

# TOWN OF LA JARA

PO Box 273  
La Jara, CO 81140  
Phone: (719) 274-5363  
Fax: (719) 274-5986

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Regular Meeting  
Date: November 18, 2021

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)

## **Public Hearing**

A public hearing was held to establish the needs and desires of the community for a liquor license for Scotty's Restaurant LLC, located at 404 Main Street. Attorneys Farish and Walker represented the town as hearing officers as there were no objections. The hearing was opened at 6:09 pm at Town Hall. A quorum was present. Attorney Farish explained the procedure of the hearing and stated that the local license fees have been met and all documents have been reviewed. Attorney Walker noted a few items that needed to be completed. Kateri Jaramillo gave her testimony as the applicant. Jaramillo circulated a petition with signatures in favor of the liquor license. She stated that there were signatures of individuals that did not live in the town limits, however there were 7 additional citizens attending the hearing that were not signers of the original petition. There was no opposition to the liquor license. The hearing was closed at 6:40 pm.

## **Public Hearing**

A public hearing was held for the purpose of approving the 2022 budget. Attorney Faris read Resolution 2021-4 that appropriated sums of money to the various funds and Resolution 2021-5, summarizing expenditures and revenues for each fund and adopting the 2022 budget. Trustee Gallegos requested that the members of the budget committee be more clearly defined. The budget hearing was closed at 6:52 pm.

## **Regular Meeting**

### **Call to Order**

To help prevent the spread of COVID-19 the Regular Meeting of the La Jara Town Board of Trustees was held as a hybrid meeting by trustees attending either in person or virtually via ZOOM. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Medina at 6:53 pm.

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Medina.

### **Roll Call**

Present in person were Trustees: Gallegos, Villagomez, and Mayor Medina. Trustees Chavez, Espinoza and Mayor Pro Tem Valdez attended virtually.

Absent: Trustee Wagoner

A quorum was present. Also present were Chief Lujan, Public Works Supervisor Jimmy Hinojos, Thomas Dufresne, Town Attorneys Farish and Walker, Town Manager Zaragoza, Building Inspector Darrin Rodriguez, and Town Clerk Pagnotta.

### **Approval of Agenda**

**Motion:** Trustee Gallegos moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Valdez.

**Vote Results:** Ayes: Trustee Chavez, Espinoza, Gallegos, Villagomez, 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 Chavez.

**Vote Results:** Ayes: Trustee Chavez, Espinoza, Gallegos, Villagomez, Mayor Pro Tem Valdez, and Mayor Medina.

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

### **Citizen Comments**

Author Thomas Rendon addressed the board requesting to honor Adelmo Medina by naming the park behind the senior center after him. Mr. Medina was a World War II veteran, a former employee, and a council member for the town. Mr. Rendon displayed the many awards and medals that Mr. Medina received during his service. Mayor Medina stated that his story was quite amazing. Attorney Farish stated that he was a former US Army Special Forces officer and was impressed by the incredible display of medals that he earned. Attorney Farish saluted Mr. Medina.

**Motion:** Trustee Gallegos moved to name the park behind the senior center in honor of Adelmo Medina; seconded by Trustee Villagomez.

**Vote Results:** Ayes: Trustee Chavez, Espinoza, Gallegos, Villagomez, Mayor Pro Tem Valdez, and Mayor Medina.

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Town Manager Zaragoza stated that he would meet with Mr. Rendon to get work out the details to have a plaque made.

Susan Robins addressed the board and requested a donation to the Gift of Giving program.

**Motion:** Mayor Pro Tem Valdez moved to donate \$300 to Gift of Giving (Concepts); seconded by Trustee Espinoza.

**Vote Results:** Ayes: Trustee Chavez, Espinoza, Gallegos, Villagomez, Mayor Pro Tem Valdez, and Mayor Medina.

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

### **New Business**

Liquor License approval for Scotty's Restaurant LLC – Trustee Gallegos asked how Scotty's was able to serve alcohol at the CML District meeting. Attorney Farish stated that it was a private party, and no money was exchanged for the alcohol. Attorney Walker noted that the approval would be for an amended liquor license after a few small changes to the application

**Motion:** Trustee Gallegos moved to approve the liquor license for Scotty's Restaurant LLC; seconded by Trustee Villagomez.

**Vote Results:** Ayes: Trustee Chavez, Espinoza, Gallegos, Villagomez, Mayor Pro Tem Valdez, and Mayor Medina.

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

### Approval of 2022 Budget

Resolution 2021-4 Appropriating sums of money and Resolution 2021-5 Summarizing expenditure and revenues. Trustee Gallegos stated that she would abstain because she did not attend the meeting were the budget was presented. Mayor Medina asked if she had a chance to look the budget over.

**Motion:** Mayor Pro Tem Valdez moved to approve Resolution 2021-4 and Resolution 2021-5; motion was not seconded.

Trustee Espinoza stated that she would also abstain from voting because she was not in attendance at the meeting. Town Clerk Pagnotta stated that the budget was emailed to everyone prior to the meeting in October. Trustee Chavez stated that she had not looked at the budget either. Mayor Medina stated the deadline for the budget approval is December 15. Trustee Espinoza requested that the issue be tabled until the December 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### Citizen of the Year

Town Manager Zaragoza stated that Millie Rodriguez was nominated and selected Citizen of the year for 2020. Chief Lujan nominated Joann Ruybal for 2021 because of all she does for the community. She assists with the Care and Share program as well as delivering food boxes to many residents on her own time. She also helps elderly citizens with rides to and from different appointments. Chief stated that Mrs. Ruybal does so much for the community that most people don't see. Trustee Gallegos nominated Lynette DePriest. Some other nominations were Betty Scott and Joe Fernandez. The board agreed to select Joann Ruybal as the 2021 Citizen of the Year.

### Old Business

Ordinance 2021-2 Attorney Walker introduced and read the ordinance: an ordinance amending section 37.22, concerning sales tax license, and amending section 110.5, concerning business license fees, of the Town Code. The business license fees were increased to \$50 for each license for a regular vendor and \$25 for street vendors annually.

**Motion:** Trustee Gallegos moved to approve Ordinance 2021-2; seconded by Trustee Espinoza.

**Vote Results:** Ayes: Trustee Chavez, Espinoza, Gallegos, Villagomez, Mayor Pro Tem Valdez, and Mayor Medina.

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

### Reports

#### Town Manager Report

Town Manager Zaragoza submitted a written report and highlighted a few items.

#### Town Attorney Report

Town Attorney Farish stated that he is very honored to help the Town. He would like to discuss the vision of the town board and plan out what the trustees would like to accomplish. He is reviewing the code and wants to start addressing a few issues that he came across. He stated he will have some suggestions on amendments to the code.

Attorney Walker thanked the board for the opportunity to work with the town. He reported that he consulted with Town Manager Zaragoza regarding the public nuisance issue that was discussed earlier in the meeting.

#### Police Report

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

#### Maintenance Report

Maintenance Supervisor Jimmy Hinojos submitted a written report. He updated on the progress of the maintenance building.

### **Clerk Report**

Town Clerk Pagnotta submitted a written report and offered to answer any questions. She thanked the attorneys for their help with the liquor license application for Scotty's Restaurant. She reminded everyone of the Christmas party and asked that RSVP'S be submitted by November 22.

### **Building Inspector Report**

Building Inspector Darrin Rodriguez submitted a written report and spoke briefly about the new Dollar General that is going to be built.

### **Trustee Comments**

Trustee Villagomez – Stated it was good to see progress and was happy to see the maintenance building constructed. He stated that the trustees have a responsibility to the citizens that elected them and reminded everyone that as trustees they work for the citizens of the town.

Trustee Gallegos – Mentioned concerns about spending. She stated she is glad the town may be getting money for parks. She asked if the LED streetlights are affected by the cold weather because she noticed that they don't seem to be as bright in colder weather. Town Manager Zaragoza stated streetlights that aren't working they can be reported to Xcel Energy. She suggested having the citizens of the town select the Citizen of the Year.

Mayor Pro-Tem Valdez – Didn't have much to report other than to comment on the maintenance building and how great it looks.

Trustee Chavez – Questioned when the Christmas decorations were going to be put up.

Trustee Espinoza – Apologized for being out of town and should be back by December 5.

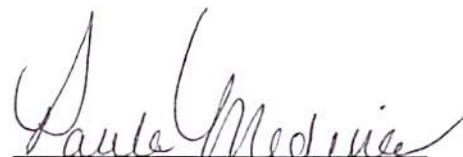
Mayor Medina – Commented on Clerk Pagnotta receiving Clerk of the Year for CMCA. She stated that Town Manager Zaragoza and herself attended the ceremony in Greeley where Clerk Pagnotta received her award.

### **Adjournment:**

**Mayor Pro Tem Valdez moved to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:23 pm.**

**Respectfully Submitted by**

  
Town Clerk – Shawn Pagnotta, CMC

  
Mayor / Mayor Pro Tem

