

# TOWN OF LA JARA

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Regular Meeting  
Date: December 8, 2022

A permanent set of these minutes are maintained in the Town Clerk's Office. Approved Minutes are also available on the web at [www.colorado.gov/townoflajara](http://www.colorado.gov/townoflajara)

## Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Medina at 6:00 pm.

## Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Medina led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## Roll Call

Present were Trustees: Rendon, Villagomez, Wagoner, Wilson, Mayor Pro Tem Valdez, and Mayor Medina. Trustee Chavez attended virtually.

Absent: None

Also present were Town Manager Zaragoza, Town Clerk Pagnotta, Public Works Rodney Saenz, Building Inspector Darrin Rodriguez, Town Attorney Farish and Town Attorney Seth Walker.

## Approval of Agenda

**Motion:** Trustee Wilson moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Trustee Wagoner.

**Vote Results:** Ayes: Trustees Chavez, Rendon, Villagomez, Wagoner, Wilson, Mayor Pro Tem Valdez, and Mayor Medina.

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

## Consent Calendar

**Motion:** Mayor Pro Tem Valdez moved to approve the consent calendar; seconded by Trustee Rendon.

**Vote Results:** Ayes: Trustees Chavez, Rendon, Villagomez, Wagoner, Wilson, Mayor Pro Tem Valdez, and Mayor Medina.

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

## Guests

None

## Citizen Comments

None

## New Business

Resolution 2022-8 – A Resolution levying general property taxes for the year 2023, to help defray the costs of government for the Town of La Jara, Colorado, for the 2023 Budget year.

Town Attorney Walker read the resolution in full.

**Motion:** Trustee Rendon moved to approve Resolution 2022-8; seconded by Trustee Wagoner.

**Vote Results:** Ayes: Trustees Chavez, Rendon, Villagomez, Wagoner, Wilson, Mayor Pro Tem Valdez, and Mayor Medina.

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

**Personnel Policy Manual** – Mayor Medina explained the committee, made up of Town Manager Zaragoza, Chief Lujan, Town Clerk Pagnotta, Public Works Supervisor Thomas Dufresne, Trustee Rendon and herself have met to work on revisions of the personnel policy. Town Manager Zaragoza will meet with the Town Attorneys for further revisions. Town Manager Zaragoza would like to have the policy ready for adoption in January.

### **Old Business**

**Housing Authority land purchase** – Town Manager Zaragoza stated there is nothing new or concrete to share with the board; he will meet with Karen Hinojos from the Housing Authority.

**Businesses/Houses with shared meters** – Town Manager Zaragoza explained that two separate owners have 4 different buildings all sharing one meter. One of the owners is in the process of selling one of the buildings. He stated that each building will need to have its own meter. He explained that the installation of the meters will need to be contracted out.

### **Reports**

#### **Town Manager Report**

Town Manager Zaragoza read through his written report that was submitted with the packet.

#### **Town Attorney Reports**

Town Attorney Walker continued with the discussion on nuisance buildings and stated that the issues are not handled quickly and take time. They are working together with Town Manager Zaragoza for a resolution on the building on Main Street. He reported that he attended a great CML session on best practices. He encouraged everyone to attend one of these sessions. He reported that the office has been reviewing the personnel policy and will be meeting with Town Manager Zaragoza to offer comments. The office has also received a letter from COG stating that a draft of the 1041 powers will be sent out for review. He mentioned that the resolution setting the Mill Levy is the last step in preparing the budget for the next year.

Town Attorney Farish mentioned that the first meeting of the year the Town will need to adopt a resolution appointing officers, banking information, town auditor and items that need to be established as a reference. He stated that he would work with the clerk to develop a resolution. He mentioned that he has a dangerous building code that they can share with the town. They will work with the town to address issues with the codes as the board deems necessary. They would like to inform the board of the mechanisms for types of organizations as set forth by statute for development and improvements, such as downtown development authorities, special improvement districts, and economic development districts. He will be working on a second opinion letter for the SRF Loan.

#### **Approval of Town Attorney Reports**

**Motion:** Mayor Pro Tem Valdez moved to approve the Town Attorneys reports; Seconded by Trustee Wilson.

**Vote Results:** Ayes: Trustees Chavez, Rendon, Villagomez, Wagoner, Wilson Mayor Pro Tem Valdez, and Mayor Medina.

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Wayne Christenson from Manassa addressed the board about traffic enforcement in La Jara. He felt La Jara is a speed trap and mentioned that La Jara is listed as such on the speedtrap.org website. He spoke his concerns about the ethics and tactics used by the police in La Jara. He felt the amount of the fine was exorbitant.

### **Police Report**

Chief Lujan submitted a written report and offered to answer questions.

### **Public Works Report**

Rodney Saenz reported that a written report was submitted and offered to answer questions. Mayor Medina thanked the maintenance department for spending Thanksgiving resolving the water issues. Trustee Wilson reiterated his gratitude for the maintenance department spending another Thanksgiving addressing water and sewer issues.

### **Clerk Report**

Town Clerk Pagnotta submitted a written report. She reminded everyone that Santa would be making a stop in La Jara on Saturday. She also reminded everyone of the Christmas Party at Dutch Mill in Antonito.

### **Building Inspector Report**

Building Inspector Darrin Rodriguez submitted a written report mentioning that there has not been a lot of new building. Mayor Medina asked about the work being done at Anne's Café. Rodriguez explained that the construction had been completed and the permit was closed out.

### **Trustee Comments**

Trustee Chavez – Thanked everyone that worked to get the water issues resolved on Thanksgiving Day. She wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Trustee Valdez – Reported he and the fire department will be meeting on Saturday to prepare the goody bags and will be escorting Santa to the senior center.

Trustee Wagoner – Thanked Trustee Rendon and Tamra Carraher for helping with the Christmas ornament decorating. She stated it was a nice community get-together.

Trustee Villagomez – Would like to be notified when the water is off so that he can take care of the needs at the hospital. He mentioned the issues the City of Alamosa is having with the dilapidated Walsh building and how they purchased the building.

Trustee Wilson – Would like to meet with Town Manager Zaragoza to discuss the Richfield Ditch and the concerns that he has. He would like to work together to come up with a solution.

Trustee Rendon – Reported on the CML Policy meeting that she attended. She stated there are several issues that could impact the town. She suggested having a meeting prior to the quarterly CML policy meetings so that she could get some direction from the board as to how she should vote on the different issues.

Mayor Medina – She stated that she is looking forward to seeing everyone at the Christmas party. She encouraged everyone to come and visit with Santa.

Trustee Rendon mentioned that she has started reaching out to shut in elderly. One of the elderly women she is visiting with has a birthday the end of December and asked everyone to sign a card for her.

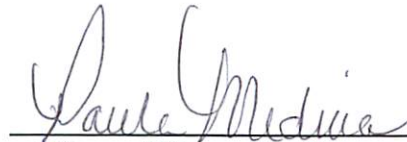
Town Manger Zaragoza thanked Trustee Chavez for donating the air compressor.

**Adjournment:**

**Mayor Pro Tem moved to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:09 pm.**

**Respectfully Submitted by**

  
**Town Clerk – Shawn Pagnotta**

  
**Mayor / Mayor Pro Tem**

