

Village of Los Lunas



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Budget Approved; New Gross Receipts Revenues Expected

The Los Lunas Village Council has unanimously approved the budget for the village for the 2010-2011 year which includes a one to two percent raise for all village employees.

Village revenues are projected low and so are expenditures in keeping with the tougher economic times across the country.

With gross receipts tax receipts lower in the village, the budget reflects a 21 percent reduction in revenues and a corresponding 22 percent reduction in spending for fiscal year 2010-2011.

The village will also not be doing as many major capital outlay projects as has been done in the past.

One new major street project is scheduled which is Calle de Las Familias, a co-op project with \$75,000 in funding from the state and \$125,000 from the village.

Village administrator Peter Fernandez pointed out that department heads control expenditures and have a track record of spending less than what was budgeted so the ending cash balance exceeds expectations.

The amount of Gross Receipts Tax received by the village should increase with the opening of Lowe's Home Improvement Center as well as several smaller businesses this summer.

Not only will the Gross Receipts Tax increase but there will be additional jobs available with the openings of these businesses, points out Fernandez.

The council-approved 2010-11 village budget is a little less than \$35 million in revenues and expenditures with \$5 million more in the general fund reserve than the required one-twelfth of the budgeted expenditures.

Shop Los Lunas

Your Tax Dollars Work For You
When You Shop Los Lunas
For School Needs and All Year Round
Lots of Stores Lots of Choices
Lots of Variety Buy Locally

New LL Police Ride Along Program

The Los Lunas Police Department now has a Citizen Ride Along Program in which citizens can ride in a police vehicle with an officer on duty.

Anyone wishing to ride must submit a signed request and waiver form which are available at the Los Lunas website, www.loslunasnm.gov located under the Police Department.

The request must be turned into the Police Department five days prior to the requested date.

Ride along tours will usually last four hours but the officer or rider may terminate the tour at any time.

Participants must obey the orders and instructions given by the police officer to whom they are assigned. Participants will not be able to leave the patrol vehicle unless instructed to do so by the police officer.

Ride alongs are intended to establish rapport with the police and for citizens to become more familiar with the functions of police officers.

When a patrol unit with a ride-along participant is assigned a dangerous call, the rider may be dropped off at a safe location and he/she must remain there until a police officer returns to pick him/her up.

Learn About Becoming a Citizen

The Village and the Los Lunas Museum of Heritage and Arts invite you to learn about becoming a citizen of the United States. The briefing will take place from 1 to 3 p.m., Saturday, July 31, at the Los Lunas Transportation Center, 751 Juan Perea Road SE.

It will be presented by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Service and will cover the process for applicants to file for naturalization and what the eligibility requirements are. The briefing will also cover the Child Citizenship Act which entitles children who are born outside of the United States to receive a certificate of citizenship.

The presentation will be followed by a question and answer session. Applications and other information flyers will also be available.

Nuestros Raíces: Our Roots Opens at LL Museum July 17

The grand opening is Saturday, July 17, from two to four p.m. for *Nuestros Raíces: Our Roots* at the Los Lunas Museum of Heritage and Arts, 251 Main Street SE, corner of Main Street and Luna Avenue.

The exhibit has been designated a *We the People* project by the New Mexico Humanities Council (NMHC) and the National Endowment for the Arts and is sponsored by the NMHC, New Harmonics, Smithsonian Institution and Valencia County Historical Society. Exhibiting artists are:

- Ray John de Aragon, a Santero artist from Las Vegas, NM, with roots in Mora, Peralta and Los Chavez, who comes from a long line of Penitente artists.

- Rosa Maria Calles, a native of Tome, who is a highly recognized artist with works at the Museum of International Folk Art in Santa Fe, the Sacred Arts Museum in Eureka Springs, Ak., and other collections.

- Ramón Juan Carlos de Aragón, a native of Las Vegas, NM, whose photos have been featured in various national and international aviation magazines.

Ray John de Aragón and Rosa Maria Calle will exhibit oil and acrylic paintings while Ramón Juan Carlos de Aragón will exhibit photographs.

During the July 17 grand opening music will be provided by "El Gringo." El Gringo is the stage name of Shawn Kiehne, the first Anglo-American singer/songwriter in the Mexican norteno and banda genre.

The Village's Municipal Code

The Los Lunas Municipal Code contains laws approved by the Village Council.

Topics covered by the code include: administration and personnel; revenue and finance; business licenses and regulations; animals; health and safety; and public peace, morals and welfare.

Also covered are vehicles and traffic; streets, sidewalks and public places; public services; buildings and construction; subdivisions; and zoning.

Watch future newsletters for information on the Municipal Code that affects village citizens.

VILLAGE OFFICIALS

Robert Vialpando Mayor

Councillors

Cecilia CC Castillo

Charles Griego

Richard Lovato

Gerard Saiz

Municipal Judge Jeff Aragon

Police Chief Roy E. Melnick

Fire Chief Atiliano "Lito" Chavez

Village Administrator Peter Fernandez

Watch for Teens Cleaning; Volunteers Clean Up in June

The village's Summer Youth Employment program will have a total of 40 teenagers out cleaning up different areas of the village in July.

The youth employment program consists of beautification work which includes picking up trash, cutting weeds and other items having to do with beautifying the community.

The teens will work in a variety of places in the village so be cautious when driving where the youth, and anyone else, is working.

June's cleanup involved 25 community service people and a Boy Scout troop. They filled a four yard dumpster plus two truck loads of weeds from the Huning Ranch, Los Morros and Valencia Y areas.

Sedillos Chosen Officer of the Year by LL Police

The Los Lunas Police Department's nomination for Officer of the Year is Officer Jesus Sedillos.

Officer Sedillos was hired by the Los Lunas Police Department in May 2007 and earned his certification at the Department of Public Safety in December 2007.

A lifelong Valencia County resident, he grew up on a farm south of Belen, the son of Jesus and Joyce Sedillos. He and his wife Kimberly live in Los Lunas. He is a 2002 graduate of Los Lunas High School.

Officer Sedillos was inspired to be a police officer by a family member who was in law enforcement. Officer Sedillos says that he has developed the knowledge and positive attitude needed to become a Los Lunas police officer along with the responsibility the job requires by treating people with respect.

Officer Sedillos is a member of the department's SWAT team and has volunteered to be a decoy for the canine unit. He would like to further his career by obtaining training in traffic crash reconstruction, becoming a Field Training Officer and working his way up to the rank of Sergeant.

Attend A Council Meeting!

The Los Lunas Village Council meets twice monthly in the council chambers in the administration building at 660 Main St. NW. Remaining 2010 dates are:

July 22 August 5 & 19

September 9 & 23 October 7 & 21

November 4 & 18 December 2 & 16

Meetings begin at 6 p.m. Once in a while meetings are canceled or rescheduled so check with officials at 839-3840 or the village website at www.loslunasnm.gov.

The Village Garbage Cart, Garbage Pickup and You

The Village of Los Lunas has provided a 90-gallon garbage cart designed to contain the waste from a family of six for one week to each village residence.

To help reduce the amount of waste, everyone is encouraged to recycle at the village drop-off site behind the Administration Building, Don Pasqual and Main Street.

Items that currently can be recycled are corrugated cardboard, newspapers, magazines, office paper and aluminum. Another way of recycling is to have a compost bin for yard and other types of waste.

The garbage cart should be placed on the curb in the gutter near the right side of the driveway by 7:00 a.m. on the scheduled pickup day.

If you do not have curbs, gutters and/or sidewalks then place the bin within four feet of the driving lane so the automated arm can reach the garbage cart. The area should be clear for at least five feet.

Garbage put out after the trucks have been through will be picked up on the next scheduled day.

The garbage cart's maximum weight limit is 200 pounds. All trash in the garbage cart should be in firmly secured bags.

All trash must be in the garbage cart. Trash outside the cart will not be picked up and could result in a litter violation.

Waste prohibited in the garbage cart includes dirt, sod, cement, rocks, hazardous wastes (paint, oils, poisons, corrosives), tires, car parts or batteries, large metal parts, construction materials (shingles, sheet rock, etc.), tree trunks, oversized boxes, hot ashes or coals. We ask everyone to please respect these guidelines.

The Village ordinance allows for two (2) special large pickup truck loads per year at each address at no charge.

Additional pickups per address within the year will be charged a fee to offset the costs of collection and disposal.

Please call 352-7632 for questions and information.

New Member of Planning and Zoning

Former Administrator Phillip Jaramillo will be the newest member of the Planning and Zoning Commission after his appointment by the council.

He will replace Juan Moreno who resigned due to family commitments.

Jaramillo will join Stephanie William, chair; Rick Griego; Terry Ulibarri; and Walter Baca.

Highway 314 Enhancements Start

Work will be done this summer on roadway pedestrian enhancements near the Rail Runner Station at Courthouse and Juan Perea Roads.

The funding comes from the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The projects are intended to improve safety for people walking, biking and driving in the areas around the Rail Runner station.

Drivers should be careful traveling Highway 314 south of Main Street past Daniel Fernandez Park.

Phase I of the pedestrian enhancements will be done by Rio West for a bid of \$581,798 while phase 2 will be done by Star Paving for a bid of \$1 million.

Los Lunas Library Events

July events at the Los Lunas public library, located at 460 Main Street NE, include:

July 15 - Author Kimberly Griffiths Little signing 4:30-5:30 p.m. followed by Open Mic Night 5:30-6:30 p.m.

July 22 - Wii Firefighter Tournament 11 a.m.

July 30 - Summer Reading Program Wrap-Up Party 11 a.m.

On going library events are:

Story & Craft, Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. - noon @ The Museum of Heritage and Arts

Movie Day 1 - 3:30 p.m. Wednesday @ the Library

Wii and Board Game Day Thursdays 1 - 3 p.m. @ the Library

"In Stitches" every Friday 2:30 p.m. - 4 p.m. @ the Library. On Friday, July 23, 2:30 - 4 p.m. "In Stitches" will host craft class for adults @ the Los Lunas Public Library/

Saturday, July 24th, 2 - 4 p.m. Genealogy Workshop (call the library, 839-3850 for location).

2010 Village Holiday Garbage Pickup Days

HOLIDAY OBSERVED	REGULAR TRASH PICKUP DAY	WILL BE PICKED UP ON
Labor Day	Monday, Sept, 6	Tuesday, Sept. 7
Columbus Day	Monday, Oct. 11	Tuesday, Oct. 12
Veterans Day	Thursday, Nov. 11	Wednesday, Nov. 10
Thanksgiving	Thursday, Nov. 25	Wednesday, Nov. 24
Day after Thanksgiving	Friday, Nov. 26	Monday, Nov. 29
Christmas Eve	Friday, Dec. 24	Thursday, Dec. 23
New Year's Holiday	Friday, Dec. 31	Thursday, Dec. 30

PLEASE NOTE: The village will no longer pick up garbage carts set out late. Any late garbage carts will be picked up on your next regular scheduled pick up day. Please place your garbage cart out by 7 a.m. on your scheduled day.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

The Los Lunas Water System has a level of Arsenic above Drinking Water Standards for the second quarter of 2010

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Testing results from quarterly arsenic samples collected on July 22, 2009, October 30, 2009 and March 24, 2010 and April 28, 2010 show that Wells 3 and 4 exceeded the **new** standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for arsenic. The current running annual average for arsenic is 0.017 mg/L (17 ppb) at Well 3. The standard for arsenic is 0.010 mg/L or 10 parts per billion (ppb); the old standard was 50 ppb and the water supply was in compliance. Nothing in the water has changed except the new standard. Therefore, the Los Lunas Water System has exceeded the arsenic MCL in the second quarter of 2010 (April - June). Well 4 has also exceeded the arsenic MCL in this quarter.

What should I do?

You **DO NOT** need to use an alternative (e.g., bottled) water supply. However, if you have specific health concerns, or have a compromised immune system you may consult your doctor or drink and use bottled water.

What does this mean?

This is not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. However some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

What happened? What is being done?

The arsenic in our water is from the erosion of natural deposits. The Los Lunas Water System will continue to post this arsenic public notice every 3 months as long as this MCL exceedence persists. Construction of arsenic treatment facilities at Wells 3, 4, 5 and 6 are complete and all units are operating as designed, however compliance is based on an annual average and until the lower levels currently pumped lowers the annual average the notice of violation will be sent out.

For more information, please contact James Blasing at (505) 839-3842 or PO Box 1209, Los Lunas, NM, 87031.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people doing business with your establishment, temporary workers or visitors, etc.). You can do this by posting this notice in public places and distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by the Los Lunas Water System.

System #NM 35 253-32

Address PO Box 1209, Los Lunas, NM 87031 Phone (505) 839-3842

Method Used To Distribute: Mail ☒ Posted ☒ Hand Delivery ☐ Other ☐

Signed by: James M Blasing Dated: 6-24-10