



AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING LA JUNTA CITY COUNCIL

La Junta, Colorado

June 7, 2021

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

Municipal Building

601 Colorado Avenue

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

PRESENTATION: Chamber of Commerce

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Mayor) (Action)

Regular Meeting May 17, 2021

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Second Reading/AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING APPLIANCE DISPOSAL OF GOODS AND OTHER FURNITURE ITEMS (City Attorney) (Action)

B. Second Reading/AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING MAINTENANCE OF SIDEWALKS IN COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL ZONE (City Attorney) (Action)

NEW BUSINESS

A. Liquor Licenses (City Attorney) (Action)

1. Application for a Special Event Permit by Inspiration Field, Caitlin Coffield, Event Manager. The event is the Sweet Inspirations Catering Re-launch Party to be held June 19, 2021 from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at 612 Adams Avenue

2. Application for a Special Event Permit by Inspiration Field, Caitlin Coffield, Event Manager. The event is a Poker Run to be held July 24, 2021 from 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at 612 Adams Avenue

B. A Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Personal Property (City Attorney) (Action)

C. Committee/Board Reports

D. City Manager's Comments

E. Governing Body Comments

F. ADJOURN

**Subject to approval at
the June 7, 2021
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 Jeffri Pruyn on Monday, May 17, 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.
 - Todd Quick, Chief of Police
 - Darren Adame, Director of Engineering
 - Zack Cragoe, GIS Analyst
 - Cynthia Nieb, ED/UR Director
 - Betty Velasquez, La Junta
 - Gary Cranson, UB Commissioner
 - 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 May 3, 2021. Hearing none, the Mayor declared the minutes approved as published.

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

1. Council Member Velasquez: Personal shout out to Joey Burrows who, this past weekend, took it upon himself to buy the materials and put in the time and effort to clean up some graffiti at the Skate Park.
2. Council Member McIntyre: I had a citizen ask if the 1024 train could possibly have a whistle go off at ten, two and four. Also, I was asked about the striping of the downtown parking spaces.
City Manager Klein: Hopefully we can get to that by next week. We will also be putting in, one per block per side, ADA compliant handicap spaces.
3. Council Member Vela: Some of the old timers are driving and walking all over town and they're disappointed to find that there are lots of streets with no signs.

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4. Council Member Eckhart: The parking at Potter Park was out of control during the games over the weekend. People are parking into the crosswalk. It is challenging for the elderly to see at 5th and Grant to be able to cross that intersection.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. A Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Real Property.** Resolution No. R-7-2021 was presented for council's consideration as follows:

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 Industrial Energy Solutions for the sum of \$350,000.00.

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

1. The City determines that that the property is surplus property.
2. The City authorizes the City Manager to execute a Deed of Conveyance to Industrial Energy Solutions in exchange for a payment of \$350,000.00.
3. The resolution is enacted by the City Council of the City of La Junta.

MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. R-7-2021: Vela

SECOND: Mestas

DISCUSSION: Any damage to roads that may come about from the removal of the turbines will be repaired.

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

- B. A Resolution Supporting the Grant Application for a Grant from REDI.** Resolution No. R-5-2021 was presented for council's consideration as follows:

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of La Junta supports the application by the City for a "REDI grant"; and

WHEREAS, this request is for a phase I Implementation of the La Junta Economic Development Ecosystem; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the ecosystem is to re-tool the educational, business, and building infrastructure La Junta Economic Development already has to serve as a job development feeder system that will meet the needs of the La Junta community and beyond in Southeastern Colorado; and

WHEREAS, the trades, GiG economy, No Collar Workers, and entrepreneurs will be the focus of the program which should support local businesses, manufacturers, and the creative and tourism industries;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED as follows:

SECTION 1: The City Council of the City of La Junta strongly supports the application.

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

SECTION 3: The City Council of La Junta hereby authorizes the City Manager to sign the grant application and all other documents necessary to be executed to in conjunction with the grant.

SECTION 5: This resolution to be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. R-5-2021: Mestas

SECOND: Eckhart

DISCUSSION: REDI stands for Rural Economic Development Initiative.

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

- C. A Resolution Supporting the Grant Application for a Grant for the Formation of a Creative District within the City of La Junta.** Resolution No. R-6-2021 was presented for council's consideration as follows:

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of La Junta supports the application for a grant for the creation of Creative District within the City of La Junta; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado Creative Districts Program certifies communities that contribute to our state's economy through creativity, culture, and the arts. The program's goal is to help communities increase jobs, incomes, and investments in creative places; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado Creative Districts Program attracts artists and creative entrepreneurs to a community, infusing new energy and innovation, which in turn enhances the economic and civic capital of the community; and

WHEREAS, the District would serve as a focal point for celebrating and strengthening a community's unique identity, become a space to showcase cultural and artistic organizations and events, and contribute to the development of healthy communities;

WHEREAS, benefits of the program include the following:

- a. A cash award of up to \$10,000 for newly certified districts;
- b. A technical and professional assistance fund available to districts that have been certified for one or more years;
- c. A marketing strategy developed in partnership with the Colorado Tourism Office to support tourism and bring Colorado's Creative Districts to a national audience;
- d. Support in developing and pitching content and news about how creativity is changing Colorado through the work of creative districts;
- e. Two highway signs placed on state highways near the district;
- f. Access to statewide economic data on the impact of creative districts;
- g. Access to the Western States Arts Federation (WESTAF) Creative Vitality Suite, an online platform for creative economy data; and

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h. Facilitate access to resources and facilitate a learning community among districts; and

WHEREAS, a year after certification, districts can apply for the technical and professional assistance grant for projects and activities that support strategic goals; and

WHEREAS, there is no cost for the City to apply for such a grant.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED as follows:

SECTION 1: The City Council of the City of La Junta strongly supports the application.

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

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

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

MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. R-6-2021: Mestas

SECOND: Ochoa

DISCUSSION: This is not really a grant but more of a program that is by invitation only. It is a great honor.

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

- D. First Reading/AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING APPLIANCE DISPOSAL OF GOODS AND OTHER FURNITURE ITEMS.** The ordinance was introduced by title only, there being copies available to those in attendance.

MOTION TO PASS THE ORDINANCE ON FIRST READING: Mestas

SECOND: Velasquez

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

- E. First Reading/AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING MAINTENANCE OF SIDEWALKS IN COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL ZONE.** The ordinance was introduced by title only, there being copies available to those in attendance.

MOTION TO PASS THE ORDINANCE ON FIRST READING: Mestas

SECOND: Ochoa

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

- F. AVRMC/City Council Annual Board Meeting.** City Attorney Malouff took a head count of who would be attending the annual board meeting on May 25th at 6:00 p.m.

G. Committee/Board Reports

1. Live Well Park (City Manager Klein):

- Waiting on Montiel to repair the wall. The drainage has been fixed.
- Have to wait on the mural before putting up the shade.

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2. Utility Board (Council Member Vela):
 - Water Department is prepared with equipment if needed for repairs in the summer.
 - Summers increased water use.
 - Rogers Road by the KOA is very enjoyable now to cross over.
 - Electric Department still replacing light poles on Highway 50.
 - LED lights continue being installed on 3rd Street. High pressure sodium lights that are now on 3rd Street have been installed at the Kids Rodeo Grounds. The extra lights will be stock piled and shared with other cities.
 - The \$17.00 fee on your utility bill is not sun setting.
 - The generators will be sold and moved out.

3. Senior Citizens Center (Council Member Velasquez):
 - The membership has gone up. It is now at 441.
 - Ceramics class will meeting on Mondays.
 - They are optimistic about restarting the dances around September or October.
 - Water classes will be starting on the 7th of June.
 - The yoga and tai chi classes have gotten good reviews.
 - The pool will be opening on June 1st.

4. Recreation Board (Council Member Eckhart):
 - Soccer is winding down and baseball registrations continue.
 - Making safety changes to the benches at Potter Park.
 - Continue to work on the walking path and the bathrooms at City Park.
 - Lengthy discussion regarding 7th and 8th grade soccer. Getting buy-ins from other communities first. Nets will be left up on Edison field for a dedicated soccer field.
 - Adult recreation – corn hole at the Armory. Checking to see if there's interest in basketball, volleyball and other kinds of adult recreation.
 - Looking into doing some improvements of the tennis courts at City Park.
 - Members of the Youth Council are concerned about the tennis courts at Tippy. They have received donation from Pueblo tennis. The Recreation Board voted on approving \$17,000.00 to go toward this project.
 - There are also a lot of youth activities happening at the Golf Course.
 - There will be discussion with OJC regarding their field at the Kiva.
 - Discussion continued regarding soccer and the Inspiration Field lot that's for sale.

5. Tourism Board (Mayor Pruyn):
 - Working on our branding. Have come up with the tagline: "La Junta, Rich History, Unexpected Adventure."

6. Urban Renewal (Mayor Pruyn):
 - The parking lot on 2nd Street, next to the Chestnut, is now approved to put in the final pieces.
 - We're also discussing potential housing projects coming in.

7. Work Session (Mayor Pruyn):
 - We talked about the Recreation Master Plan, a lot about soccer, and we were very interested in the firm talking about the security cameras in the downtown area.
 - We will plan for a June work session. Right now, we don't have topics for the agenda.

A. City Manager's Comments

1. Finishing up Mount View.
2. Working on drainage on 10th Street hill by hospital.
3. Senior Center breakfast is June 4th and will be tater tot casserole. On the 17th, they will have lasagna for lunch.

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4. The Library book sale has collected around \$1,200.00.
5. Freight charges have been coming in around three times higher than normal.
6. The Fire Department has an increase in medical calls but of a more normal nature.
7. The EPA will be here this week.
8. Black is Beautiful worked all weekend to try and get ahead of the storm.
9. Been having problems with the pumps at the South booster station.
10. Well #15 has been tested and is back up. The motor went out in Well #13.
11. Cadet Josh Cobb is testing out of the Police Academy.
12. Very glad to see a clean audit.

ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION:

- We need to do something about the pot hole in the alley behind Copper Kitchen.
- Is it possible that a group from Urban Renewal be allowed to remove valuable stuff from the houses that are being taken down?
- New drainage system at the cemetery old under pass seems to collect a lot of tumble weeds.
- La Junta Cares is available for someone to take over.

B. Governing Body Comments

1. Council Member Velasquez:
 - Thanks to the Police Department. There were 1,317 calls for the month of April.
 - There were seven vehicle crashes in La Junta.
 - The tent in the arroyo has now moved up on Train Hill.
2. Council Member Eckhart:
 - There have been homeless people sleeping on the benches in the cemetery. I have been in contact with Crime Stoppers, gathering the guidelines and additional information to find out how to form committees.
3. Council Member Vela:
 - There is going to be discussions about increasing the fees to go to Bents Fort.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

ATTEST:**CITY OF LA JUNTA**

 Melanie R. Scofield, City Clerk

 Jeffri Pruyn, Mayor

ORDINANCE NO. 1627

**AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING APPLIANCE DISPOSAL OF GOODS
AND OTHER FURNITURE ITEMS**

WHEREAS, the City of La Junta has adopted provisions concerning garbage removal and refuse removal as set forth in Title 8 of the Municipal Code; and

WHEREAS, the City is desirous of making provisions which will facilitate the maintenance of a clean city by limiting and regulating the indiscriminate disposal of appliances and other articles within non-designated areas in the City.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA JUNTA THAT:

SECTION 1. A new Section 8.08.045 is enacted as follows:

Section 8.08.045 Abandoned White Goods: It shall be a violation of this section of a capacity of one and one-half cubic feet or more and having a door or lid which when closed cannot be opened easily from the inside, or who, being the owner, lessee, or manager of such place, knowingly permits such abandoned or discarded article to remain in such condition.

SECTION 2: This ordinance shall become effective upon final passage as required by law.

PASSED on first reading this 17th day of May, 2021.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 7th day of June, 2021.

CITY OF LA JUNTA

Jeffri Pruyn, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melanie R. Scofield, City Clerk

ORDINANCE NO. 1628

**AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING MAINTENANCE OF SIDEWALKS
IN COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL ZONE**

WHEREAS, the City of La Junta has adopted provisions concerning the regulations of sidewalks as set forth in Title No. 12.04 et. seq. of the City Municipal Code; and

WHEREAS, the City is desirous of making provisions within its code which will facilitate the maintenance of a clean city by requiring maintenance of sidewalks within certain areas of the City; and

WHEREAS, the council intends, by these sections, to create legally enforceable duties for the benefit of persons lawfully using public sidewalks in certain areas of the City. Subject to applicable rules of law, including comparative negligence and other civil defenses, breach of these duties shall as enumerated herein support civil recovery by any injured persons lawfully using public sidewalks from each violator, jointly and severally, for damages caused by the violation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA JUNTA THAT:

SECTION 1. A new Section 12.04.360 is enacted as follows:

Section 12.04.360: Section 12.04.361 shall only apply to property in commercial zoning or industrial zones as indicated on the City Zoning Map.

SECTION 2: A new Section 12.04.361 is enacted as follows:

Section 12.04.361: Snow and ice on sidewalks - Owner or occupant responsibility.

A. Within 24 hours after any snow or ice stops falling on a public sidewalk, it is the duty of:

1. Every owner and manager of property abutting the sidewalk; and
2. Every tenant leasing an entire premise abutting the sidewalk; and
3. Every adult occupant of a single-family dwelling abutting the sidewalk to remove or cause the

removal from public sidewalks abutting the property accumulated snow and ice, as this section provides.

- B. Each responsible person listed above shall remove or cause the removal of snow and ice to expose the abutting public sidewalk for the entire width of the sidewalk or the width of four feet, whichever is less.
- C. After removing snow and ice as required above, each responsible person listed above shall keep the abutting sidewalk reasonably passable.
- D. Under this section, snow or ice has not "stopped falling" if additional snow or ice falls within four hours.
- E. The obligations stated above do not apply to a public sidewalk abutting a single-family residential property. Nor do those obligations apply to a sidewalk from which the city regularly removes snow and ice.
- F. As used in this section, "sidewalk" means a paved public way designed and constructed for pedestrian travel.
- G. Violation of this section is an offense under this Code punishable as set forth in fines authorized by this municipal code.
- H. The City Engineer or his designee may notify a responsible person listed above of the city's intent to correct a violation. If the violation remains 24 hours after such notification, the City Engineer or his designee may remove or cause the removal of snow and ice from any sidewalk affected by the offense. Upon a conviction, the municipal court shall add to the sentence of a responsible person so notified the City Engineer reasonable certified expenses of removal. The city shall collect such assessed expenses in the same manner it collects other municipal court fines. Assessments against property for abatement costs under other parts of this chapter shall not apply to the city's expenses under this paragraph.

SECTION 3. This ordinance shall become effective upon final passage as required by law.

PASSED on first reading this 17th day of May, 2021.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 7th day of June, 2021.

CITY OF LA JUNTA

Jeffri Pruyn, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melanie R. Scofield, City Clerk

RESOLUTION NO. R-8-2021

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZATING THE SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, the City desires to sell the same to Industrial Energy Solutions for the sum of \$350,000.00.

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 Bill of Sale to Industrial Energy Solutions in exchange for a payment of \$350,000.00
3. The resolution is enacted by the City Council of the City of La Junta.

EXECUTED this 7th day of June, 2021.

CITY OF LA JUNTA

Jeffri Pruyn, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melanie R. Scofield, City Clerk