

**Subject to approval at the
October 9, 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, September 11, 2018, at 4:00 p.m. in the Power Board Room 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
 Phil Malouff Jr., City Attorney
 Debra Fraker, Admin. Asst.
 Reuben DeLeon, Electric Superintendent
 Darren Adame, Director of Engineering
 Aliza Libby-Tucker, Director of Finance
 Gary Cranson, ARPA Representative
 Edward Vela, Council Member
 Elaine McIntyre, Council Member
 Kathy DelRio, 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 August 14, 2018. Hearing none, he declared the minutes approved as published.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

1. Edward Vela, Council Member: People still are not happy with the sanitation alley clean-up. One asked about dirt and landscaping rocks left in the alley.

Darren Adame: We haven't received hardly any complaints in the Engineering Department. We probably have only received four or five complaints, if that.

Edward Vela: How high are the dumpsters?

Darren Adame: Four feet. The back gate will not be left open due to liability issues.

Vice-Chairman McKenzie: Last year we had a count on how many yards or dumpsters we took. Let's do that again so we have a way to measure.

City Manager Klein: Yes sir.

Darren Adame: We are also going to keep the compactor open five days a week.

REPORTS

A. Water & Wastewater Treatment. Rick Klein gave the following report in Tom's absence:

1. R.O. Plant
 - Repairs on well #4, #8, #11. (Control valves, relays, fuses).
 - Replace three fuses on finish water pumps lost with power bumps on 09/03/18.
 - Repaired turbidimeter, back-wash meter.
 - Routine maintenance on raw and finished water panels, chlorine systems, caustic system, A/C systems.
 - Mowing and week control.
2. Distribution
 - Replaced/repaired hydrant and line at 2nd & Bradish.
 - Meter pit leak repairs and replacements.
 - Completed water quality testing for Lead & Copper (thank you to the home owners who assist us with this task), disinfection by-products, and ten other monitoring tests. Lead & copper results are made available to home owners upon receipt of the results. All other results will be available in our 2018 Consumer Confidence Report, which is published no later than June 30th, 2019.
3. Wastewater
 - Treated 30.95 million gallons. Removed 34 ft³ of screenings and 28 ft³ of grit.
 - Jetted 2,431 feet of main in emergency calls and 24,550 feet in annual jetting program.
 - Replacing seven to ten manhole lids and covers between 1st and 2nd Streets from Bradish to Steen. A rain guard insert will be placed in each manhole.
 - New plant rated at 66% complete.
 - October 4th: Tour of WWTP by the Colorado Water Resource Power Development Authority. Tour begins at 4:00 p.m.
4. All Departments
 - Several employees to training classes this month.
 - Certification testing on September 21st.
 - New hired to distribution crew starting September 17th.

Commissioner Bourget: I have some questions about the existing plant or plant construction. One of the supervisors asked me what we were going to do with the existing plant.

City Manager Klein: We're going to be about \$2 million short in addition to taking out that old plant. We'll have to do some type of loan from electric over to complete the project because we can't stop now. We're going to limp along the components of the old plant until we can tear them out and see what we can do with our excavator.

Commissioner Bourget: So the demolition was not part of the initial contract?

City Manager Klein: No it wasn't.

Commissioner Bourget: Explain the \$2 million again that you just mentioned.

City Manager Klein: Remember when Joe was saying we need \$2.5 million and we ended up getting \$3 million? That turned out to be a \$5 million deal. This is due to the EPA regulations being upped on us.

Commissioner Bourget: The plant's been under construction for several months, why is this the first time we're hearing anything about it?

City Manager Klein: Because we're just finding it out.

Commissioner Bourget: My other concerns are 66% complete based on something. Based on what? I'd like to see a copy of their schedule.

(Lengthy discussion continued regarding the construction of the new waste water plant and concerns about the importance of seeing documentation.)

B. Power Distribution. Reuben DeLeon gave the following report:

1. Line Crew
 - Working at the Lewis Bolt & Nut Anchor Plant installing a new primary service for the new building that is being erected in New Addition. Primary pipe is in the ground and as soon as the cement is poured, we can set the transformers and terminate primary wires.
 - Finishing up tree trimming for the season on the west loop which is the LP52-2 and the G52-30 which is the downtown area.
 - Built a new transformer station at the Industrial Park to replace the existing station at the Police Gun Range because they have added a new building on the property.
 - Replaced a transformer at Arkansas Valley Regional Medical Center that had burned up on the west side of the building. The 500 KVA transformer was replaced with a 750 KVA transformer. The outage lasted about four hours.

C. Power Plant. Reuben DeLeon gave the following report in Bill Jackson's absence:

1. HDR came in and we should have a report in October.

D. Sanitation. Darren Adame gave the following report:

1. Year-to-date numbers are as follows:
 - Special pickups down by 32
 - 40-yard boxes down by 11
 - 20-yard boxes down by 9
 - Containers from the shop down by 10
 - Compactor Box Service down by 2
 - New dumpster down by 1
 - New 40-yard box rents down by 4
 - New 20-yard box rents up by 12
 - Bagster up by 1

NEW BUSINESS

A. Budget for 2019.

1. Slide-show presentation of the budget will be on the 17th around 5:15 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

B. A Resolution Concerning Utility Policies.

1. Chairman Sutherland: At the last meeting, I asked that if there were any comments, to either to contact myself or Mr. Klein. I had one question that came directly to me regarding the deposit that could be spread over three months. Let's say after the first month they walk away and we don't get the second or third payment. Are the services terminated immediately?

Mayor Pruyn: I have a question about a commercial deposit. That deposit is going to be based on the total last three months of the previous tenant. What if the business that's moving in is vastly different than the business that was there before?

Aliza Libby-Tucker: The current utility policy states, "three months of the prior tenant." We have taken that into consideration with other people who have moved in that have different needs and we will terminate services for non-payment of the deposit.

City Attorney Malouff will make the appropriate adjustment to the resolution before it is voted on.

C. City Manager's Comments.

1. At 6:00 p.m., the Mayor will be giving a patriotic speech at the cemetery for the dedication of the VFW flag.

D. City Attorney's Comments.

1. Always a pleasure and privilege to be here.

E. Governing Body's Comments.

1. There were no governing body comments.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:39 p.m.

CITY OF LA JUNTA

ATTEST:

P. Lorenz Sutherland, Chairman

Melanie R. Scofield, City Clerk