

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 Pruy on Monday, March 4, 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 Goodwin gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL: The following Council Members were present:

- Eugene Mestas, Ward 1
- Jim Goodwin, Ward 1
- Elaine McIntyre, Ward 2
- Jeffri Pruy, Mayor
- Shannon Lovato, 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
  - Cynthia Nieb, ED/UR Director
  - Aimee Hill, Engineering
  - Gary Cranson, ARPA Representative
  - Nancy Bennett, La Junta
  - Tracey Salzbrenner, La Junta
  - Kimberly Morlan, Sangre de Cristo Hospice
  - Bette McFarren, La Junta Tribune Democrat

RECOGNITION: Council Member Vela recognized the La Junta High School Wrestling Team. Those participating in the sport, along with their education, will make great citizens. Furthermore, they are representing La Junta in each town they go to. Hopefully they'll be supporters of the team effort and continue through graduation so they can find better places in their lives. Sports are a good leadership type of program that will help them in the future.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: Mayor Pruy asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of February 19, 2019. Council Member Vela made the correction that he gave the invocation last meeting not Council Woman McIntyre. Also, on Page 3, Item C, Paragraph 4 where it said: *"Council Member Vela: I mentioned this to the City Manager three weeks ago, two weeks ago. It was determined that it wasn't necessary to go through the 200 signatures."*, should read as follows: "I mentioned this to the City Manager three weeks, two weeks ago. He advised me that Council could do it without fanfare." Hearing no further corrections, she declared the minutes approved as amended.

## CITY COUNCIL MEETING – March 4, 2019

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

1. There was no citizen participation.

## NEW BUSINESS

## A. Liquor Licenses

1. **Application for a Special Events Permit by Sangre de Cristo Hospice, Kathryn Bickel, Event Manager. The event is for Business After Hours to be held March 15, 2019 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at 26678 Frontage Road.** 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 SANGRE DE CRISTO HOSPICE FOR THEIR BUSINESS AFTER HOURS TO BE HELD MARCH 15, 2019 FROM 5:30 P.M. TO 7:30 P.M. AT 26678 FRONTAGE ROAD: Lovato

SECOND: Goodwin

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

2. **Application for Renewal of a Tavern Liquor License by Ronald Hall, d/b/a The Railyard, 114 Colorado Avenue.** The application is in order and has been reviewed by City supervisors for compliance with City and State codes. Appropriate fees have been tendered and the City Attorney recommends approval.

MOTION TO GRANT A RENEWAL OF A TAVERN LIQUOR LICENSE BY RONALD HALL, D/B/A THE RAILYARD, 114 COLORADO AVENUE: McIntyre

SECOND: Mestas

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

3. **Application for Renewal of a Beer Off Premises Liquor License by Mini Mart Inc., d/b/a Loaf N Jug #13, 918 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 A RENEWAL OF A BEER OFF PREMISES LIQUOR LICENSE BY MINI MART INC., D/B/A LOAF N JUG #13, 918 W. 3<sup>RD</sup> STREET: Goodwin

SECOND: Mestas

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

4. **Application for Modification of Premises by Mini Mart Inc., d/b/a Loaf N Jug #13, 918 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street.** The application is in order and has been reviewed by City supervisors for compliance with City and State codes. Appropriate fees have been tendered and the City Attorney recommends approval.

MOTION TO GRANT A MODIFICATION OF PREMISES LIQUOR LICENSE BY MINI MART INC., D/B/A LOAF N JUG #13, 918 W. 3<sup>RD</sup> STREET: Vela

SECOND: Mestas

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING – March 4, 2019****B. Committee/Board Reports**

1. Council Member Vela (Sr. Citizens Board):
  - The Board will meet Thursday at 11:00 a.m.
  - The trip to New Orleans is sold out and the trip to Nashville has twenty seats left.
2. Council Member Vela (Design Committee):
  - Met Wednesday at the Mayor's CORE.
  - We had a lot of discussion about the downtown area.
  - We need to decide what we want the façade of the downtown to look like, what we want to set up. Need to work with the Chamber and retail merchants.
  - All future meetings will be on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 5:00 p.m. at the CORE Center.
  - LiveWell Park already has a lot of work done to it so I'm sure the committee will firm things up the next time we meet. This project will be less expensive and will give City administration time to check out the alley between 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> and Colorado and Santa Fe.

**ADDITIONAL TOPICS DISCUSSED:**

- Whether to pursue making the alleyway attractive for tourists or provide more to the locals with the wellness park.
  - Pianos being donated and high school kids repurposing to test downtown placement.
3. Council Member McIntyre (AVRMC Board):
    - Reviewed executive summary.
    - Health Fair will be April 13<sup>th</sup>.
    - Earlier I mentioned that I'm a representative of the constituents who voted for me and if anyone has any comments or opinions with what's going on with the downtown, I would hope that people could put in their comments. This is a community of the citizens of La Junta.

**C. City Manager's Comments**

1. Basketball 3<sup>rd</sup> thru 6<sup>th</sup> ends March 6<sup>th</sup>.
2. Soccer registration continues until March 15<sup>th</sup>.
3. Tennis and Baseball have started.
4. Had a company come through and patch out all the big holes.
5. First round of the 50/50 Tree Program is 14 trees, 6 properties.
6. There are twelve pool party openings left.
7. Fire Department has replaced the 1928 fire light poles except for one.
8. Discussed how important mutual aid to other entities. Americans helping Americans.
9. Went to a seminar about disrupting poverty. We need to change the conversation. We need to start talking about our cultural differences.
10. Thank Allan Lasater for bringing sixteen raceway events this year not including his local events.
11. Thank Cassandra Thomas (Calico Accounting) for donating \$9,000.00 to replace all the signage at the golf course.
12. Replaced RO filters.
13. The Library will be giving out a book to every baby born this year (up to 200 bags).
14. There were 120 packets that went out for the Summer Reading Program.
15. Regional science fair went well (there were a couple of La Junta students there this year.)

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING – March 4, 2019**

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**A. City Attorney's Comments****1. Authorization to Commence Condemnation Proceedings****a. Cecil Orosco – 501 Barnes Avenue**

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE CONDEMNATION PROCEEDINGS OF 501 BARNES AVENUE:  
Goodwin

SECOND: Mestas

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

**b. John Dagostino – 1507 Lincoln Avenue**

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE CONDEMNATION PROCEEDINGS OF 1507 LINCOLN AVENUE: Goodwin

SECOND: Mestas

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

**c. Angel Faus – 1217 W. 12<sup>th</sup> Street**

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE CONDEMNATION PROCEEDINGS OF 1217 W. 12<sup>TH</sup> STREET:  
Vela

SECOND: Eckhart

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

**B. Governing Body's Comments****1. Council Member Vela:**

- Regarding the work session, I spoke about having meetings every other month and I think we should also share the minutes of those four organizations. We need to know what everybody else is doing so we can coordinate better with the City.
- Asked Gary Cranson to speak about how people can save money by recycling. Instead of taking an extra tote and paying \$5.00 to the City, people can take that \$7.00 and start recycling.

Gary Cranson: My suggestion was that we're increasing the charge for an additional residential tote from \$1.00 to \$5.00 a month. We have approximately 150 people recycling in the City. For \$2.00 more, you could give up your \$5.00 tote and join up for a \$7.00 a month recycle fee. You would get your recyclables picked up every other week by Clean Valley and we can save all that stuff going to the dump.

Regarding the milk jugs, we were shooting for a ton of milk jugs. We got our first ton plus we had a drawing and Columbian Daycare had about 300 milk jugs and they won the first \$50. We're going having a drawing every time we reach another ton.

**2. Council Member Lovato:**

- I noticed a sign going under the underpass right as you come up by Checker Auto - "Brian Cowdrey Memorial Highway." I think it's pretty cool.

**3. Mayor Pruyn:**

- Thank you to the La Junta Chamber of Commerce, Tourism and Urban Renewal for joining City Council to have a very lively and positive discussion. I think we found ways to collaborate and I'm super excited about that.

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING – March 4, 2019**

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- We have lost an important person from the community last week. Don Lowman passed away. You'll see most of his wonderful work out at the Otero Museum. He lived to be 95 years old and he definitely contributed to our community. We will remember him every time we walk into the museum.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

CITY OF LA JUNTA

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Jeffri Pruyn, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Melanie R. Scofield, City Clerk