

*Subject to approval at the
June 12, 2018
City Council Meeting*

CITY OF LA JUNTA)
COUNTY OF OTERO) SS
STATE OF COLORADO)

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Utilities Commissioners of the City of La Junta, Colorado, was called to order by Chairman Lorenz Sutherland on Tuesday, May 8, 2018, at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building.

Roll was called and the following Board Members were present:

Present Mike Bourget, Commissioner
 Jim Goodwin, Commissioner
 Frank McKenzie, Vice-Chairman
 Jeffri Pruyn, Mayor
 P. Lorenz Sutherland, Chairman

Absent: None

Also present: Rick Klein, City Manager
 Bill Jackson, Asst. City Manager
 Phil Malouff Jr., City Attorney
 Melanie Scofield, City Clerk
 Tom Seaba, Administrative Coordinator
 Rick Gumke, Line Crew Chief
 Darren Adame, Director of Engineering
 Aliza Libby-Tucker, Director of Finance
 Gary Cranson, ARPA Representative
 Elaine McIntyre, Council Member
 Rick Rigel, ARPA General Manager
 Samantha Weiss, Utility Office
 Kathy DelRio, La Junta
 Tom Martin, La Junta
 Randall Roberson, La Junta
 Gordon French, La Junta
 RaeAnn Waggoner, La Junta
 Dan DiRizza, La Junta
 Bette McFarren, Tribune Democrat

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Chairman Sutherland asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 10, 2018. Hearing none, he declared the minutes approved as published.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION (All participation is in regards to landowner liability for unpaid utilities)

1. Tom Martin: Forty-five percent of La Junta housing is owned by landlords. It seems like we're being penalized and it just doesn't seem fair to make this issue our problem. The City just does what they want.
2. Randall Roberson: How did the City reach the conclusion that it should be the landlord's responsibility? I don't like the idea of having a committee for discussion when there is no logic to it.
3. Gordon French: First you take away the landlord agreement. This is not my problem. You need to leave the landlord out of it. Having a discussion is totally wrong. You're just looking for people for an escape.
4. RaeAnn Waggoner: I like the idea of doing a credit check. By doing this, you would be able to charge higher deposits.

A committee was formed to continue discussion of this matter: Gordon French, Jim Goodwin, Aliza Libby-Tucker, Rick Klein, and Dean Malouff.

TRI-STATE TRANSACTION, RICK RIGEL, GENERAL MANAGER-ARPA

Rick Rigel, General Manager of ARPA shared the following information with the Board:

- Transaction Options
 1. Close with Tri-State in time frame that eliminates need for ARPA to refund bonds,
 2. Tri-State transaction likely, but not within necessary time frame – ARPA would issue bonds with extraordinary call, or
 3. Tri-State deal terminates – ARPA goes to bond market as initially planned.
- Contract Negotiations/Assignments
- Transaction Completion Schedule
- Bond Refunding – Defeasance
- ARPA Assets – Diesels, Willow Creek Transmission, natural gas pipeline, office building, mobile substation, “Ratzlaff” property, 2017 Ford Edge.
- Cash Equity and Obligations
- Bond Refunding – Defeasance Schedule

REPORTS

A. Water & Wastewater Treatment. Tom Seaba gave the following report:

1. R.O. Plant
 - Repaired a leak and a pressure gauge on a vessel on RO “A”.
 - Adjusted all SCADA radio transmitters and reset to correct parameters.
 - Installed new overflow alarm on cleaning tank.
 - Painting and other well house maintenance on wells 1, 11, and 12.
2. Distribution
 - Split services at Red Lion/Dickies BBQ
 - Installed several new services.
 - Completed work with MASTEC as they bored in a new fiber network for Viaero.
 - Installation work at new WWTP.
 - New fire suppression line at Star Cleaners.
3. Wastewater
 - Plant treated effluent flow discharged 31.956 million gallons and removed 21 ft³ of screenings and 3 ft³ of grit.
 - Jetted 3,161 feet of main.
 - With help from the street department, a manhole near 14th and Maple that was buried under decades of construction spoils was excavated and a major blockage cleared. The area is now on a list for quarterly cleaning.
 - New plant progress listed at 41% complete.
4. All Departments
 - Attended backflow prevention regulations and enforcement seminar in Pueblo West.
 - Training sessions in Limon on May 10th, Pueblo West on May 17th.
 - Weed control.
 - Meter reading.
 - Summer help will start first full week of June.

B. Power Distribution. Rick Gumke gave the following report in Reuben’s absence:

1. Line Crew
 - Mobile sub training with ARPA cities.
 - Worked on sprinkler system at rodeo ground and street lights on West 3rd Street.
 - Reading meters, helped service man with cut-offs.
 - Gave West well field an outage to turn the tabs up on transformer to up the voltage.
 - Rotating poles at the warehouse.
 - Crew working on four more street lights on West 3rd Street.

- Worked on lights in the warehouse and at CDS office on South San Juan.
- Changed jumpers on transformer at 509 Lincoln.
- Trimmed tree on road way because of broke tree branches hanging over road.
- Cleaning up the old light poles in back of light plant.
- Had two poles go down in wind storm plus some services due to trees and tree limbs.
- Performed some maintenance on AB 52-6.
- Training on the new mapping system for the city map.
- Replaced some more speakers at the race track.
- Loaded wire reels on trailer to loan to Las Animas so they can pull in three conductors at once for an underground feed they have a fault on.
- Hooked electric trailer at Vets Ball field for the ball games.
- Took down tree at 702 Smithland to clear our line.

C. Power Plant. Bill Jackson gave the following report:

1. The phase 2 report for the decommissioning process of the plant will cost us around \$114,000.00. I need permission from the Board to authorize the \$114,900 needed to proceed. This will be a budget amendment to the electric department.

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE CITY MANAGEMENT TO CONTINUE WITH PHASE 2 IN THE APPROXIMATE AMOUNT OF \$115,000.00 WHICH WILL BE REFLECTED IN A BUDGET AMENDMENT AT THE END OF THE YEAR: Goodwin

SECOND: McKenzie

DISCUSSION: There was no further discussion

VOTE: The motion carried unanimously

D. Sanitation. Darren Adame gave the following report:

1. Year-to-date numbers are as follows:
 - Special pickups down by 19
 - 40-yard boxes up by 4
 - 20-yard boxes up by 6
 - Containers from the shop down by 7
 - Compactor Box Service down by 3
 - New dumpster up by 2
 - New 40-yard box rents down by 1
 - New 20-yard box rents up by 1

NEW BUSINESS

A. City Manager's Comments.

1. No comments.

B. City Attorney's Comments.

1. No comments.

C. Governing Body's Comments.

1. Commissioner Bourget: What kind of numbers are we seeing on the dormant utility fees?

Aliza Libby-Tucker: At last count, there were 142 accounts being billed.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

CITY OF LA JUNTA

ATTEST:

P. Lorenz Sutherland, Chairman

Melanie R. Scofield, City Clerk