

# TOWN OF LA JARA

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Regular Meeting  
Date: August 10, 2017

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/townofajara](http://www.colorado.gov/townofajara)

## **Call to Order**

The Regular Meeting of the La Jara Town Board of Trustees was called to order by Mayor Pro-Tem Medina at 7:00 p.m.

## **Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Pro-Tem Medina.

## **Roll Call**

Present were Trustees: Valdez, Cummings, Salazar, and Mayor Pro Tem Medina.

Absent: Trustees Espinoza and Gallegos and Mayor Zaragoza.

A quorum was present.

Also present were: Town Manager Dennis Koenig, Town Attorney Ray Valdez, Police Chief Jerry Lujan, and Town Clerk Shawn Pagnotta.

## **Approval of Agenda**

*Motion:* Trustee Valdez moved to approve the Agenda; seconded by Trustee Cummings.

*Vote Results:* Ayes: Trustees Valdez, Cummings, Salazar, and Mayor Pro Tem Medina.

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

## **Approval of Consent Calendar**

*Motion:* Trustee Salazar moved to approve the Consent Calendar; Trustee Cummings seconded.

*Vote Results:* Ayes: Trustees Valdez, Cummings, Salazar, and Mayor Pro Tem Medina.

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

## **Recognition of Scheduled Public Comment**

Della Jaramillo submitted the application to renew the liquor license for Mel's Restaurant. Chief Lujan stated that there have not been any liquor violations involving the restaurant.

*Motion:* Trustee Salazar moved to approve the renewal of the liquor license for Mel's Restaurant; Trustee Cummings seconded.

*Vote Results:* Ayes: Trustees Valdez, Cummings, Salazar, and Mayor Pro Tem Medina.

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Rebecca Martin, President of La Jara Summer Baseball program, stated that because the town donates money to the program every year she designates the town as a sponsor of one of the teams. This year the

town sponsored the 7 to 8 year old machine pitch team. The team won third place in the year end tournament and Martin presented the Town with the trophy. Martin thanked the town for their annual donation and requested a donation for the next season to continue to improve the program.

**Motion:** Trustee Valdez moved to donate \$400 to the La Jara Summer Baseball program; Trustee Cummings seconded.

**Vote Results** Ayes: Trustees Valdez, Cummings, Salazar, and Mayor Pro Tem Medina.

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

### **Recognition of Unscheduled Public Comment**

No unscheduled public comments.

### **Town Manager's Report**

Town Manager Koenig reported that the CML District meeting will be held on September 25<sup>th</sup> in Saguache starting at 4 pm. He asked the trustees to RSVP with Town Clerk Pagnotta by the first of September. Mayor Pro-Tem Medina and Attorney Valdez stated that they wanted to attend.

Town Manager Koenig reported on the repairs to the storm drain at Main and Walnut. He stated the maintenance is doing a great job. Koenig stated that they have found some very interesting things as they were digging such as remnants of a cobble stone street.

Koenig reported that the sales tax is up 9.1% for the year. He stated that sales tax in other communities around the valley is up 2 to 3 %.

Koenig reported that Mayor Zaragoza submitted an application for a seat on the CML Executive board.

He reported that the maintenance department has finished spraying for mosquitoes for the year.

Mayor Pro-Tem Medina asked about the progress at the Laundromat. Koenig replied that the owners are working on the building a little at a time. Koenig stated that Jimmy Galvez's property next to the highway would be torn down. Mayor Pro Tem Medina also asked about the building behind Jack's Market. Koenig explained that he has not seen any activity in the building. Chief Lujan stated that he sees someone there every once in a while.

Trustee Salazar asked if repairs were going to be made to the street where Bower's Construction dug into the street when the gas line was hit on Richfield Road. Koenig stated that Bower's Construction is supposed to repair any roads that they damaged.

Attorney Valdez asked Koenig to restate his report regarding the building behind Jack's Market. Koenig reported that he spoke with the owner of the property and told them that before any building activity could be done the town would need a signed letter from a structural engineering stating that the building is safe.

### **Approval of the Town Managers Report:**

**Motion:** Trustee Valdez moved to approve the Town Managers Report and Trustee Salazar seconded.

**Vote Results** Ayes: Trustees Valdez, Cummings, Salazar, Mayor Pro Tem Medina, and Mayor Zaragoza.

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

### **Town Attorney's Report:**

Town Attorney Valdez had nothing to report.

**Approval of the Town Attorney's Report:**

**Motion:** Trustee Salazar moved to recognize that there was no report from the Town Attorney and Trustee Cummings seconded.

**Vote Results** Ayes: Trustees Valdez, Cummings, Salazar, Mayor Pro Tem Medina, and Mayor Zaragoza.  
Nays: None

Motion Carried.

**Town Board of Trustees Comments**

**Trustee Cummings:** Suggested that his neighbors be given a little more push to clean up their yard. He asked if anyone else received a call and participated in the Town Hall meeting with Senator Corey Gardner. Cummings stated that Senator Gardner had some really good things to say, especially regarding hemp grow operations. Trustee Salazar stated that he attended a session at the CML Conference regarding the changes in regulating hemp grow operations. Cummings also stated that Senator Gardner talked about having the Denver TV stations put up antennas so that residents could have access to local Colorado news instead of getting New Mexico news.

**Trustee Salazar:** Reported that a few of his neighbors commented to him on how pleased they are with the July Rocks. He stated that there have been a lot of positive comments about the concerts and he gave kudos to Events Coordinator Krista Ross on doing such a great job putting it together. Mayor Pro-Tem Medina also stated the concerts were such nice events and hoped that they can continue. Town Manager Koenig suggested expanding them for next year. Trustee Salazar suggested expanding the stage area or adding a front fascia or putting up some banners to dress up the front a little. Trustee Cummings stated he didn't like the street being blocked off for the concerts, but Koenig explained that the street needed to be blocked off for safety reasons. It was suggested to expand the concerts to maybe include a street dance.

**Trustee Valdez:** Reported that the fire department received a \$60,000 grant to purchase bunker gear. He stated that the grant would allow the department to purchase eight of the 16 sets of the gear needed. The fire department is going to apply for another grant in October in hopes of being able to purchase another eight sets of bunker gear.

**Mayor Pro-Tem Medina:** Commented on the July Rocks Concerts. She also wanted to remind everyone of the upcoming Farmer's Market and hopes for support from the trustees. She stated the Mayor Zaragoza wanted her to inquire about how the summer help was doing. Town Manager Koenig stated the summer help we have now is working great and he wished that we could have hired them back in May. She also asked about the new police officer; Chief Lujan stated he was doing well. Mayor Pro-Tem Medina also wanted to be thinking about the upcoming budget and would like to take a look at whether the town would be able to provide 100% of health insurance for the employees or if they would need to split the premiums with the employees. Trustee Valdez would like to look at building a maintenance shop. Mayor Pro Tem Medina asked what the next step would be in moving forward with building a shop for the maintenance department. Trustee Valdez stated that he has information on getting a loan or a loan forgiveness grant. Town Manager Koenig stated the next step would be to determine what size of building we would need and get some estimates of the cost. He stated a 3,000 square foot building would cost about \$300,000 minimum. Koenig explained that most grants require a cash match; the town would need to secure half of the funds needed. Koenig also stated that most of the funding from this type of project would need to come from the General Fund and currently this fund takes the biggest hit for expenses and cannot handle any debt service. Mayor Pro Tem Medina asked about using GOCO funds; Koenig explained that GOCO funds can only be used for parks and recreation projects. Trustee Salazar stated that

we should start with getting a bid on what a building would cost. Town Manager Koenig suggested starting with a 1 or 2 bay metal building because it can easily be expanded.

Trustee Valdez asked for a report on the water pressure issues with the pumps. Koenig stated that he is having some experts look at fixing the issues. He stated we will likely need to put in a manifold with 12 to 15 inch pipe that will feed into the existing 6 inch water main. This will allow the lines to stay charged when a hydrant is opened providing adequate water pressure throughout town. Koenig also said when the bigger pumps are installed the storage tank will be undersized. Additionally, Koenig stated that if 40 new homes are built in the 23 acre park the town will need to plan so that water can be supplied to them. Koenig stated that it was estimated that 40 new homes would be put in a 5 acre plot. Koenig also stated that the last of the annexations will start in September.

**New Business**

No new business

**Old Business**

No old business.

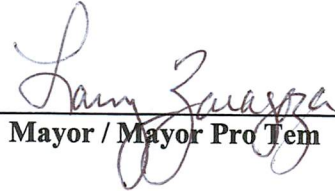
**Adjournment**

Trustee Salazar moved to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by



Town Clerk – Shawn Pagnotta



Mayor / Mayor Pro Tem

