

*Subject to approval at the
February 5, 2018
City Council Meeting*

STATE OF COLORADO)
COUNTY OF OTERO) SS
CITY OF LA JUNTA)

CALL TO ORDER: The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of La Junta, Colorado, was called to order by Mayor Jeffri Pruyn on Tuesday, January 16, 2018, at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Mayor led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION: Council Member Vela gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL: The following Council Members were present:

- Eugene Mestas, Ward 1
- Jim Goodwin, Ward 1
- Elaine McIntyre, Ward 2
- Jeffri Pruyn, Mayor
- Edward Vela, Ward 3
- Scott Eckhart, Ward 3

Absent: none

- Also present:
- Rick Klein, City Manager
 - Bill Jackson, Asst. City Manager
 - Phil Malouff, Jr., City Attorney
 - Melanie Scofield, City Clerk
 - Cynthia Nieb, Economic Development/UR Director
 - Darren Adame, Director of Engineering
 - Tom Seaba, Administrative Coordinator
 - Todd Quick, Chief of Police
 - Aliza Libby-Tucker, Director of Finance
 - Aimee Hill, Engineering Dept
 - Paula Mahoney, Administration
 - Joe Ayala, 1514 San Juan Ave
 - Angela Ayala, 1514 San Juan Ave
 - Susan Elliott, 1310 Lincoln Ave
 - Shannon Lovato, 18 Chaparral Cr
 - Julie Worley, 2417 San Juan Ave
 - Cheryl Lindner, 16 E. 22nd St
 - Greg Kolomitz, 717 Belleview Ave
 - Beverly Babb, 1120 W. 12th St
 - William Macdonald, 706 Raton Ave
 - James Eubank, 911 Lincoln Ave
 - Dee Leyba, 511 Lincoln Ave
 - Gilbert Leyba, 511 Lincoln Ave
 - Elena Ramsay, 511 Lincoln Ave
 - Ethan Leyba, 511 Lincoln Ave
 - Anne Boswell, KWAY 105.7 FM
 - Bette McFarren, La Junta Tribune Democrat

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: Mayor Pruyn asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of January 2, 2018. Hearing none, she declared the minutes approved as published.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – January 16, 2018

OATH OF OFFICE TO NEWLY ELECTED WARD 2 COUNCIL MEMBER SHANNON LOVATO. The City Clerk administered the oath of office to newly elected Ward 2 Council member Shannon Lovato.

ELECTION OF “PERMANENT” MAYOR PRO-TEM.

Mayor Pruyn opened the floor to nominations for Mayor Pro Tem. Eugene Mestas nominated Edward Vela. Elaine McIntyre nominated Jim Goodwin. Hearing no further nominations, the mayor closed nominations and called for the vote. Those voting for Edward Vela: Eckhart, Vela, Mestas. Those voting for Jim Goodwin: Goodwin, McIntyre, Pruyn and Lovato. Council Member Goodwin received four votes in favor, he will become the Mayor Pro Tem.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS (5 minute time limit per person):

1. James Eubank, 911 Lincoln Ave.: Discussed issues in his neighborhood concerning barking dogs and traffic noise. Reminded the Council that there’s an ordinance for this and asked them to do what they have to do to enforce it.
2. William Macdonald, 706 Raton Ave.: Expressed concern that Code Enforcement is not working. Council needs to decide what they are going to do about it and then publicize the outcome. The battle hasn’t started yet on these issues.

REPORTS

- A. **City of La Junta December Financials.** Finance Director Aliza Libby-Tucker explained to Council that they receive packets containing three types of reports. The first one is the lodging tax that is received from different hotel minus a 3% administration fee that goes back into the General Fund. Second, is the SIC report which breaks down sales tax received on a quarterly and yearly basis. Thirdly, is the financial itself showing the expenditures and income received by the City of La Junta.

NEW BUSINESS**A. Tourism Board Recommendations for Funding.**

1. **Up to \$1,500.00 to U.S. Travel Association’s IPW Denver 2018 for attendance.**

MOTION TO APPROVE THE EXPENDITURE OF TOURISM TAX REVENUE IN THE AMOUNT OF UP TO \$1,500.00 TO U.S. TRAVEL ASSOCIATION'S IPW DENVER 2018 FOR ATTENDANCE: Vela

SECOND: Goodwin

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

2. **\$500.00 to Picketwire Center for the Performing Arts – 50th Anniversary promotion.**

MOTION TO APPROVE THE EXPENDITURE OF TOURISM TAX REVENUE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500.00 TO PICKETWIRE CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS – 50TH ANNIVERSARY PROMOTION: Vela

SECOND: Goodwin

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

B. Liquor Licenses.

1. **Application for Renewal of a Hotel & Restaurant Liquor License by Robert Lee Lai, d/b/a New China Restaurant, 414 W. 1st Street.** The application is in order and has been reviewed by City supervisors for compliance with City and State codes. The premise is under a thirty day action plan with the Fire Department. Appropriate fees have been tendered and the City Attorney recommends approval.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – January 16, 2018

MOTION TO GRANT RENEWAL OF A HOTEL & RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE BY ROBERT LEE LAI, D/B/A NEW CHINA, 414 W. 1ST STREET: Goodwin

SECOND: McIntyre

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

2. **Application for Renewal of a 3.2% Off Premises Liquor License by Mini Mart Inc., d/b/a Loaf N Jug No. 13, 918 W. 3rd Street.** The application is in order and has been reviewed by City supervisors for compliance with City and State codes. The premise is under a thirty day action plan with the Fire Department. Appropriate fees have been tendered and the City Attorney recommends approval.

MOTION TO GRANT RENEWAL OF A 3.2% OFF PREMISES LIQUOR LICENSE BY MINI MART INC., D/B/A LOAF N JUG NO. 13, 918 W. 3RD STREET: Goodwin

SECOND: Mestas

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

3. **Application for a Special Events Permit by La Junta Chamber of Commerce, Angela Ayala, Event Manager. The event is their Annual Banquet to be held January 29, 2018 from 5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. at 1802 Colorado Avenue.** The application is in order and has been reviewed by City supervisors for compliance with City and State codes. The appropriate fee has been tendered and the premises have been posted. The City Attorney recommends approval.

MOTION TO GRANT A SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT TO LA JUNTA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR AN EVENT TO BE HELD JANUARY 29, 2018 FROM 5:00 P.M. TO 11:00 P.M. AT 1802 COLORADO AVENUE: McIntyre

SECOND: Lovato

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

C. Committee/Board Reports

1. Council Member Vela (Senior Citizens Board): The Board met on the first Thursday of January. Dortha McLain was re-elected as Chairman and Bobby Rains was elected as Vice-Chairman of the Board. The other Board members will remain the same: Judy Burkepile, Don McClure and Karen Prather. Also, their end of year finances were better than last year. They have two trips this year. One will be in May going to Memphis Tennessee. The other one is tentative right now, but it will be going to New Hampshire in October. The place looks sharp as ever and everyone's having a good time like retirees should.
2. Council Member McIntyre (AVRMC Board): I received a letter to attend the AVRMC meeting which is on the last Tuesday of the month. I did speak with Bob Blair and I asked him about the question concerning chemo therapy. He mentioned that they had a nurse who is no longer with AVRMC and she had the qualifications to administer the chemo. They had asked a couple of other nurses to get the certification and they are not able to at this time. They also talked to the Rocky Mountain Cancer Center to see if they could offer staffing and they are not able to at this time. Another issue that came up with the medication was that they needed to have a specific area to mix the drugs and we had been grandfathered in prior but now it's a Federal mandate.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – January 16, 2018**D. City Manager's Comments**

1. Shared statistical comparison regarding police and fire departments.
2. The Anderson Arroyo from 10th Street to Wickham is looking nice.
3. Darren, Dean and I have been working diligently on the vacant houses.

E. City Attorney's Comments

1. The Council has already approved the sale of one of our assets to the County so I will be asking the Mayor and the City Clerk to affix their signatures to the contract.

F. Governing Body's Comments

1. Council Member McIntyre: I had a citizen come to me about sidewalk repairs. I know we have the sidewalk program. She mentioned that there's still sidewalks that need to be repaired and if the City could possibly come up with ways to share the expenses. Some of the people just can't afford it because they're on fixed incomes. She asked if we could assess some of the areas of damage and come up with a plan.

City Manager Klein: That's what we use our 50/50 program for.

2. Council Member Vela: I had a call from a constituent complaining about the \$60.00 fee for a vacant building that nobody's lived in for ten years. He thought it was a violation of his first amendment rights.

City Manager Klein: That amount sounds about right. That's all through the Utility Board.

3. Mayor Pruyn: I received a similar call but I had told them that when we started to get into our neighborhoods making them livable, decisions had to be made. We had to make it fair to the other neighborhood owners.

4. Council Member Mestas: What does it cost to tear down those houses?

City Manager Klein: We've been renting that big excavator for around \$7,000.00 per month. Within one month we've cleaned out five beaver dams. When we have a house to tear down, the County will move that excavator for free. The houses we've hit didn't have asbestos and that's been running us about \$10,000.00 to \$15,000.00 per house.

Council Member Mestas: Rick, in the past, we used to have department heads come to Council. Is there a reason they quit coming in?

City Manager Klein: Everyone's here but tow. Aaron couldn't make it because he has trainings on Tuesday nights and Reuben couldn't make it tonight.

5. Mayor Pruyn: I have a few things for Council to start looking at. I want to do a Meet & Greet with our Council. Should we combine the Meet & Greet with the work session?

The Meet & Greet and Work Session will be Saturday, February 10th beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the Senior Center.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

CITY OF LA JUNTA

ATTEST:

Jeffri Pruyn, Madam Mayor

Melanie R. Scofield, City Clerk