

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 Pruyon on Tuesday, January 22, 2019, at 7:00 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
Elaine McIntyre, Ward 2
Jeffri Pruyon, Mayor
Shannon Lovato, Ward 2
Edward Vela, Ward 3

Absent: Jim Goodwin, Ward 1
Scott Eckhart, Ward 3

Also present: Rick Klein, City Manager
Bill Jackson, Asst. City Manager
Phil Malouff Jr, City Attorney
Melanie Scofield, City Clerk
Cynthia Nieb, UR/ED Director
Paula Mahoney, Administration
Aimee Hill, Engineering
Gary Cranson, ARPA Representative
Beverly Babb, 1120 W. 12th St
Cheryl Lindner, 16 E. 22nd St
William Macdonald, 706 Raton Ave
Bette McFarren, La Junta Tribune Democrat

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: Mayor Pruyon asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of January 7, 2019. Hearing none, she declared the minutes approved as published.

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

- 1. William Macdonald, 706 Raton Avenue: Spoke about code enforcement being up and going on Raton Avenue and that perhaps it was a budget issue. There still are dog issues when new ones come around.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Board Appointments

1. Reappoint Tom Brann to the Board of Adjustments – term to expire 12/31/2021

MOTION TO REAPPOINT TOM BRANN TO THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS: Vela

SECOND: Lovato

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 5-0 (Goodwin, Eckhart absent)

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2. Appoint Joey Gacnik to the Board of Adjustments – term to expire 12/31/2021

MOTION TO APPOINT JOEY GACNIK TO THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS: Vela

SECOND: Lovato

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 5-0 (Goodwin, Eckhart absent)

3. Reappoint Terry Smalling to the Library Board – term to expire 12/31/2021

MOTION TO APPOINT TERRY SMALLING TO THE LIBRARY BOARD: Lovato

SECOND: Mestas

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 5-0 (Goodwin, Eckhart absent)

4. Reappoint Dave Freeman to the Planning Commission – term to expire 12/31/2024

MOTION TO REAPPOINT DAVE FREEMAN TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION: McIntyre

SECOND: Vela

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 5-0 (Goodwin, Eckhart absent)

5. Reappoint Judy Burkepile to the Senior Citizens Center Advisory Board – term to expire 12/31/2021

MOTION TO REAPPOINT JUDY BURKEPILE TO THE SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER ADVISORY BOARD: McIntyre

SECOND: Lovato

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 5-0 (Goodwin, Eckhart absent)

6. Reappoint Karen Prather to the Senior Citizens Center Advisory Board – term to expire 12/31/2021

MOTION TO REAPPOINT KAREN PRATHER TO THE SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER ADVISORY BOARD: Vela

SECOND: Lovato

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 5-0 (Goodwin, Eckhart absent)

7. Appoint Trevor Herasingh to the Urban Renewal Authority – term to expire 12/31/2019

MOTION TO APPOINT TREVOR HERASINGH TO THE URBAN RENEWAL AUTHORITY: Vela

SECOND: Mestas

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 5-0 (Goodwin, Eckhart absent)

8. Appoint Chad Penner to the Urban Renewal Authority – term to expire 12/31/2020

MOTION TO APPOINT CHAD PENNER TO THE URBAN RENEWAL AUTHORITY: Lovato

SECOND: Mestas

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 5-0 (Goodwin, Eckhart absent)

9. Appoint Shade Wright to the Urban Renewal Authority – term to expire 12/31/2021

MOTION TO APPOINT SHADE WRIGHT TO THE URBAN RENEWAL AUTHORITY: McIntyre

SECOND: Mestas

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 5-0 (Goodwin, Eckhart absent)

10. Appoint Abram Lopez to the Urban Renewal Authority – term to expire 12/31/2020

MOTION TO APPOINT ABRAM LOPEZ TO THE URBAN RENEWAL AUTHORITY: Lovato

SECOND: Mestas

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 5-0 (Goodwin, Eckhart absent)

11. Appoint Cisco Perez to the Urban Renewal Authority – term to expire 12/31/2023

MOTION TO APPOINT CISCO PEREZ TO THE URBAN RENEWAL AUTHORITY: Lovato

SECOND: Mestas

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 5-0 (Goodwin, Eckhart absent)

B. Reappoint Gary Cranson and Lorenz Sutherland to the ARPA Board (2 year terms)

MOTION TO REAPPOINT GARY CRANSON AND LORENZ SUTHERLAND TO THE ARPA BOARD:
Vela

SECOND: Lovato

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 5-0 (Goodwin, Eckhart absent)

C. First Reading/AN ORDINANCE REQUIRING THE ISSUANCE OF A PERMIT FOR THE USE OF CITY FACILITIES OR INFRASTRUCTURE. The ordinance was introduced by title only, there being copies available to those in attendance. This ordinance will allow for the process of negotiation for each circumstance that arises.

MOTION TO PASS THE ORDINANCE ON FIRST READING: Mestas

SECOND: Lovato

DISCUSSION: This ordinance requires companies requesting the issuance of a permit to contact the residences and businesses that will be affected.

VOTE: The motion carried 5-0 (Goodwin, Eckhart absent)

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- D. **Annual Resolution Designating Official Depositories for City Funds.** Resolution No. R-5-2019 was presented for council's consideration as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of La Junta that the following are hereby designated as official depositories for the various funds for the City of La Junta for the calendar year 2019:

1. The Colorado Bank & Trust Company of La Junta;
2. State Bank and Trust Company of La Junta;
3. TBK Bank;
4. First National Bank of Las Animas and La Junta;
5. U.S. Bank.

Whenever investment circumstances exist that prohibit banks from accepting City funds as deposits without requiring deposit fees be paid by the City, the City Manager or his designee, is authorized to locate other financial institutions; provided however that all funds be maintained in a federally insured account and all funds must be fully insured by the FDIC.

MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. R-5-2019: Mestas

SECOND: Vela

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 5-0 (Goodwin, Eckhart absent)

- E. **A Resolution Supporting the Grant Application for an Intergenerational Park to be Funded from the Colorado Health Foundation and the Creation of the La Junta Brick & Tile Park.** Resolution No. R-8-2019 was presented for council's consideration as follows:

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of La Junta supports the filing of a grant application with Colorado Health Foundation for the La Junta Brick & Tile Park; and

WHEREAS, the City of La Junta has requested a grant of \$468,686 from the Colorado Health Foundation to provide funding to create the intergenerational playground equipment to develop the La Junta Brick & Tile Park; and

WHEREAS, if the grant is awarded, the City of La Junta supports the completion of the project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA JUNTA, COLORADO:

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Section 1: The City Council of the City of La Junta strongly supports the filing of the application and will appropriate matching funds (if required) for a grant with the Colorado Health Foundation.

Section 2: If the grant is awarded, the City Council of the City of La Junta strongly supports the completion of the project.

Section 3: The City Council of the City of La Junta authorizes the expenditure of funds necessary to meet the terms and obligations of any Grant awarded.

Section 4: If the grant is awarded, the La Junta City Council hereby authorizes the City Manager as the designated official to sign the grant agreement with the Colorado Health Foundation.

Section 5: This resolution to be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. R-8-2019: Vela

SECOND: McIntyre

DISCUSSION

Council Member Mestas: What is this all about?

Mayor Pruyn: We have put a grant in for a park that will be located on the west side of town. We've done Red Crane Park for the east side and we have our City Park located in the middle of town. There will be an area for picnicking and recreation. If the grant comes through, we will be able to tie in another outdoor facility for the community.

Council Member Mestas: What's with Brick & Tile? Where did that come from?

Mayor Pruyn: That is where we actually found the brick making kilns when we were cleaning up the trail. This park will be located in that area and we want to tie it together as part of that.

Council Member Vela: Regarding the money, it says in Section 3 that the "City Council of the City of La Junta authorizes expenditure of funds as necessary to meet the terms, obligations" and so forth. Is that money budgeted? Do we have any idea how much we'll have to pay?

Council Member Lovato: Section 1 says "matching funds". So will we have to come up with \$468,000.00?

ED/UR Director Nieb: We've already dedicated money out of the Conservation Trust Fund which is to be used on parks. The other part of the matching funds will come from in-kind work from our own staff. You may see more of these because I've applied for a total of five grants.

VOTE: The motion carried 5-0 (Goodwin, Eckhart absent)

- F. **La Junta Senior Center Advisory Board By-Law Changes.** City Attorney Malouff explained that a revamp of the Senior Citizen by-laws had been done years ago trying to clean them up a bit and make things more functional. The Council approved their by-laws but felt strongly at the time that the Senior Citizens Center should be in charge of their functions. The City's historic function has been to

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review it and make sure it doesn't go against any legal principles and then bring it to council for your consideration and ratification. These by-laws were reviewed by my office, we found nothing in them that is repugnant to the law and am asking for your ratification of the by-laws.

Council Member Vela: In Section 7, "La Junta Senior Center will provide a broad range of group and individual activities and services, etc. regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, political affiliation or handicap." Does council feel that we should have in there "sexual orientation"?

City Attorney Malouff: The areas that are defined in there are areas that are considered to be protected under Federal law. The matter that you just addressed has not been defined clearly as a protected class under Federal law. That's why you don't see it in there.

Council Member Vela: I was thinking in regards to its relativity in perhaps applying for a grant. I would want it in there if there's a chance that we might lose a grant.

City Attorney Malouff: Today, the U.S. Supreme Court issued a ruling that is somewhat connected to that. Three years from now you may see that there's some wording changes. However, right now, it's not a protected class that we have to address by Federal legislation. If the Senior Citizens Board wants to request additional changes to it they can as long as it isn't repugnant to the law.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE LA JUNTA SENIOR CENTER ADVISORY BOARD BY-LAW CHANGES: Vela

SECOND: Lovato

DISCUSSION: There was no further discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 5-0 (Goodwin, Eckhart absent)

G. Committee/Board Reports

1. Council Member Lovato (Library Board):

- Received totals of 2018 numbers: there were 91,246 items checked out with a door count of 108,707. The room or patio was rented 597 times even with the new facility fee which is up almost 100 times more. There were 4,043 people who attended functions in the meeting room and patio.
- Received a \$4,500.00 grant in October.
- Also had a Growing Readers Together grant. They put together the bright beginning bags and activity cubes in the kids area, added more musical instruments to story time, bought more launch pads and created more early literacy kits.
- In November, they waived \$172.95 in fines and people brought in non-perishable food items. The Library was able to donate seventeen large boxes of food to Associated Charities.
- I'm on the Communities that Care for the Health Department. The Library is considered a "Safe Spaces for our Youth."

2. Council Member McIntyre (AVRMC Board):

- Will be having a blood drive on Tuesday February 5th at the medical center education room from 10:00 – 2:30 p.m.
- Our joint meeting will be next Tuesday night at 6:00 p.m.

3. Council Member Vela (Sr. Center Board):

- There are still a few spots available for the trip to New Orleans in May, it's ten days altogether.
- The Nashville trip in October has a few spots open as well.
- The Senior Advisory Board will be happy to get their by-laws back. (The City approves the by-laws because it is a city board but have never told them what the content should be.)

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H. City Manager’s Comments

1. Crew guys did a great job today with the snow.
2. Next Monday is the Chamber Banquet.
3. Had a Southwest Chief meeting, Amtrak is going to release the Tiger 9 funds and they’re going to try to save the line.
4. The Mayor wants to have a “Citizens Academy” with Melanie facilitating it. It will run from March 6th through April 10th from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m., dinner will be provided. We’ll be bringing in supervisors to help educate the people on how the city operates.

A. City Attorney’s Comments

1. Always a privilege.

B. Governing Body’s Comments

1. Council Member Vela:
 - Read in the paper and also on Revitalize La Junta that somebody donated two pianos and there were already plans for them. It would be nice to cut the Design Committee in on that. If we’re going to do something downtown, let’s do it through the proper channels.
2. Mayor Pruyn:
 - The CORE Building Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting will be tomorrow from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. There will be refreshments and tours. All are welcome.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

CITY OF LA JUNTA

Jeffri Pruyn, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melanie R. Scofield, City Clerk