not just installing water lines in the road, it is also making sure that there is proper water flow to homes, along with proper water pressure to certain zones, and flow of to fire hydrants.

Discussion was also what would this mean if we put a ballot measure at the April election, Martinez stated that she would not recommend putting a question on the ballot to ask if they wanted to pay higher utility bills to accomplish the water project. The Town could possibility not be able to get any infrastructure done in the future if residents voted against it. Trustee Bob Muncy and Mayor Shelly Burnett agreed that a public meeting needed to be held to let the public know about the potential increases. Martinez will investigate a bigger venue to hold the public meeting. Public meeting is scheduled for November 17, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. Town Administrator Martinez stated she will see if Element Engineering will be available to attend. Town Administrator Martinez also brought up the fact that Element Engineering has already scheduled the surveyors to survey the Town for the water project, based on the May 19th meeting, do we have them continue. Motion was made by Trustee Brenton Williams to have Town surveyed; motion was seconded by Trustee Bob Muncy. Roll call: All ayes, Mayor declared motion carried. **Sidewalk proposal** will be discussed during budget work session. Christmas decorations were budgeted and will be ordered so they will get here on time. **TOWN BOARD –** Trustee Brenton Williams nominated himself, since no nomination were presented. Motion was made Trustee Bob Muncy and seconded by Trustee Louie Velasquez to approve Trustee Brenton Williams as Mayor Pro tem. Roll all ayes, Mayor Shelly Burnett declared motion carried. Mayor

Brenton will be added to the bank accounts signatories. **Letters of Interest for Town Board-Set interviews date and time** – October 15, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. has been set up for interview of Town Board vacancy. **Set Work session for Town 2026 budget**-October 27, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. has been set for 2026 proposed budget work session. Tree Board member Sam Scavo approached the Town Board about tree board vacancy; they will not be able to apply for Tree City USA because of lack of tree board membership. He would like to schedule a work session for about 15 minutes of their time. Tree Board vacant meeting is scheduled for December 10, 2025, at 5:30 p.m.

K. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Submitted this 8th day of October 2025.