

Subject to approval at  
the December 4, 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 Monday, November 20, 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
- 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
  - Todd Quick, Chief of Police
  - Aliza Libby-Tucker, Director of Finance
  - Darren Adame, Director of Engineering
  - Aimee Hill, Engineering Dept
  - Paula Mahoney, Administration
  - Susan Elliott, 1310 Lincoln Ave
  - Gary Cranson, ARPA Representative
  - Joe Ayala, 1517 San Juan Ave
  - Paul Velasquez, 1313 Bradish Ave
  - Mike Pruyn, 5 Circle Dr
  - Elaine McIntyre, 2022 Cimarron Ave
  - Eugene Mestas, 1203 Grace Ave
  - Beverly Babb, 1120 W. 12<sup>th</sup> St
  - Norma Eckhart, 1701 Carson Ave
  - Ray Salas, La Junta
  - Cheryl Lindner, 16 E. 22<sup>nd</sup> St
  - Nancy Bennett, 422 San Juan Ave
  - Matthew McIntyre, La Junta
  - Ron Hall, 510 Smithland Ave
  - Glenn Parker, La Junta
  - Janis Mader, 710 Rice Ave
  - Dan Christie, 110 E. 1<sup>st</sup> St
  - Jake Pruyn, 14 W 3<sup>rd</sup> St
  - Cameron Salzbrenner, 22 Chaparral Cr
  - Tracey Salzbrenner, 22 Chaparral Cr
  - Cathy Lease, La Junta
  - Rose Trujillo, La Junta
  - Nita Ornelas, La Junta

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Arlene Salazar, 318 Belleview Ave  
 William Macdonald, 706 Raton Ave  
 Bette McFarren, La Junta Tribune Democrat

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:** Mayor Horner asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of November 6, 2017. Council Member Vela had an addition regarding the selling price of the property to the County. He asked what the selling price was and City Manager Klein said it was sold at the appraised price of \$335,000. Hearing no further corrections, the Mayor declared the minutes approved as amended.

**PRESENTATION OF YEARS OF SERVICE PLAQUES TO OUTGOING COUNCIL MEMBERS:** City Manager Rick Klein thanked the outgoing council for their volunteerism and the care they have for their community.

Lynn Horner (November 2013 – November 2017)  
 Betty Velasquez (July 2011 – November 2017)  
 Frank McKenzie (October 2012 – November 2017)

**OATH OF OFFICE TO NEWLY ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBERS**

The City Clerk administered the oath of office to newly elected Council Members Eugene Mestas, Ward 1, Elaine McIntyre, Ward 2 and Scott Eckhart, Ward 3. She then administered the oath to newly elected Mayor, Jeffri Pruyn.

Madam Mayor Pruyn: I want to thank Lynn Horner. Lynn and I came to City Council together four years ago; we had a lot of the same visions and goals. I will be continuing with Re-Imagine La Junta and our Comprehensive Plan. I will miss Lynn on council but I know he's taking on a larger task with the Health Service District and I can say with all confidence that La Junta is once again lucky to have you on such an important project as the nursing home. I also want to say thank you to Betty and Frank. They were both on council when I came on and they have been instrumental in teaching me and giving me the knowledge I needed to be on council. I hope to do you both proud and I will miss you two also. I wanted to thank Pam Denahy and all of her volunteers. If it wasn't for their tireless work putting together the information on the nursing home and the health district and the 1% we needed to pass, I don't know if that would have went through. We owe them a huge thank you. I want to say thank you to my family. They stand by me for everything I do. I want to thank Ed Vela who ran a good campaign. I also want to say thank you to Ardeth Sneath, she broke the glass ceiling in La Junta for females to be Mayors. Also, welcome to all the council members. I am so looking forward to working with you all for the next two years.

**ELECTION OF MAYOR PRO-TEM**

Madam Mayor Pruyn opened the floor to nominations for Mayor Pro Tem. Eugene Mestas nominated Edward Vela. Elaine McIntyre nominated Jim Goodwin. Those voting for Edward Vela: Eckhart, Vela, Mestas. Those voting for Jim Goodwin: Goodwin, McIntyre, Pruyn. Because there was a tie, City Attorney recommended appointing an Acting Mayor Pro Tem until the final seventh seat has been filled. Madam Mayor Pruyn appointed Jim Goodwin as Acting Mayor Pro Tem.

**DECLARATION OF CITY COUNCIL VACANCY – WARD 2**

Madam Mayor Pruyn declared the Ward 2 vacancy. Letters of Interest will be received through December 15 at 5:00 p.m.

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

1. William Macdonald, 706 Raton Ave.: (Read a poem) I've been battling the City with code enforcement. We're all on good terms that's why we're all here trying to work things out.

## CITY COUNCIL MEETING – November 20, 2017

## NEW BUSINESS

## A. Liquor Licenses

1. **Application for a Special Event Permit by Otero Junior College Foundation, Brooke Matthew, Event Manager. The event is the Ag Gala Fundraiser to be held December 31, 2017 from 7:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. at 2001 San Juan Avenue (Student Center).** 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 OTERO JUNIOR COLLEGE FOUNDATION FOR AN EVENT TO BE HELD DECEMBER 31, 2017 FROM 7:00 P.M. TO 1:00 A.M. AT 2001 SAN JUAN AVENUE: Vela

SECOND: Eckhart

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 6-0 (Ward 2 vacancy)

2. **Application for Renewal of a Tavern Liquor License by Ross V. Leyba, d/b/a B.J.'s Sports Bar, 10 E. 2<sup>nd</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 RENEWAL OF A TAVERN LIQUOR LICENSE BY ROSS V. LEYBA, D/B/A B.J.'S SPORTS BAR, 10 E. 2<sup>ND</sup> STREET: McIntyre

SECOND: Mestas

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 6-0 (Ward 2 vacancy)

3. **Application for Renewal of a Tavern Liquor License by Eagle Lanes LLC, d/b/a Eagle Lanes, 2420 San Juan Avenue.** 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 with the Fire Department. Appropriate fees have been tendered and the City Attorney recommends approval.

MOTION TO GRANT A RENEWAL OF A TAVERN LIQUOR LICENSE BY EAGLE LANES LLC, D/B/A EAGLE LANES, 2420 SAN JUAN AVENUE: Mestas

SECOND: Goodwin

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 6-0 (Ward 2 vacancy)

4. **Application for Renewal of a 3.2% Beer Off Premises Liquor License by Love's Travel Stops & Country Stores Inc., d/b/a Loves Country Store No. 12, 308 E. 1<sup>st</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 RENEWAL OF A 3.2% BEER OFF PREMISES LIQUOR LICENSE BY LOVE'S TRAVEL STOPS & COUNTRY STORES INC., D/B/A LOVES COUNTRY STORE NO. 12, 308 E. 1<sup>ST</sup> STREET: Goodwin

SECOND: Mestas

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 6-0 (Ward 2 vacancy)

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING – November 20, 2017****B. Committee/Board Reports**

1. Council Member Goodwin (Retirement Board): The Board met the other day to help an employee with some financial troubles on dental work that was performed.
2. Council Member Vela (Planning Commission): The Board met but didn't have a quorum so we will be rescheduling that meeting in the next few weeks.

**C. City Manager's Comments**

1. Taxi-way at Airport is being prepped and should be paved next week.
2. We had sixty kids (8 teams) signed up for K-2 Basketball.
3. Taking registrations for 3-6 Basketball through the 22<sup>nd</sup>. We are in need of coaches.
4. Valley Pipeline replaced 540 feet of water main at the Cemetery.
5. New liner at the swimming pool is in and done.
6. Demolition of both houses on 8<sup>th</sup> Street between Grace Avenue and Edison Avenue.
7. TLM helped us patch this last week.
8. Been taking down all of the trees in the Anderson.
9. Southeast Health Group received a grant for a 9-hole disc golf located at the base of 10<sup>th</sup> Street.
10. Have ordered two new sanitation trucks to be here in March of 2018.
11. Pouring the second clarifier at the Waste Water Treatment Plant.
12. Hopefully we'll get another patch out by the end of the year.
13. Down to our final two projects for the 2017 Sidewalk Program.
14. Thank Council for keeping up this program because it is making a difference in our community.
15. Also have the new generator at the 911 tower.

Council Member McIntyre: When can you apply again for the program?

City Manager Klein: Next year will be for Commercial and applications will begin after the first of the year.

Council Member Goodwin: The Christmas lights will be energized this coming week and the one's on the poles will be turned on Thanksgiving Eve. There is one tree I want to complain about and that's the one up at the nursing home. They've got a lot of lights at the bottom, a lot of lights at the top, but right in the middle, there's a great big ugly hole. Would you have the guys look at that?

City Manager Klein: The one by nursing home east? I'll have it looked at.

Madam Mayor Prunyn: I've also noticed some of the bulbs in the globes downtown are out.

City Manager Klein: We'll check on those too.

Council Member Mestas: Could you explain to the public about the airport resurfacing and where the money comes from?

Assistant City Manager Jackson: The airport program participates with the Federal Aviation Administration and the State of Colorado Aeronautics Division. The majority of the monies for this year is the final phase of the taxi-way. \$600,000 comes from Federal Aviation, \$33,000 comes from State Aeronautics and the other \$33,000 comes from us (which was budgeted last year).

**D. City Attorney's Comments**

I would like to give my sincerest appreciation to the former Mayor and former Council Members. And to the new Council Members, welcome back, it's nice to have familiar faces.

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**E. Governing Body's Comments**

1. Council Member Goodwin: I would like to remind people to take down voting signs if they're still on their properties. I would also like to remind people that we have a lot of vacancies for the different Boards for the City of La Junta. Last but not least, the employees of the City of La Junta have a Christmas party every year. Out of every department they donate money to make Christmas baskets for silent auction to raise money for a scholarship. I would like to challenge the former members of council and the current members of council to donate some money so that the City Council can have at least one basket.
2. Council Member Vela: I would like to commend the Recreation Department, Brad Swartz and Brock Hinkhouse, and the long period of time that the City provides youth recreation. It has amounted to show significant results, particularly on the football field. Each of those kids that are on the State Championship team this weekend all came through the La Junta Parks & Rec football. That's a very good program.
3. Council Member McIntyre: I would like to thank everybody who came out and voted. Welcome to everyone else who got voted in. I hope that I can be a voice for the community. I also thank my family for being here and for supporting me.
4. Madam Mayor Pruyn: We have some Boards that are open that require a council person to be on. I would like to see everybody on at least two Boards. A few of our Boards have been filled, so I thank those people. I've heard some comments from the community that they would like for us to do ward meetings. I realize its really hard to continue to do these. What I would like to see us do is get together for a meet and greet a couple of times a year. I've also had a few people come to me who are interested in seeing our council meetings on a live podcast for people who work the evenings or have kids who go to bed early. I would like to look into a way we can do that. I've also had some interest on maybe having council meetings a little earlier. We can talk about these things at future meetings.
5. Council Member Vela: Are we still going to have work sessions?
6. Madam Mayor Pruyn: Yes and we'll probably plan one right after the first of the year.
7. Council Member Vela: What about the animal thing we're supposed to do?
8. Madam Mayor Pruyn: We'll discuss that at the next work session.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

CITY OF LA JUNTA

ATTEST:

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Jeffri Pruyn, Madam Mayor

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Melanie R. Scofield, City Clerk