

*Subject to approval at
the April 1, 2019
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 Pro Tem Jim Goodwin on Monday, March 18, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Mayor Pro Tem 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
- Shannon Lovato, Ward 2
- Edward Vela, Ward 3
- Scott Eckhart, Ward 3

Absent: Jeffri Pruyn, Mayor

- Also present:
- Bill Jackson, Asst. City Manager
 - Phil Malouff Jr, City Attorney
 - Melanie Scofield, City Clerk
 - Cynthia Nieb, ED/UR Director
 - Aimee Hill, Engineering
 - Paula Mahoney, Administration
 - Todd Quick, Chief of Police
 - Barry Shiohita, Southeast Health Group
 - Joidawn Noe, Southeast Health Group
 - Everette Babb, La Junta Rural Fire Protection District
 - Hassan Mirakhor, 4 Vigil Court
 - Kevin & RaeAnn Waggoner, Kim
 - William Macdonald, 706 Raton Ave
 - Bette McFarren, La Junta Tribune Democrat

RECOGNITION: Sgt. McMillan presented Officer Sam Berkeland with a “Life Saving Award” for heroic acts performed while on duty.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: Mayor Pro Tem Goodwin asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of March 4, 2019. Hearing none, he declared the minutes approved as published.

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

1. Kevin Waggoner, Kim: La Junta Kids Rodeo and Ace of Spaces Rodeo are holding a fund raiser, “Raise the Roof” on April 13th at the Elks Lodge. All are invited to help support raising money for a roof over the grand stands.
2. William Macdonald, 706 Raton Avenue: Continued about the long history of the dog barking code.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – March 18, 2019

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Application for a Special Events Permit by Southeast Health Group, Joidawn Noe, Event Manager. The event is an outreach/social awareness event to be held April 5, 2019 from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at Inspiration Field 612 Adams 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 SOUTHEAST HELATH GROUP FOR AN OUTREACH/SOCIAL AWARENESS EVENT TO BE HELD APRIL 5, 2019 FROM 5:00 P.M. TO 10:00 P.M. AT INSPIRATION FIELD 612 ADAMS AVENUE: McIntyre

SECOND: Lovato

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 6-0 (Pruyn absent)

- B. First Reading/AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 1604 AS TO A LEGAL DESCRIPTION IN SAID ORDINANCE WHICH WAS AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NUMBER 1242 (THE ZONING ORDINANCE) OF THE CITY OF LA JUNTA AS CONCERNS A REQUEST BY BOB HOUSTON AND DAN WAGNER.** The ordinance was introduced by title only, there being copies available to those in attendance.

MOTION TO PASS THE ORDINANCE ON FIRST READING: Eckhart

SECOND: Mestas

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 6-0 (Pruyn absent)

- C. DOLA EIAF Grant, Tier 1 request of up to \$200,000.** Economic/Urban Renewal Director Cynthia Nieb explained that GOCO had turned us down for a grant so we need some money to fill in. I was originally going to apply for the DOLA grant but for a lesser amount, now I'll ask for the full amount. Tier 1 grants are reviewed by staff. It is a requirement from the Department of Local Affairs, Energy Impact Grant, to show support of the City Council, by a vote not a resolution. This grant will be for the La Junta Brick & Tile Park.

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE GRANT REQUEST OF UP TO \$200,000: McIntyre

SECOND: Mestas

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 6-0 (Pruyn absent)

D. Committee/Board Reports

1. Council Member Vela (Sr. Citizens Board):

- There is discussion about the cost of the newsletter going up or possibly thinking about just sending it by email. Another item just tapped on was dues increase and sponsor fees.
- Reported on the trip to Cripple Creek a couple of week ago, they made \$450.00 and they're going to do it again on July 6th. These funds were shared with the Veteran's Group American Legion Post 9.
- New Orleans trip has five couples on the waiting list.
- There are still twenty openings left for the Nashville trip.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – March 18, 2019

2. Council Member Vela (Design Committee):
 - Main discussion centered on getting rid of the concrete and leveling the area of the Wellness Park.
 - The alleyway discussion has been tabled.
3. Council Member Goodwin (Utilities Board):
 - Electric Department doing repairs today on one of the transformers at the light plant.
 - Sewage treatment plant has fresh water running through it. Plan on being up in sixty to eighty days.

E. City Manager's Comments

1. Assistant City Manager Bill Jackson commented about the winds from the last wind storm clocked in at 89 mph at the airport. There was very little damage in the city. Our tree trimming program really pays off.
2. We are still having trouble with the intersection at 3rd and Colorado Avenue. When the lights are out at an intersection, it's a four-way stop.

F. City Attorney's Comments

1. **Fire Department Agreement.** The La Junta Rural Fire Protection District is not just City of La Junta but also includes other rural areas. City of La Junta has a very minimal property tax that is levied on properties in the City of La Junta but part of the property tax levy is also a La Junta Rural Fire Protection District levy, which is also a levy on all these other lands. So when there's a fire, the Fire Department doesn't stop and see where the boundary lines are. We've never had small thinkers like that but in the big city it is a huge issue. After the fire, they figure out in what governing body entities area the fire happened in.

This Agreement makes clear what equipment belongs to which entity and that the fireman and EMS are now all City employees. The City will be managing payroll and supervision. The Agreement is for one year and will be looked at in the Fall for the year 2020.

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE CITY MANAGER RICK KLEIN TO EXECUTE THE FIRE DEPARTMENT CONTRACT: Mestas

SECOND: McIntyre

DISCUSSION: Alleged embezzlement did occur, not in the City but at the Rural Fire Protection District level which is what brought all this to a head and caused there to be a recognition that there needed to be some controls and accountability. The City has a hugely impressive double, triple check kind of approach that would minimize any possible screw ups in the future.

VOTE: The motion carried 6-0 (Pruyn absent)

G. Governing Body's Comments

1. Council Member Vela:
 - Welcome a new business in the downtown area – Gallery 313.
 - Also on the eastside across from the Red Lion Inn – Colten Electric.
2. Council Member Mestas:
 - Have a citizens concern regarding the parking between Kennilworth Avenue and 6th through 8th Street. When people park there, it turns Kennilworth into a one way street. Would like "No Parking" signs between 6th and 8th Streets.
3. Council Member McIntyre:
 - Job well done by the City employees, electrical department, streets department and all who kept everything running and our first responders. I want to thank them for everything that they do.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – March 18, 2019

4. Council Member Eckhart:

- Not sure if I misheard this or not, but the money for the Kids Rodeo awning is an application to the Tourism Committee to try to raise funds. That's not a correct appropriation of money is it?

Mr. Malouff: It is not and I shared that with Mr. Waggoner.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

CITY OF LA JUNTA

Jim Goodwin, Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:

Melanie R. Scofield, City Clerk