

**Subject to approval at  
the March 6, 2017  
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 Lynn Horner on Tuesday, February 21, 2017, 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 Goodwin gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL: The following Council Members were present:

- Betty Velasquez, Ward 1
- Jim Goodwin, Ward 1
- Frank McKenzie, Ward 2
- Lynn Horner, Mayor
- Jeffri Pruyn, Ward 2
- 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
  - Aliza Libby-Tucker, Director of Finance
  - Todd Quick, Chief of Police
  - Darren Adame, Director of Engineering
  - Ryan Stevens, Economic Development
  - Pam Denahy, Director of Tourism & Events
  - Donna Starck, OCHD
  - Mike Mustain, OCHD
  - Beverly Babb, 1120 W. 12<sup>th</sup> St
  - Cheryl Lindner, 16 E. 22<sup>nd</sup> St
  - Michelle Griego, OCHD
  - Angelo Griego III, RFPD
  - Nancy Harrington, Coalition
  - Rod Stambaugh, 27781 Railroad St
  - Candice Zamora, La Junta
  - Darren Garcia, Otero County
  - Sara Kelley, Casa del Sol
  - Elaine McIntyre, 2022 Cimarron Ave
  - Ron Davis, 2011 Raton Ave
  - David Balicki, La Junta
  - John Yergert, La Junta
  - Pat Jernberg, 110 E 22<sup>nd</sup> St
  - Stephen Nielsen, 701 Carson Ave
  - Bette McFarren, Tribune-Democrat

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: Mayor Horner asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of February 6, 2017. Hearing none, he declared the minutes approved as published.

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING – February 21, 2017****CITIZEN PARTICIPATION FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS (10 minute time limit per person):**

Stephen Nielsen, 701 Carson Ave., (Clean Valley Recycling) – We are applying for another grant to help with infrastructure needs and are asking the City of La Junta for a Letter of Support.

MOTION TO PROVIDE A LETTER OF SUPPORT TO CLEAN VALLEY RECYCLING: Goodwin

SECOND: Pruyn

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

**REPORTS**

- A. **Nursing Home Task Force Update.** Ryan Stevens said that in regards to financing the Nursing Home, the Task Force is looking at setting up a Health District. We need to add a legal mind to the Task Force. I would like to ask for Council's permission to go forward with this and for any ideas as well.

MOTION TO ADD DEAN MALOUFF TO THE NURSING HOME TASK FORCE: Vela

SECOND: McKenzie

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

- B. **City of La Junta Monthly Financials.** Most everything should be around 8% of the budget after one month, except for insurances and dues, which are normally paid in full at the beginning of the year. Due to the January storms, there was some extra over time paid out. This will probably be the lightest month.

**Council Member Velasquez:** A few months ago we talked about adding emergency personnel (a fire fighter and an extra police officer), where are we at in that process? (We just hired the second person on the fire side and we are currently down by one on the police side. We do have some in the Policy Academy right now. These positions were left in the budget even though the sales tax increase did not go through.)

**Council Member Vela:** Would like to read a statement. (The statement is concerning the justification of keeping the power plant operational – said statement is attached.) (The Utilities Board has asked us to see what it would take to decommission the power plant. We have a company called Atwel to look into this.) Is that going to be significant costs for the consultants because I was thinking more of an internal study? (We have an engineer for that and it's going to cost around \$40,000.)

I wish we could get to the streets harder. Last week when we patched, we hit 3<sup>rd</sup> & Carson, 10<sup>th</sup> & Carson, Conley Road, Frontage Road, 3<sup>rd</sup> & Lincoln, Bradish, Lewis and 4<sup>th</sup> Street. I wish we could have asphalt every day. All Rite Paving is possibly looking at May. When they started, they had trucks lined up from all the communities, even from Lamar and Pueblo. The City was only able to get two loads because they started late and shut down early. For now, we're using cold mix until we can get more asphalt.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- A. **Board Appointees procedure.** Mayor Horner said that currently, if someone is serving on a board and asks to be reappointed and that person is recommended by that particular board, we've given that person precedence. When the individual is no longer interested in serving on a board, then the vacancy is published in the paper. If you open it up each time, it makes it available to community members so maybe we would be getting more people applying for those positions. (**Council Member Velasquez:** We should give the opportunity for everybody to apply.) The consensus of Council is to have Mr. Malouff do revisions on the current resolution to bring back for Council's consideration. (**Council Member Vela:** Could we separate the statutory and contractual ones? Would you put them in there pointing out that they are different?) (**Phil Malouff:** That will be made clear in the resolution revision.)

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING – February 21, 2017**

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NEW BUSINESS

**A. First Reading/AN ORDINANCE CREATING THE REQUIREMENT OF A NON-CIGARETTE TOBACCO RETAILER LICENSE FOR CERTAIN RETAILERS WITHIN THE CITY OF LA JUNTA.**

The ordinance was read by title only, there being copies available to those in attendance.

MOTION TO PASS THE ORDINANCE ON FIRST READING: Velasquez

SECOND: Goodwin

DISCUSSION: There was no further discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

**B. Liquor Licenses**

**1. Application for a Special Events Permit by Our Lady of Guadalupe/St. Patrick Parish, James Wallace, Event Manager. The event is the Annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner Auction to be held March 18, 2017 from 4:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. Midnight at 202 Lincoln 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 OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE/ST. PATRICK PARISH FOR THE ANNUAL ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER AUCTION TO BE HELD MARCH 18, 2017 FROM 4:00 P.M. TO 12:00 A.M. MIDNIGHT AT 202 LINCOLN AVENUE: Pruyn

SECOND: Vela

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: The motion carried 6-0 (Goodwin abstained)

**2. Application for Renewal of a 3.2% Beer Off Premises Liquor License by Wal-Mart Stores Inc., d/b/a Wal-Mart #1384, 6 Conley Road.**

The application is in order and has been reviewed by City supervisors for compliance with City and State codes. The premise is under an action plan through the Fire Department. Appropriate fees have been tendered and the City Attorney recommends approval.

MOTION TO GRANT RENEWAL OF A 3.2% BEER OFF PREMISES LIQUOR LICENSE BY WAL-MART STORES INC., D/B/A WAL-MART #1384, 6 CONLEY ROAD: Pruyn

SECOND: Eckhart

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

**C. Tourism Board Recommendations for Funding.**

**1. \$2,100.00 to AAA EnCompass Magazine – May/June advertisement edition.**

MOTION TO APPROVE THE EXPENDITURE OF TOURISM TAX REVENUE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,100.00 TO AAA ENCOMPASS MAGAZINE FOR MAY/JUNE ADVERTISEMENT: Goodwin

SECOND: Vela

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

## CITY COUNCIL MEETING – February 21, 2017

2. **\$14,800.00 to Barnhart – Redesign Visit LaJunta.net website.** Pam Denahy thanked the Council for encouraging them to go through with the RFP process. We received nine bids ranging from \$0 to \$115,000.00. The Tourism Board read and reviewed all of the proposals and created a spreadsheet to compare side by side. We then selected the top three vendors and they were interviewed February 7<sup>th</sup>. On the 15<sup>th</sup>, the Tourism Board unanimously voted to recommend Barnhart. It would take three months once awarded to get the website up and running. They will have the “boots on the ground” approach to learn what La Junta is about. (Council Member Vela: Is this going to be done by contract? Will they have ins and outs?) They did have Terms and Conditions that were very straight forward. The Board thought it very important to make sure that we own the contents and pictures and can go with someone else if desired. (Council Member Vela: You guys did good but it would have been nice to have the Councilman here because of his expertise.) We did have social media as a component of this as well.

John Yergert, Tourism Board Chair – One thing I wanted everyone to know is that out of all the proposals we received, almost all of the board went to the same three. It was pretty much unanimous on which three we were going with. We did not leave out our locals either, we had a lot of discussion about that. These three just stood out.

Pam Denahy, Director of Tourism & Events – The cost of \$14,800.00 is the cost to build the website. (Council Member Eckhart: then at what point will they no longer be helping us?) After the three months, there would be a monthly cost on certain extensive things, if we needed it. They would be designing the templates so that we could make changes on content ourselves. (Council Member Eckhart: What do you mean by updating?) For example, I received a call from the KOA about the new car rentals that he’s doing or maybe I was informed about someone’s email being incorrect. I could make these changes now without having to go through someone else. (Council Member Vela: I don’t see why you couldn’t look to Councilman Eckhart for help in the future.)

MOTION TO APPROVE THE EXPENDITURE OF TOURISM TAX REVENUE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$14,800.00 TO BARNHART TO REDESIGN THE VISIT LA JUNTA.NET WEBSITE:  
Goodwin

SECOND: Vela

DISCUSSION: Council Member Eckhart: ...where we fall short is the cost. For example, let’s just say that I needed to get my car painted so I asked around. There’s someone in the area who’s been doing it for a long time that gives me a quote of \$1,500 compared to some of the professional shops around town who quoted me \$3,000 to get my car painted. Now lets say, that its going to cost me \$14,800 to paint my car and then told, on top of that, they’re going to check the oil and vacuum it out. This is not something too spectacular. These things that you’re trying to accomplish can be accomplished much cheaper. If you continue on this path, what you’re going to build is bones. . . .I would recommend, in my opinion, that this is a waste of taxpayers money when it can be accomplished for much less.

VOTE: Those voting YES (Goodwin, McKenzie, Horner, Pruy, Vela)

Those voting NO (Velasquez, Eckhart)

The motion carried 5-2

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING – February 21, 2017****D. Board Reappointments****1. Reappoint Karen Kelley to the La Junta Urban Renewal Authority Board (term to expire 12/2021)**

MOTION TO REAPPOINT KAREN KELLEY TO THE LA JUNTA URBAN RENEWAL AUTHORITY BOARD (TERM TO EXPIRE 12/2021): Vela

SECOND: Pruyn

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

**2. Reappoint Rebecca Goodwin to the La Junta Urban Renewal Authority Board (term to expire 12/2021)**

MOTION TO REAPPOINT REBECCA GOODWIN TO THE LA JUNTA URBAN RENEWAL AUTHORITY BOARD (TERM TO EXPIRE 12/2021): Pruyn

SECOND: Goodwin

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

**3. Reappoint John Yergert to the Tourism Advisory Board (term to expire 12/2019)**

MOTION TO REAPPOINT JOHN YERGERT TO THE TOURISM ADVISORY BOARD (TERM TO EXPIRE 12/2019): Velasquez

SECOND: Goodwin

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

**E. Committee/Board Reports**

1. Council Member Vela (Sr. Citizens Board) – The roof is fixed, we have the brand new floor installed, both pool tables are going, and I attended the Sweetheart Dinner which was very nice.

**F. City Manager's Comments**

1. Darren Adame has been working with CenturyLink on the placement of their fiber in the streets.
2. Ark Valley Construction is working night and day to get the OJC wrestling building done.
3. We received eleven residential sidewalk applications for the 50/50 program.
4. We're preparing for the golf course club house ADA compliant ramp.
5. We are looking at alternatives concerning the two bathrooms at City Park just in case that line from the 1970's has to be replaced.
6. DeBourgh Manufacturing is going to place a tank on the west side of the building.
7. Patching, removing trees down at the Arroyo to help pass the floods.

Council Member Goodwin: Is there going to be another comprehensive plan meeting? (Yes, the end of March.)

Council Member Vela: If you have time, you should run a grader through the King Arroyo between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Street, it would make a nice bike route.

**G. City Attorney's Comments**

1. We currently have 14 separate projects that we are working on right now.
2. CML Regional Work session needs to be rescheduled. Will May 11<sup>th</sup> work for all? I will ask them if this day will work better for them.

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING – February 21, 2017**

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**H. Governing Body's Comments**

1. Council Member Velasquez: I would like to thank Darren and his crew for making the downtown look good.

MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR A CONFERENCE WITH THE CITY ATTORNEY FOR THE PURPOSE OF DETERMINING POSITIONS RELATIVE TO MATTERS THAT MAY BE SUBJECT TO NEGOTIATIONS, DEVELOPING STRATEGY FOR NEGOTIATIONS, AND/OR INSTRUCTING NEGOTIATORS, UNDER C.R.S §24-6-402 (4) (e): Pruyne

SECOND: Velasquez

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

Council went into Executive Session at 8:50 p.m. The session ended at 9:31 p.m., and the regular meeting was reconvened. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:31 p.m.

CITY OF LA JUNTA

ATTEST:

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Lynn Horner, Mayor

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Melanie R. Scofield, City Clerk