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### Clayton Town Council

## Trustees discuss golf ball water tower color, Rutherford services

By Avery Christy  
Union County Leader  
Reporter

The official commission of the Clayton Board of Trustees on the matter of the background color chosen for the Golf Ball water tower – which has been called a ‘sandstone tan’ and also called a ‘wheat grain tan’ – is that the color allows for the white wings of the Clayton YellowJacket mascot to stand out. If the tower had been painted white, then such details of the mascot would have been lost to the background color.

There has been some polarization amongst the community – the painting of the Golf Ball water tower apparently has been the talk of the town and has stirred some controversy – on the matter of the aesthetics of the tower. One side likes the new paint job, some in the community are not pleased with choices made, and then there is the middle ground who have yet to look up.

However, Town Manager Ferron Lucero reports that there is a good reason why the tower was not repainted white, as it once was. Additionally, the

background color matches quite well with the natural ‘color palette’ of this region – there are many aspects of this region that often match the color chosen, from our dry grass to the sandstone and caliche rock so common in Union County.

Under New Business, Chief of Police Scott Julian was approved to pursue application for a Police Narcotic Grant for the 2013 fiscal year, and Fire Chief Terry Short was approved to pursue application for the New Mexico Fire Marshal’s Office grant for fiscal year 2013. The grant for the police department is in the possible amount of \$40,000, with no match; the Fire Marshal grant is for the possible amount of \$100,000 with a 20% match (which can come from other state fire funds, thus not

taking any funds from the department’s budget) and will most likely be used for continued development of the department’s training center at Station III.

The Town of Clayton approved renewing the contract with the Rutherford Group, LLC, of Santa Fe for continued representation in the state capitol. Most recently, the Rutherford Group assisted the Town of Clayton in pursuing and receiving Capital Outlay money for the purchase of a new waste material truck – the bill that cleared the money for Clayton was penned and supported by State Senator Clinton Harden.

“The Town of Clayton owns the prison, so we have more on the line with needing good representation in Santa Fe,” stated

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Town Attorney Robert Beck on advising the Board of Trustees. “We don’t have any issues now, but when they pop up, we will need someone to help us on working with the Cabinet secretary to resolve issues.”

“Their track record is well worth the bargain of their services,” stated Town Mayor Jack Chosvig on his opinion of the matter. “And the way they work with us and the people of Santa Fe is very per-

sonable, friendly... they remain diligent on the issues that we need help.”

Finally, under New Business, the Board of Trustees approved the publishing of Ordinance #687 for the bonding of the waste water project for a loan/grant combination via the USDA/Rural Development office. The Town of Clayton is seeking an additional \$1,181,000 for costs from added elements to the scope of the project.

For more information on this matter, please see the legal notice in this week’s issue.