

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – May 1, 2017

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 Monday, May 1, 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: The Mayor 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
Scott Eckhart, Ward 3

Absent: Edward Vela, Ward 3

Also present: Rick Klein, City Manager
Bill Jackson, Asst. City Manager
Phil Malouff Jr, City Attorney
Melanie Scofield, City Clerk
Darren Adame, Director of Engineering
Brenda Tierney, CDOT Bustang Outrider
Tracy Taullie, 4 College Ct
Martha Mondragon, 423 Lacey Ave
Dennis Golding, 1809 Colorado Ave
Sara Kelley, Casa del Sol
Beverly Babb, 1120 W. 12th St
William Macdonald, 706 Raton Ave
Doris Gumke, 1312 Adame Ave
Sarah Gumke, 1314 Adams Ave
Paul Velasquez, 1313 Bradish Ave
Cheryl Lindner, 16 E. 22nd St
Candi Hill, La Junta Tribune Democrat

Bustang Outrider Service. Brenda Tierney with the Colorado Department of Transportation gave a presentation about Bustang Outrider which is the re-branding of the current intercity bus rural region. (Presentation is attached)

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: Mayor Horner asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of April 17, 2017. Hearing none, the Mayor declared the minutes approved as published.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS (10 minute time limit per person):

1. Dennis Golding, 1809 Colorado Avenue: I read in the paper about a licensing/registration for rentals and I was wondering if there was a time to answer some questions as to what the goal of the program will be.

Mayor Horner: We have some written material in draft form that I'd be glad to share with you. It's by no means a final assessment but it's things we're working on. We feel we need to have some very

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basic guidelines for rental property. We've had some people come to us who have issues with landlords that shouldn't be issues with their landlord. The idea with the rental property is to have basic concepts of what the maintenance and upkeep should be.

Dennis Golding: Will this be a code you folks vote on or the people will vote on?

Mayor Horner: It will be in the form of an ordinance and a registration form we'll eventually vote on.

Dennis Golding: As a property owner and taxpayer of La Junta, in the past I've done my best job to maintain my trees and take care of them. I have participated in the City's Tree Program. This latest storm we had caused havoc with the trees. I was out yesterday and today dealing with those branches. My concern is that I've seen in the past, the City has gone in using taxpayers' dollars to help clean up different things of property owners who are negligent. Maybe I'm wrong; maybe there was some kind of charge to the homeowner. In doing the work today, I've had mixed comments from people. I know a lot of people are just pushing the branches out into the street and their hope is and they've heard that the City is just going to come clean them up. As a responsible taxpayer, at least let us know what the guidelines are. I think it's the property owners responsibility to do that and not the City. I would like the City to use my tax dollars in other ways, like fix the streets and potholes and stuff. Do something good for all of us and not just help out the delinquent property owners.

City Manager Klein: Dennis on those ones where we go in and chop them out of the Right-of-Way after that, we charge the property owner. On this storm, just like in 2006, 1997 and 1991, in 1991 we had to have the National Guard come in and help clean the community. This storm isn't as bad as some of those other ones. We are making one round through to get them off the Right-of-Way because people are just throwing them out there. I did stop everybody from going out to the tree dump.

Dennis Golding: I do appreciate you opening up 3rd and Adams.

City Manager Klein: After we make this one sweep through then we're done because a lot of these are coming out of your backyards.

Dennis Golding: I guess the next time I won't spend my effort and time to. . . . I'll just push them out for the City to do it.

City Manager Klein: What I'm trying to do is get people to hopefully take them over to Adams.

Dennis Golding: They're pushing them from their backyards all the way to the front street.

City Manager Klein: Some people don't have trailers though.

Dennis Golding: But there's people in this community who are struggling and would like to do some extra work and they can help by volunteering or for a small fee help somebody out. But when the City jumps in there and does it, they just say they're not interested in paying somebody to go to the dump because the City's going to do it. I'm frustrated that I do my part and I pay taxes. Certainly, certain people need the help and I think that's why we had La Junta Cares and different organizations for people who really do need the help. But I think there's a lot of property owners that own more than one property. I know of one specifically because they were right there to where I was working today and they're just pushing it to the streets and letting the City take care of it because they don't want to spend the money to do it and so my tax money goes to do it. I'm not real pleased with that.

2. Cheryl Lindner, 16 E. 22nd Street: To follow Dennis, there is conversation out there that if you put those tree limbs in the street the City will come and pick them up. If that's not the plan, then you might want to give some clarification. Also, if you could give us an idea where we're at on the

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La Junta Comprehensive Plan. We've had the consultant groups come down twice now, we've had a couple of community discussions, what's the next phase?

Darren Adame, Director of Engineering: By the end of June we'll have everything from Matrix and ready for City Council and the Planning Commission. That will be the last phase, which is a three week process.

City Attorney Malouff: Referring back to the issue on the streets, people do take advantage of the City. The catch twenty-two is that when there are obstructions out in the thoroughfare, (curb to curb), obstructions that are not removed in a timely manner by the City creates a liability for the City. So if we ignored the tree limbs that are out in the thoroughfare, we are in essence creating a liability for ourselves. If we pick them up, people are going to take advantage and take this as an opportunity for somebody else to do their work. The bottom line, the City doesn't have much choice other than to remove obstructions that exist in the thoroughfare.

3. William Macdonald, 706 Raton Avenue: I'm trying to figure out if we can go ahead and deal with the nuisance barking at 622 Raton. I have had continued problems with this because its been set aside by Mr. Malouff twice now I think. Rick tells me I should go and see the police, then what happens is, I would have to sign a complaint. I would then ask Mr. Malouff what are you going to do with the complaint. Is he going to process it and bring it to the court or not?

City Attorney Malouff: Mr. Macdonald's comments are incorrect. There is currently a complaint outstanding against the owner of the dog at 622 Raton. In addition to that, there are administrative actions being taken unbeknownst to Mr. Macdonald. Coincidentally, there are violations pending against him. So there are a lot of things that is going on here that are not correctly stated by Mr. Macdonald.

William Macdonald: So you are moving forward with the nuisance barking at 622 Raton?

City Attorney Malouff: As I've indicated to you Mr. Mayor these are matters that are pending.

City Manager Klein: Now which of the three dogs are you complaining about?

William Macdonald: This one that have continued not to deal with the nuisance barking. They need help to figure out they need to deal with it because they're not dealing with it on their own. Unfortunately, I have tried to keep open communication with my neighbors. If my neighbors are not wanting to have civil communications with me than my only resort is to go to the police. Unfortunately that's how it played out. I'm basically a civil person and come here to council. I'm not that much different when I talk to people at their homes. I'm respectful towards them. They aren't willing to engage in civil discourse then my only recourse is to take it to the police and get the owner to deal with the nuisance barking. I'm the one who lives there but Rick and Phil both know about it. It's distant from where they live. I've seen people checking out only really briefly. The problem with 622 Raton is that it turns into every five minutes that the dogs barking. It's a day in, day out nuisance barking. It really is a problem or me.

4. Tracy Taullie, 4 College Ct and Martha Mondragon, 423 Lacey Ave: This is the only residence on this street, everything else is pretty much business. She's just inside the City limits. She has recently gotten a summons that stated that she needs to get rid of five of her animals. There's an ordinance that says you can only have a maximum of three animals in the City of La Junta (cats and dogs). I would be surprised if a lot of people were even aware of this ordinance. Mrs. Mondragon has been a good citizen of the City of La Junta for over sixty years; she's lived at that residence for 58 years. She does have eight dogs. Four of them she's had for six to ten years. The last four that she got she got three in a half years ago. She takes very good care of these dogs. They live in the house with her, they have a very large fenced area and get plenty of exercise. She does have a couple of the businesses around her that are willing to sign letters that the dogs are not a nuisance or an issue at all. Normal dogs do bark when things are going on around them then they settle

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down. Now barking for almost twenty minutes like this gentleman said I can see to be a nuisance. What we're hoping is that maybe there is some way to grandfather her in. The law is very difficult to find. I've been here practicing sixteen years and I have never had this come up as an issue for a client. I had no idea La Junta had an ordinance on the number of dogs you could have. The ordinance isn't even in your Municipal Code, it's hidden in your Zoning Code. These animals are not a nuisance to others and haven't been for years so she can get grandfathered in. She's willing to not get any more animals. As they die off, she's not going to get more. If you're not able to do this, she is more than willing to leave La Junta than to give up her animals because they're her family. That's like asking her to pick one of her kids to give away.

Martha Mondragon: My dogs are rescue dogs that came to my yard. I do everything for my dogs. They are healthier than some children in this town.

Tracy Taullie: I just feel bad for her. She came in crying because they've actually been coming by and filming her dogs. I assume it's trying to get footage on the noise ordinance. I just didn't think this is what we want for our citizens. We want to keep our good law abiding citizens in La Junta. The last thing you should want is for them to feel like they have to move out of the City for something like this. If this is something we're going to start enforcing, we need to make sure that all of the citizens of La Junta are aware of it. You can't really prosecute one person if you're not willing to prosecute them all.

Mayor Horner: At this point, let us take it under advisement. We will have this as one of our topics at our next work session. I appreciate your input and what's at work. Part of the problem is, some of these ordinances have been on the books for years but we never enforced them. We're having a lot of people coming in now saying that we're tired of having all these ordinances and nothings being done about it. So, we're beginning to get things done and these are some of the issues that we're going to have to work out.

Council Member Pruyn: I have a question, do we know if its complaint based or if it's just because we've hired a new Code Enforcement Officer. So its not complaint based?

City Manager Klein: We're working on different blocks of the community with junk vehicles and enforcing the ordinances.

Council Member Pruyn: I don't think it's a problem to have a later discussion about it but my worry is for her and her animals now.

Martha Mondragon: I also want to say that I would rather move from La Junta than euthanize my dogs.

Council Member Pruyn: And we don't want that.

Martha Mondragon: It would be very sad in my life. I also take care of my brother who is physically disabled for the last thirty-one years. They are my life.

Council Member Pruyn: I have to vouch for you because you probably don't remember that my husband and I did windows for you. And she does take care of her animals. My personal opinion is it's not so much about quantity but the care. Maybe the ordinance needs to be revisited.

City Attorney Malouff: I respect everything that you've said. I hope that everyone appreciates what a lousy circumstance this is because when ordinances are created, you're going to have people who obey the law and people who try to take advantage. Council's direction to City Management was to hire another Code Officer and enforce the code. Unfortunately, that in some cases is going to step on peoples toes. Maybe some people get caught in the cross fire. Technically there's a violation. The Code Enforcement Officer looks at the rules and writes the ticket. You have on one hand people saying, "strict enforcement of the ordinance"; on the other hand, you have somebody saying,

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“ignore the ordinance.” The Code Enforcement Officer takes direction from the Council. There’s the possibility of a kennel license.

Tracy Taullie: I was going to ask that if she couldn’t do that, could she apply for an animal sanctuary?

City Attorney Malouff: Those are all options. She should explore all of her options. She may fit into one of those categories. The government doesn’t have the solution to everyone’s problems.

Council Member Pruyn: My thing is, if we move over to the cats which are what I have.

Tracy Taullie: That’s the thing too, your ordinances does not separate them. There are a lot of cats.

Council Member Pruyn: If a homeowner is willing to take in those cats, then those animals don’t become a nuisance and they don’t go live under your porches, which is what they do when no one takes them in. I know people that have ten cats that live on their property.

Tracy Taullie: As far as I know, the City isn’t willing to deal with the cats. I really do think the ordinance needs to be re-addressed and somewhere where people can actually find it. I think this would need to be put into the paper that you’re going to start enforcing these codes.

Mayor Horner: In the next two to three weeks we’ll get back to her and convey what has been decided.

5. Doris Gumke, 1312 Adams Avenue: We do animal rescue here in town. Cats are everywhere. We take cats in, spay or neuter them, give them their shots, snip their ear so you know they will no longer contribute to the problem. We are working with the animal assistance out of Denver. We are also working with groups out of Colorado Springs. On May 15, 16, 17 and 18 we will be working together on trapping feral cats. All will be fixed, vaccinated and its free to us.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Temporary Modification of Premises – Tavern Liquor License for Red Dog Revisited, LLC d/b/a Red Dog Revisited, 709 E. 3rd Street for the following days: June 10, June 24, July 8, July 22, and August 5 from 7:00 a.m. until Midnight.** The tavern owner wants permission to use the parking area in front of the tavern on five different dates throughout the summer. The application is in order and has been reviewed by City supervisors for compliance with City and State codes and in particular the City Zoning Ordinance.

MOTION TO GRANT TEMPORARY MODIFICATION OF PREMISES TO RED DOG REVISITED, 709 E. 3RD STREET: Goodwin

SECOND: Pruyn

DISCUSSION: None

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

- B. Tourism Board Recommendations for Funding.**

- 1. \$300.00 to Inspiration Field for Cinco De Mayo marketing.**

MOTION TO APPROVE THE EXPENDITURE OF TOURISM TAX REVENUE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$300.00 TO INSPIRATION FIELD FOR CINCO DE MAYO MARKETING: Pruyn

SECOND: Velasquez

DISCUSSION: None

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

2. \$825.00 to Visit Denver for membership and brochure distribution.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE EXPENDITURE OF TOURISM TAX REVENUE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$825.00 TO VISIT DENVER FOR MEMBERSHIP AND BROCHURE DISTRIBUTION:
Goodwin

SECOND: Pruyn

DISCUSSION: None

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

3. \$700.00 to Lamar Ledger for advertisement in Discover SE Colorado Magazine.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE EXPENDITURE OF TOURISM TAX REVENUE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$700.00 TO LAMAR LEDGER FOR ADVERTISEMENT IN DISCOVER SE COLORADO MAGAZINE: Pruyn

SECOND: Velasquez

DISCUSSION: None

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

4. Up to \$1500.00 to SOCO Tourism Summit for Visit La Junta Welcome Reception sponsorship.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE EXPENDITURE OF TOURISM TAX REVENUE IN THE AMOUNT OF UP TO \$1500.00 TO SOCO TOURISM SUMMIT FOR VISIT LA JUNTA WELCOME RECEPTION SPONSORSHIP: Pruyn

SECOND: Velasquez

DISCUSSION: None

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

C. A Resolution Concerning the Restatement and the Amendment of the City of La Junta Police Department Money Purchase Pension Plan (2017). . Resolution No. R-10-2017 was presented for Council's consideration as follows:

WHEREAS, the City of La Junta, (hereinafter referred to as "City") maintains a defined contribution Police Department Money Purchase Pension Plan for certain eligible employees; and

WHEREAS, the Plan is named the "City of La Junta Police Department Money Purchase Pension Plan", hereinafter referred to as the "Plan";

WHEREAS, the City wishes to restate the Plan, to include various changes which are required or which may be permitted by applicable current tax laws;

WHEREAS, said changes are as follows:

- A. The Plan Administrator is the City of La Junta, with the Chief of Police acting as the Authorized Signee. The current Chief of Police is Todd Quick.

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- B. The Plan Provider is designated as "Mass Mutual Financial Group".
- C. The Third Party Plan Administrator is "Goldleaf Partners Employer Services".
- D. The local plan broker/dealer is designated to be "Edward D. Jones" of La Junta, Colorado.
- E. The effective date will be as soon as possible but no later than July 31, 2017.

WHEREAS, after review, the City Council believes the changes to be appropriate to be made to the Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Plan Committee has approved the changes and has recommended that the City implement the changes;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council that the Plan is restated and amended in the form set forth above.

MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. R-10-2017: Pruyn

SECOND: Eckhart

DISCUSSION: None

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

D. Committee/Board Reports

1. Council Member Pruyn (Tree Board) – Arbor Day celebration will be May 19th at 10:00 a.m. at City Park.
2. Council Member Velasquez (AVRMC Board) – The financials were approved and we reviewed the annual business plan.

E. City Manager's Comments

1. Code enforcement going strong!

Council Member Pruyn: What bothers me about the animal one is that I think there's other things that take precedence. When we start getting into how many families, including myself, that have more than three animals, we're going to have this room more full than we did for the nursing home. So we can open that can of worms. I think taking her dogs is just overboard to me. That's just my personal opinion.

City Attorney Malouff: I agree with you to the extent that it feels overboard. The Code Enforcement Officers are just trying to do their job they were told to do. They have to try to find ways to time whether the dog is continuously barking or having been provoked or not. Part of the problem that we had with this one citizen is that all the Junior High kids walk by that fence line and the dog barks until that kid is out of sight. Communities have struggled with the concept of how many dogs to have. There's no good answer for that. You can decide to change the ordinance if that's what you decide to do. I'd be happy to do that as long as that's what the

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majority of you want. Any ordinance that we have on code enforcement, I promise you, is going to raise hackles on somebody's neck.

Council Member Pruyn: But on the animal one, don't we have to go into their house to prove it? Whereas, if you have a junk car outside or stuff in your yard. If she put all her dogs in the house, would we have to go in the house to prove there are eight dogs?

City Attorney Malouff: If all the dogs were continually in the house, we wouldn't be here trying to enforce the ordinance because we couldn't prove it. The problem is that she's a responsible pet owner and that ordinance bites.

City Manager Klein: Most of those ordinances are written for 10% of the people and the other 90% have to live with it.

Council Member Pruyn: My question just was, depending on what the ordinance says, does it say you're going to go into someone's residence to find out if they're breaking an ordinance.

City Attorney Malouff: There are ordinances that allow us entry, like a health and welfare check. But, just to go count noses, no we won't enter.

Council Member Pruyn: That's what I wanted to know because that would help people get past that ordinance. Like me, I'm a cat owner, I can get past that very easily. She unfortunately cannot.

Council Member Velasquez: So we urged the City to hire another Code Enforcement Officer. My concern is that they're being told they have a quota. Is that true? That's the word out on the street. I am totally against that if that's the case.

City Manager Klein: We don't do quotas and have never done that. But we do have a new guy.

Council Member Goodwin: Rick in our last meeting the new Code Enforcement Officer was writing some thirty tickets a day.

City Manager Klein: Yes and he's just working his given sector. He's a go-getter. He's an ex-Marine. I have people tell me that Mickey's not doing his job; now I have a guy who's doing a great job. Well?

Council Member Velasquez: That's not fair to say that Mickey wasn't doing his job.

City Manager Klein: Mickey was doing his job. I guarantee it.

Council Member McKenzie: We're the ones who wanted things beefed up. If you look at our goals, the third one down is code enforcement.

Council Member Velasquez: That's not what I'm saying. It's come to my attention that they had a quota and if that's the case, I'm totally against that.

City Manager Klein: Darren, Bill have you ever heard that?

Engineering Director Adame: No sir.

Assistant City Manager Jackson: No sir.

City Attorney Malouff: I've got to defend the Code Officer. I feel sorry for him. It's hard with every police officer in the world but after time, they develop a street sense. Young cops, Code Enforcement Officers, they haven't had the time to develop it or become political about it.

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They're just trying to do what they're told to do because it's their job. If there's a violation, here's a piece of paper and he goes on to the next. We're going to need to struggle with this as a group to give this poor guy some guidance. He shouldn't have to make those tough decisions. You guys are the ones who authorized Rick to hire another person. They did and found a guy who believes in what he's doing. We sure can't rap him on the knuckles for doing what we told him to do.

Paul Velasquez, 1313 Bradish Avenue: I know these ordinances have been on the books for a very long time. Were the new Code Enforcement Officers given any directive to have a ninety day moratorium on some of these ordinances? To give out a written warning before it gets to the summons level. That would be a great way for a new code enforcement guy to go out and meet the citizens.

City Manager Klein: That's what we do Paul, we give out the warnings.

Council Member Goodwin: When I got my thing on my carpet to keep the weeds down. I wasn't given notice. I was given five days to take care of this. A good thing this lady brought up is the Code Enforcement Officer said about the dogs not having a license. When did La Junta drop the dog licensing requirements? Everybody else still has them around but we're not required here in La Junta.

City Attorney Malouff: It's still on the books and enforced.

Council Member Pruyn: I know that Dr. Taullie had come in asking the City to put on a registration fee for your dogs so that they could keep track more. That would keep people from getting too many animals they aren't going to take care of and she said there was a lot of push back on that.

City Attorney Malouff: It's on the books. When somebody takes their dog to get vaccinated and then there's a second step where you go to the City and register it and get a dog license. If someone is cited for a vaccination violation, they are also cited for a registration violation.

Council Member Goodwin: What department do people go to get the City license?

City Attorney Malouff: The City Clerk.

Council Member Goodwin: She says that she doesn't have the tags.

City Manager Klein: No she doesn't. I recall there used to be when I first came.

Assistant City Manager Jackson: Jan used to give the license being she was the City Clerk. Then it went to when you take your dog or cat in for its vaccination, the veterinarian gives the City license.

Council Member Goodwin: My veterinarian has only given me for the shots and such, never has for City of La Junta.

Assistant City Manager Jackson: Dr. Krugman always gives me a City license for my dog.

Council Member Pruyn: If that's an ordinance, does Code Enforcement have to go and check to make sure every dog has a tag and a registration? So it seems that some things are being enforced and some are not.

Assistant City Manager Jackson: We haven't enforced the dog license. The only dog license we enforce is for vicious dog. And it's a large tag license that they have to wear.

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City Attorney Malouff: Let me throw out one more thing just to show you the complexity of the issue. One of the citizens that appeared here tonight has been very vocal and very aggressive about one man's trash is another man's treasure. Jim brings up an important point here. His carpet is out there, Jim views it as treasure and the enforcement officer visioned it as trash. Then, there's a man who has an old broken down sofa on his porch and he goes out there and plops down there every night and takes a look at the sunset. That's not trash to him but one of his neighbors just complained that it's an eyesore. It doesn't matter which one of these ordinances you pick, you're just going to get blasted at every turn. I would implore you to, if you want strict enforcement, which is the mandate I think you last gave us, then you're going to have some tough moments here.

Assistance City Manager Jackson: The job of the young man doing the code enforcement is for compliance. We're not looking to penalize anybody. We're asking them to comply. That's why there's five days to remedy a situation rather than getting a ticket, a monetary fine.

Council Member Pruyn: But what will happen if she doesn't get rid of her dogs? Will we physically go in and take her dogs off that property or will the court go take her dogs?

City Attorney Malouff: She's going to get fined for it and in theory she could be fined every day into eternity. That's going to be tough if it gets to my level. We won't confiscate them yet, but that is an alternative eventually.

Assistant City Manager Jackson: It's probably a zoning issue as far as a kennel being allowed. There are remedies for that which is an application for a special permit through the Board of Adjustment. There's always a remedy, solution to the problem.

Council Member Goodwin: She's already threatening to leave. I'm one dog over. I won't get rid of one of my kids at all. I'll move out of the City limits. There are a lot of households that have a lot more than that.

Assistant City Manager Jackson: Most of the time, the Code Enforcement Officer is made aware of a situation based on a complaint.

Council Member Pruyn: The thing about your thirty some complaints is like he just goes door to door and tries to find something and then on to the next one. He's not like looking for things that are a problem in the community but actually going and searching out problems in the community. There is a different.

Council Member Velasquez: I am totally for enforcement. I think there needs to be consistency and we're not being consistent. My proposal would be to bring him back in and get a training plan together because I think the idea of going out there and making a repore with the community should be step one. You don't go out there and just give them a citation right off the bat. I don't think that's fair.

Assistant City Manager Jackson: The Chief and the Deputy Chief did take those people in and made them read the codes and actually trained them and went out with them. They've been given sectors so that they're not overlapping each other. So these guys are methodically going from this piece to the next piece.

City Manager Klein: The good news is that we're cleaning out sections of this community. It's making a difference.

Mayor Horner: I've heard from several people that say this new Code Enforcement Officer handles himself very professionally. They accept what he has to say but does handle himself in a gracious way.

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Assistant City Manager Jackson: I can guarantee that the code officers do not and have not been given quotas.

City Attorney Malouff: If its important to know how many tickets have been entered, let's ask the Department of Public Safety to give us the pertinent information. For curiosity, if you want to find out if it was a complaint with this lady, we can find that out as well.

Council Member Eckhart: I would like to say, since I've started, the vast majority of people that come in and wanting something done about code enforcement, are talking about trees, weeds, cars, junk. This seemed to be the reason everybody was discussing the increase of code enforcement. Now we've thrown the dogs in there; whereas, I've only heard from one individual that's complained about dogs. Perhaps, what we need to do is give some kind of directive to focus on the things that the citizens are talking about which are the trees, weeds and the junk. Then we can readdress the rules regarding dogs and dissolve this issue from the enforcement officer.

City Attorney Malouff: You're the policy setting board. If you're judgment is to take the dog issue down to the lowest possible level and the junk vehicles to the highest possible level, I welcome that, if that's what you want. This body has to agree on that and that gives direction to the Police Department. That is certainly one solution.

MOTION TO MAKE A MORITORIAM ON THE ENFORCEMENT OR PROSECUTION OF ANIMAL RELATED VIOLATIONS, OTHER THAN COMPLAINT DRIVEN AND VICIOUS DOG ISSUES UNTIL DECEMBER 1, 2017: Goodwin

SECOND: Pruyn

DISCUSSION: There was no further discussion.

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

2. Working on tree limb clean-up
3. KOA is celebrating their one year anniversary.
4. We had 220+ registrants for Mud-Sport

F. City Attorney's Comments

1. **CML/CIRSA Spring Outreach – May 4th from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. at Senior Center.** Please keep this on your calendar. I can't talk about it enough!

G. Governing Body's Comments

MAYOR HORNER: The Mayor encouraged all of Council to look over the ARPA/City of Lamar settlement.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

CITY OF LA JUNTA

ATTEST:

Lynn Horner, Mayor

Melanie R. Scofield, City Clerk