



AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING LA JUNTA CITY COUNCIL
La Junta, Colorado
May 3, 2021
7:00 PM
Council Chambers
Municipal Building
601 Colorado Avenue

Please wear masks and practice social distancing

CALL TO ORDER (Mayor Pruyn)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (Mayor Pruyn)

INVOCATION (Council Member Vela)

ROLL CALL (City Clerk)

Council Members

Supervisors

Others

Mestas

Velasquez

McIntyre

Pruyn

Ochoa

Vela

Eckhart

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Mayor) (Action)

Regular Meeting April 19, 2021

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION FOR NON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY *(5 minute time limit per person)*

NEW BUSINESS

A. Application for Renewal of a Hotel & Restaurant Liquor License by Fargerson LLC, d/b/a Boss Hogg's Saloon & Restaurant, 808 E. 3rd Street (City Attorney) (Action)

B. Request regarding animals at La Junta City Park for Children's Mental Health Day on May 6th from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. (City Manager) (Action)

C. A Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Real Property (City Attorney) (Action)

D. Committee/Board Reports

E. City Manager's Comments

F. Governing Body Comments

G. ADJOURN

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – April 19, 2021

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 Jeffri Pruyn on Monday, April 19, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Mayor led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION: Council Member McIntyre gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL: The following Council Members were present:

Eugene Mestas, Ward 1
Paul Velasquez, Ward 1
Elaine McIntyre, Ward 2
Jeffri Pruyn, Mayor
Chandra Ochoa, 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
Paula Mahoney, Admin. Asst.
Debra Fraker, Admin. Asst.
Betty Velasquez, La Junta
Pam Denahy, Director of Tourism & Events
John Yergert, Tourism Board
Tracey Salzbrenner, Tourism Board
Dee Leyba, 511 Lincoln, La Junta
Gilbert Leyba, 511 Lincoln, La Junta
Wendy Peabody, 818 Smithland, La Junta
Tim Weiss, 1205 Smithland, La Junta
Samantha Weiss, 1205 Smithland, La Junta
Suzette Cordova, 28385 CR 101, La Junta
Rick Morlan, 28385 CR 101, La Junta
Paula Klein, 6 Cactus Dr., La Junta
Bette McFarren, RF Gazette

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS: Mayor Pruyn asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of April 5, 2021. Hearing none, the Mayor declared the minutes approved as published.

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

1. Samantha Weiss, 1205 Smithland Avenue: I am very concerned about how to keep our kids safe and not feel like they're being gawked at. My daughter is on the Youth Council and attended a tour of the new Waste Water Facility with the City Council. The kids did not feel safe.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – April 19, 2021

2. Wendy Peabody, 818 Smithland Avenue: I brought my daughter up to be a strong woman. I want her to learn how city government works. She's here to be a leader. I want our kids to be safe and their voices heard.
3. Dee Leyba, 511 Lincoln Avenue: We need to see more organization. Parents need to be cc'd in communications with our children. It's not unreasonable for the times and date of the meetings for the rest of the year to be posted. The minutes should be posted as well. Perhaps having one member of the City Council, who is experienced in working with children, be assigned to the Youth Council. The same as with all of the City's other boards. Parents can also volunteer.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Liquor Licenses

1. **Application for a Special Events Permit by Inspiration Field, Caitlin Coffield, Event Manager. The event is the 36th Annual La Junta Trading Company Golf Classic to be held May 7, 2021 from 5:00 p.m. to 11:59 p.m. at 612 Adams Avenue.** 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 premises have been posted. The City Attorney recommends approval.

MOTION TO GRANT A SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT TO INSPIRATION FIELD FOR THEIR 36TH ANNUAL LA JUNTA TRADING COMPANY GOLF CLASSIC TO BE HELD MAY 7, 2021 FROM 5:00 P.M. TO 11:59 P.M. AT 612 ADAMS AVENUE: Vela

SECOND: Mestas

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 6-0 (McIntyre abstained)

2. **Application for a Special Events Permit by Southeast Colorado Creative Partnership, SECCP Members, Event Managers. The event is the Arkansas Valley Summer Brew Fest to be held June 12, 2021 from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at Santa Fe Plaza.** 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 premises have been posted. The City Attorney recommends approval.

MOTION TO GRANT A SPECIAL EVENTS PERMIT BY SOUTHEAST COLORADO CREATIVE PARTNERSHIP FOR THE ARKANSAS VALLEY SUMMER BREW FEST TO BE HELD JUNE 12, 2021 FROM 6:00 P.M. TO 10:00 P.M. AT THE SANTA FE PLAZA: McIntyre

SECOND: Velasquez

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

- B. **A Resolution Supporting Grant Application.** Resolution No. R-3-2021 was presented for council's consideration as follows:

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of La Junta supports the application to various private foundations and governmental entities for a grant for finalizing Outreach, and the Creation of a Complete Plan focusing on Transit Needs, Safety, Economic Development, and Tourism as well as Scenario Schemes, Construction Documents, and Financial Analysis for a proposed Transit Center; and

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED as follows:

SECTION 1: The City Council of the City of La Junta strongly supports the application and has appropriated matching funds for grants from the various foundation and/or governmental agencies.

SECTION 2: If any grant is awarded, the City Council of the City of La Junta strongly supports the completion of the project.

SECTION 3: If any grant is awarded, the City Council of the City of La Junta hereby authorizes the City Manager to sign the grant application and all other documents necessary to be executed.

SECTION 4: This resolution to be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. R-3-2021: Ochoa

SECOND: Mestas

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

C. Authorization to Commence Condemnation. City Attorney Malouff thanked Rick, Bill and Darren for their support in this program. According to the City's Charter, the favorable approval of condemnation is needed to start the legal process.

1. Constance White and Amanda Barbee – 817 Maple Avenue.

MOTION TO APPROVE COMMENCEMENT OF CONDEMNATION OF 817 MAPLE AVENUE:
Mestas

SECOND: Velasquez

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

2. Jordan Dubose and Quayshawn Dubose – 1521 Grace Avenue.

MOTION TO APPROVE COMMENCEMENT OF CONDEMNATION OF 1521 GRACE AVENUE:
Ochoa

SECOND: Vela

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

3. Janet Skotek – 1510 Lewis Avenue.

MOTION TO APPROVE COMMENCEMENT OF CONDEMNATION OF 1510 LEWIS AVENUE:
Ochoa

SECOND: Mestas

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – April 19, 2021

4. Janet Skotek – 1507 Edison Avenue.

MOTION TO APPROVE COMMENCEMENT OF CONDEMNATION OF 1507 EDISON AVENUE: Mestas

SECOND: Ochoa

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

5. Gabino Torrez – 1202 Grace Avenue.

MOTION TO APPROVE COMMENCEMENT OF CONDEMNATION OF 1202 GRACE AVENUE: Ochoa

SECOND: Velasquez

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

D. Appoint Sue Vance to the Senior Center Advisory Board – term to expire 12/31/2021.

MOTION TO APPOINT SUE VANCE TO THE SENIOR CENTER ADVISORY BOARD: Velasquez

SECOND: McIntyre

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

E. Tourism Board Recommendations. City Attorney Malouff informed the Council that the Tourism Board discussed a summarized list of items. It was decided to not go back to previous documents and start over fresh. Approval will be needed in order to move forward.

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY ATTORNEY TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE TOURISM BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS, LEAVING THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS BLANK: Vela

SECOND: Mestas

DISCUSSION: There was no further discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

F. AVRMC Board of Directors' Roster/Annual Meeting. City Attorney Malouff received an updated listing of AVRMC Board members. Also, the annual meeting has been rescheduled for May 25th.**G. Committee/Board Reports**

1. Live Well Park (Council Member Vela):

- The committee is waiting on more funds to repair the wall. The mural will be next. There are still some drainage issues that need to be taken care of prior to the artists working on the mural.

2. Senior Center Advisory Board (Council Member Velasquez):

- As of January 21st of this year, we lost nineteen members due to COVID. Current membership is at 440.
- They have an EMist disinfecting sprayer they use twice daily and busses overnight.
- Received a favorable audit from TSA.
- Tim Klob installed the new floor.
- The breakfast is on May 7th.
- There will be a mobile zoo on May 27th.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – April 19, 2021

- In September 2020, the transit was awarded the CASTA Marketing Award because of the tarantulas we have on our new busses.
- The fair has been increased from \$0.50 to \$1.00. Our transit system is the only one in Colorado providing curb to curb service.
- The Washington DC trip has been cancelled due to the social unrest in that area.
- There is nothing scheduled yet for Rockies games.
- There has been no mention of busses going to Cripple Creek.
- They are looking at starting dances again around September or October.

H. City Manager's Comments

1. Arbor Day will be April 29th at the Primary School.
2. We fixed a sewer line behind the Library.
3. Programming for the Library will be happening at the City Park gazebo on 14th Street.
4. CDOT has given us our contract for the design of the trail.
5. We will be meeting with the Brownsfield group. The EPA has been good for us.
6. We took out an old storm sewer on Mount View and have started the preliminary grading on the road. We still have a few more taps to finish.
7. The Reverse Osmosis Plant is getting ready for its summer loads.
8. Meghan Yergert works for the Water Department and has earned her Distribution levels 2, 3, and 4. She is truly a go-getter.
9. Soccer starts May 1st and Baseball starts May 7th.
10. Distribution generation training will begin at the end of this month.
11. We are continuing to put up the new LED lights.
12. Speed signs are up and they do make a difference.
13. At the next work session we have, the Police Department would like to discuss having cameras downtown.
14. We started crack filling on the east side of town.
15. If you see people already using the IGP trail, it is okay to do so.
16. The decision on the closure of the prisons will probably be made within the next three weeks. Action 22 has been working on this for our area. Citizens needs to call their legislators and tell them not to close the two private prisons here.
17. BNSF has put up \$5 Million. We started working on a grant for the last 32 miles to finish off what we committed to.

I. Governing Body Comments

1. Council Member Velasquez:
 - I would like to commend and thank Zeke Vigil, Bob Lucero and Tom Seaba at the water plant. They are very knowledgeable. I would like to say that I was struck by something Zeke said. That when cleaning up the water, it is actually cleaner when we put it back in the river than when it was when it started.
 - I also want to commend the Police Department on receiving the gold level from the LexiPol Recognition Program.
 - The Fire Department responded to a couple of fires that were in the same location. I appreciate them putting their lives on the line.
 - Sunday was "Lineman Appreciation Day." I would like to say thank you to them.
2. Council Member Vela:
 - I concur with Paul regarding the Waste Water Treatment Plant. I was very impressed with how clean it was inside and out. I was also impressed with the young people that we have working there. It was a great experience.
3. Mayor Pruyn:
 - A lot of us attended Mickey Guerrero's retirement party and we thanked him for all the many years of service. We are very happy for his recovery from COVID. Kudos for him for sticking it out on his job for so long.

MOTION TO MOVE INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR A CONFERENCE WITH THE CITY ATTORNEY FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING LEGAL ADVICE ON SPECIFIC LEGAL QUESTIONS UNDER C.R.S §24-6-402 (4)(b): McIntyre

SECOND: Velasquez

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

Council went into Executive Session from 8:03 p.m. until 8:25 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

CITY OF LA JUNTA

Jeffri Pruyn, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melanie R. Scofield, City Clerk



Dear Fabulous La Junta City Council Members,

I'm writing you as a member of the community as well as behalf of the Youth and Family Team at Southeast Health Group to ask permission to bring animals this year, again, to Children's Mental Health Day, May 6th, from 4pm to 6pm in the La Junta City Park. Last year, COVID took away our opportunity to have a nice community event for kids and families to enjoy and connect. We have been grateful for your support in the past, and this year we would like to bring back the goats!! We also plan to have rabbits and chicks included, with the hopes of a small petting zoo.

We think it would be a nice opportunity, with COVID precautions in mind, to have a hopeful, meaningful, and FUN outdoor activity as we approach summer. Thanks for taking the time to consider our request, we are look forward to your decision.

Kind Regards,

Danya Herrell and the Youth and Family Team at Southeast Health Group

RESOLUTION NO. R-4-2021

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZATING THE SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

WHEREAS, the City is a Home Rule City organized under the laws of the State of Colorado; and

WHEREAS, the City owns certain real property described as follows:

See Exhibit "A" attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

WHEREAS, the City Council believes that the real property is surplus property; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to sell the same to DAVID GORDON, Individually and ANDREW GORDON, Individually, doing business as COFFEE HOLDING COMPANY for the sum of \$900,000.00.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF LA JUNTA, COLORADO as follows:

1. The City determines that the property is surplus property.
2. The City authorizes the City Manager to execute a Deed of Conveyance to DAVID GORDON, Individually and ANDREW GORDON, Individually, doing business as COFFEE HOLDING COMPANY in exchange for a payment of \$900,000.00.
3. The resolution is enacted by the City Council of the City of La Junta.

EXECUTED this 3rd day of May, 2021.

CITY OF LA JUNTA

Jeffri Pruyn, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melanie R. Scofield, City Clerk