

OFFICIAL MINUTES

VILLAGE OF MELROSE

P.O. Box 235

Melrose, New Mexico 88124

The Village Council met in regular session on, August 10, 2026 at 5:30pm at Melrose Village Hall.

Mayor Alan Daugherty called the meeting to order.

Village Council members present: Ronald Moore, James Mitchell Richard Swopes and Jeremy Burnett

Absent: None

Staff Present: Brian Fulkrod – Public Works Director, Phyllis Broeder – Water Clerk/MVD, Amanda Vineyard – Asst. Clerk/Deputy Water Clerk, Jennifer Swopes – Clerk/Treasurer/CPO (via telephone)

Opening Prayer by Mayor Pro-Tem Ronald Moore

Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilman Richard Swopes

Guests: Viki Lee and Gary Harris

Melrose Fire Department Report: Jeremy Burnett reports that they have several new members. Extraction school is coming in the near future. Fire ban is still in effect.

Approval of August 10 , 2026 Minutes

Motion: Councilman James Mitchell

Second: Mayor Pro-Tem Ronald Moore

Roll Call Vote:

Councilman Jeremy Burnett - Aye

Mayor Pro-Tem Ronald Moore- Aye

Councilman Richard Swopes – Aye

Councilman James Mitchell - Aye

Motion carried: 4-0

Discussion of proposed cattle lease – This item has been tabled to the next council meeting. Awaiting advice of legal council and several other variables.

Public Comment – 5 minute maximum per speaker.

Gary Harris – He and his wife live on 10th street. They have resided in Melrose for 5 years. Claims its hard to get used to living here. Raised a complaint about the way the village looks and residents' yards. Claims the village looks worse than it did 5 years ago. Asked if we have Code Enforcement and personnel to address the enforcement of village ordinances. He asked if our water system has backflows in place. Asked if it was illegal to bury a dead animal on his property. He had been informed that it was not legal to do so. Wants to know who a resident should call to have a dead animal removed. Complained about having to call city hall if he wants to work on water, so that it could be shut off. I.e., lack of his ability to shut it off himself.

Viki Lee – Concerned about a tree at the intersection of Ave. B and 9th. Over hangs and covers the stop sign. Concerned that it could cause an accident.

Brian Fulkrod – I want to talk as a citizen of the community – “It sickens me when people move here for cheap property and then complain about the town. That is all I have to say. Thank you.”

Employee Reports:

Jennifer Swopes of Finance reports that she completed her Finance I class. She is stated that she is in Las Cruces for NMML Annual Convention. Will have more to report upon her return.

Phyllis Broeder of MVD shared the MVD Annual audit report. An Excellent rating.

Brian Fulkrod of Public Works reports things are going good despite the fact that they are a little behind. Plan to mow the cemetery soon. His informed Mr. Harris that dead animals are paced in the dumpsters. He doesn't like it but that where they have to go. The Mayor inquired about the dead animal pit at the dump. Brian informed him that it no longer exists. Brian added that when somebody has a dead animal they need to call city hall and they will call public works for removal and disposal.

Water meters require that the customer has their own shut-off on the customer side of the meter. In an emergency village personnel can be reached via the after-hours line. A customer can call anytime for assistance. He asked Vikki for clarification on the trees that need trimming. Brian added that Sam is out for Water Math training. Will be back tomorrow. The mayor asked how the new employee was working out. Brian said that Dusty is doing great.

Council Reports

Councilman Jeremy Burnett – Nothing to report.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ronald Moore – Inquired as to the status of the water fill station. Brian and Amanda interjected that there is a meeting scheduled for September and there would be some alterations to the master plan. Hope to hear something from them by September 3rd.

Councilman James Mitchell – He has been asking around and was told that the Texico police are paid \$110,000. They have one officer/chief of police. He talked with Harvey and was told that we could request over-time sherifs pay. We'd have to pay the OT. Harvery recommended providing a list of duties we want done. Have them report back what they have completed.

He added that on Center and 5th street on weekdays the students are driving really fast. Dogs are still a problem. Rene's dogs were spotted at the park. Sheriff required a letter describing the problems with animals. The mayor added that he has written the letter. He also added that the most aggressive dog has been captured and taken to Clovis.

Councilman Richard Swopes – Nothing to report

Mayors Report

Mayor Daugherty reports that he talked with the Sheriff's Department about the dogs. The sheriff asked for a letter. He is hoping to get assistance from Clovis Animal Control. He has asked that we try to get pictures of the problems dogs. Rene said that he would not interfere with attempts to capture his dogs. Mayor Daugherty hopes for more ideas from Curry County to help with Animal removal. The problem dogs on Center Street (Diaz), he has not been able to catch somebody at home, just the dogs.

We do not have Code Enforcement. We do not have a judge, however, we do have an interested party for judge.

Trying to revitalize ordinances – must ensure that they are legal and enforceable. We are speaking with NMML/NMSIF for legal services. We realize there are problems and we are working to address them. This includes loud motorcycles, go-carts not following rules and causing a nuisance.

We have 1 civic organization within the village. They meet Wednesdays at the school. Mayor Daugherty would like to invite the community.

We know there are things that need to be fixed and he invites the community to join in community events and be part of the solution.

The Mayor will be in Las Cruces for his MOLI certification. Hoping to talk to NMSIF attorneys.

Volleyball and football had begun and they are facing a rough season for the football team.

Rotary club is visiting past Old Timers Days to look for activities to add and bring back.

Topics for next Agenda

Animal Control

Grazing Lease

Brownfields Project to revitalize downtown.

Being no further business the mayor will entertain a motion to adjourn.

Motion: Councilman James Mitchell

Second: Councilman Richard Swopes

Roll Call

Councilman James Mitchell- Aye

Mayor Pro-Tem Ronald Moore - Aye

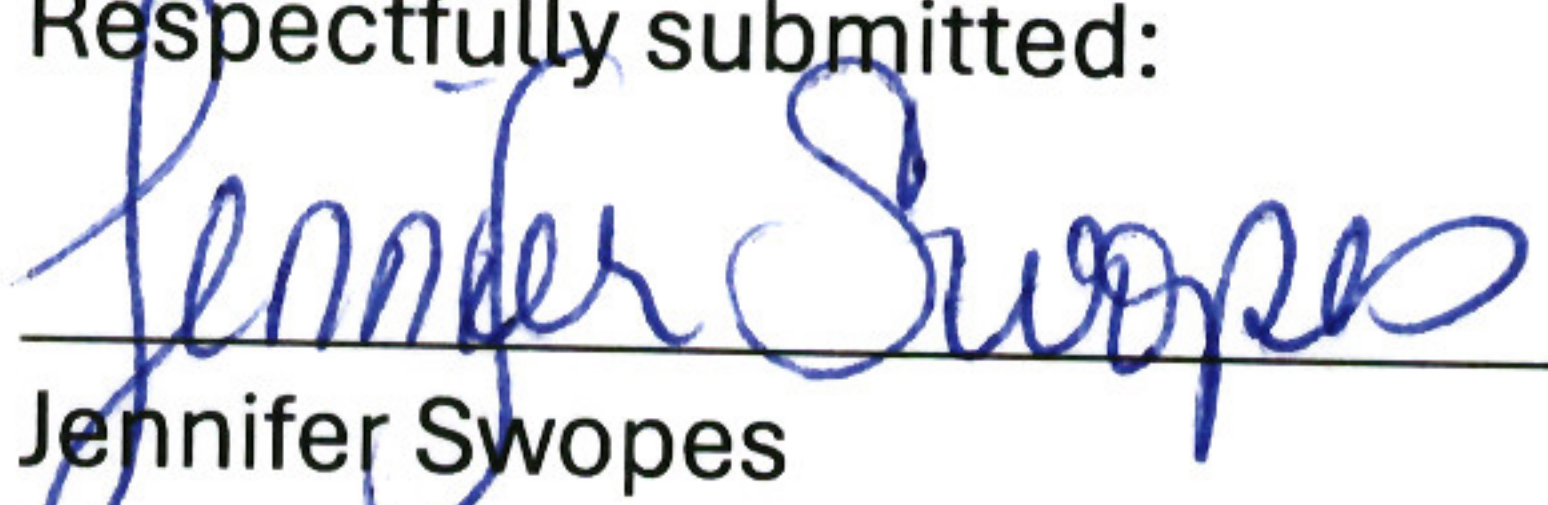
Councilman Richard Swopes- Aye

Councilman Jeremy Burnett - Aye

Motion Carried: 4-0

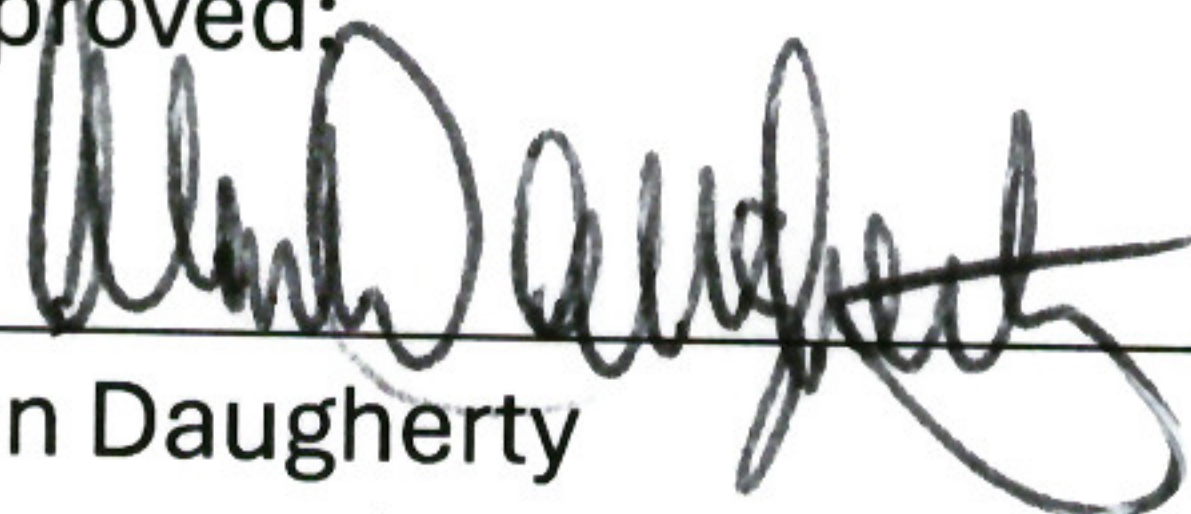
Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted:



Jennifer Swopes
Clerk/Treasurer/CPO

Approved:



Alan Daugherty
Mayor
Date: 9/14/26

