Town Council Special Meeting Minutes September 28, 2026

1. **Call the Meeting to Order**

   Mayor Isabella Salazar called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. **Roll Call**

   Present were Mayor Isabella Salazar, Councilor Jimmy Atkison, Councilor Mary Jiron, Councilor Leona Wylie, Councilor Joe Kalisek, Councilor Amber Hitchcock via Google Meet, Town Manager Arnold Ramirez, Police Chief Scott Conner, Town Clerk Amberlee Olivas, Public Library Director Crystal Weigel, Carl Tennison, James Stevens, Dana Stevens, and Kim White.

3. **Approval/Disapproval of the Special Meeting Minutes from September 15, 2026**

   Councilor Joe Kalisek moved to approve the special meeting minutes from September 15, 2026. Councilor Jimmy Atkison seconded the motion. Roll Call: Councilor Jimmy Atkison—Yes, Councilor Mary Jiron—Yes, Councilor Amber Hitchcock—Yes, Councilor Joe Kalisek—Yes, Councilor Leona Wylie—Yes. The motion carried.

4. **Public Comments**

   Carl Tennison – Carl Tennison reminded citizens that Veterans can get a discount on the first Saturday of the month at the Lovington Albertsons. Carl also shared he had not gone to the Senior Center in some time due to what he described as unfair treatment by Senior Center Director Whitney Jaramillo.

5. **Motion To Close Session**

   Pursuant to Section 10-15-1(H)(2), NMSA 1978 Regarding Limited Personnel Matters:

   Discussion in Closed Session:

   A. Discussion Concerning Senior Center Staff Whitney Jaramillo and Dana Stevens

   At 10:05 a.m. Councilor Joe Kalisek moved to enter closed session. Councilor Mary Jiron seconded the motion. Roll Call: Councilor Jimmy Atkison—Yes, Councilor Mary Jiron—Yes, Councilor Amber Hitchcock—Yes, Councilor Joe Kalisek—Yes, Councilor Leona Wylie—Yes. The motion carried.

6. **Motion to Return Into Open Session**

   At 12:00 p.m. Councilor Joe Kalisek moved to return into open session. Councilor Jimmy Atkison seconded the motion. Roll Call: Councilor Jimmy Atkison—Yes, Councilor Mary Jiron—Yes, Councilor Amber Hitchcock—Yes, Councilor Joe Kalisek—Yes, Councilor Leona Wylie—Yes. The motion carried.

   At 12:00 p.m., Mayor Salazar called the meeting into recess until 5:00 p.m.

   At 5:02 p.m., Councilor Leona Wylie moved to enter closed session pursuant to Section 10-15-1(H)(2), NMSA 1978, to discuss limited personnel matters concerning Senior Center staff Whitney Jaramillo

and Dana Stevens. Roll Call: Councilor Jimmy Atkison—Yes, Councilor Mary Jiron—Yes, Councilor Amber Hitchcock—Yes, Councilor Joe Kalisek—Yes, Councilor Leona Wylie—Yes. The motion carried.

At 6:30 p.m. Councilor Jimmy Atkison moved to return to open session. Councilor Joe Kalisek seconded the motion. Roll Call: Councilor Jimmy Atkison—Yes, Councilor Mary Jiron—Yes, Councilor Amber Hitchcock—Yes, Councilor Joe Kalisek—Yes, Councilor Leona Wylie—Yes. The motion carried.

7. Action Taken from Closed Session

Pursuant to Section 10-15-1(H)(2), NMSA 1978 Regarding Limited Personnel Matters:

Discussion in Closed Session:

A. Senior Staff Whitney Jaramillo and Dana Stevens

Senior Center Director Whitney Jaramillo submitted her resignation. The Town will advertise a full-time driver position and a full-time director position. Councilor Joe Kalisek moved to approve the resignation and job openings. Councilor Jimmy Atkison seconded the motion. Roll Call: Councilor Jimmy Atkison—Yes, Councilor Mary Jiron—Yes, Councilor Amber Hitchcock—Yes, Councilor Joe Kalisek—Yes, Councilor Leona Wylie—Yes. The motion carried.

8. Adjournment

Mayor Salazar adjourned the meeting at 6:32 p.m.

Read and Approved October 13th, 2026.

Isabella Salazar

Mayor, Isabella Salazar

Amberlee Olivas

Town Clerk, Amberlee Olivas