

TOWN OF LA JARA

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Regular Meeting
Date: January 10, 2019

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

Call to Order

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

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Zaragoza

Roll Call

Present were Trustees: Valdez, Gallegos, Cummings, Salazar, Espinoza, and Mayor Zaragoza.

Absent: Mayor Pro Tem Medina

A quorum was present.

Also present were: Town Manager Dennis Koenig, Police Chief Jerry Lujan, Maintenance Supervisor Matthew Herrera, Building Inspector Joseph Trottnier, Attorney Ray Valdez and Assistant Clerk Krista Ross.

Approval of Agenda

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

Vote Results: Ayes: Trustees Valdez, Gallegos, Salazar, Espinoza, Cummings, and Mayor Zaragoza.

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Approval of Consent Calendar

Motion: Trustee Salazar moved to approve the Consent Calendar; seconded by Trustee Gallegos.

Vote Results: Ayes Valdez, Gallegos, Salazar, Espinoza, Cummings, and Mayor Zaragoza.

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Recognition of Scheduled Public Comment

Lynette Depriest director of the Northerners Senior Center stated they have made a lot of improvements to the Northerner's building and requested a donation of \$2000.00.

Motion to approve donation to the Northerners Senior Center

Motion: Trustee Valdez moved to approve a \$2000.00 donation to the Northerner's Senior Center; seconded by Trustee Cummings.

Vote Results: Ayes Valdez, Gallegos, Salazar, Espinoza, Cummings, and Mayor Zaragoza.

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Fred Gutierrez came to ask the board of Trustees for a donation of \$400.00 to help his youth basketball program. Mayor Zaragoza asked how the funds will be used for his program. Fred stated it mostly goes toward insurance and some goes to uniforms and basket balls. Mayor Zaragoza suggested writing a letter to the Denver Nuggets or the Alamosa State University to get help with new basket balls and uniforms. Zaragoza stated that this could be a resource to possibly utilize in the future.

Motion to approve donation to Fred Gutierrez

Motion: Trustee Valdez moved to approve a \$400.00 donation to Fred Gutierrez for his youth basketball program; seconded by Trustee Cummings.

Vote Results: Ayes Valdez, Gallegos, Salazar, Espinoza, Cummings, and Mayor Zaragoza.

Nays: None

Motion carried

Citizen Comments

There were no citizen comments.

Town Manager's Report

Town Manager Koenig reported that there were some ordinances that need amendments and a little bit of housekeeping. Mayor Zaragoza stated there was an ordinance from 2000 on vehicle taxation that he would like to revisit.

Town Manager Koenig stated the CML Annual Conference will be held in Breckenridge June 18th through the 22nd.

Town Attorney Raymond Valdez asked about codification. Koenig stated it had been approved in the November board meeting and now he and Town Clerk Shawn Pagnotta are working on finding an affordable company. He stated the codification process could take up to two years.

Mayor Zaragoza stated he would like to wait until after the executive session to approve the Town Managers Report.

Town Attorney's Report:

Town Attorney Valdez had nothing to report at this time.

Mayor Zaragoza suggested moving into executive session.

Executive Session

Motion: Trustee Salazar moved to go in to executive session for the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and or instructing negotiators, under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(e) and Trustee Gallegos seconded.

Mayor Zaragoza announced "the time is 8:00pm, and the executive session has been concluded. The participants in the executive session were: Trustees: Valdez, Gallegos, Cummings, Salazar, Espinoza, Mayor Zaragoza, Town Manager Dennis Koenig, Town Attorney Ray Valdez, and Assistant Clerk Krista Ross. For the record, if any person who participated in the executive session believes that any substantial discussion of any matters not included in the motion to go into the executive session occurred during the executive session, or that any improper action occurred during the executive session in violation of the open meetings law, I would ask that you state your concerns for the record."

There were none.

Trustee Comments:

Trustee Valdez: Nothing to report.

Trustee Espinoza: discussed condemnations and getting letters sent out. She stated this could help get locals work. She stated the money used for the annual CML conference could best be spent elsewhere. She stated blighted property removal is for the health and safety of our community. She asked about what options the board could look at for safe housing, and assistance for the elderly to help maintenance their homes.

Town Attorney Ray Valdez stated he would like to examine the steps to start the process of red tagging condemnations. Also, what kind of time frame it would take to follow through the entire process. He stated when red tagging property you don't know what you are getting in to. The town could be responsible for any and all clean up. Trustee Espinoza asked if there is a want to invest in our citizens and businesses. She stated other towns are doing this. Trustee Valdez asked Town Manager Koenig if he had visited with Monte Vista to see what they have going on with condemnations. Trustee Valdez stated he would like to move forward with the process. Trustee Gallegos asked Trustee Espinoza what the possibilities are if Trustee Espinoza's business helped do this. Trustee Salazar suggested making contacts. Town Attorney Ray Valdez stated some mistakes have been made in the past for example the La Jara Trading post annexation. The town should not have agreed to furnish a business with water and sewer unless they became annexed into the town.

Town Managers Report:

Town Manager Koenig stated the town will need to pay the taxes for 2016 in the amount of \$789.00 and 2017 in the amount of \$4374.02 owed to the Faucetts.

Motion to approve taxes owed to Faucetts

Motion: Trustee Espinoza moved to approve taxes for 2016 in the amount of \$789.00 and 2017 in the amount of \$4374.02 owed to the Faucetts, seconded by Trustee Gallegos.

Vote Results: Ayes Valdez, Gallegos, Salazar, Espinoza, Cummings, and Mayor Zaragoza.

Nays: None

Motion carried

Town Manager Koenig stated the state is requiring the town to start enforcing backflow prevention devices. He stated the businesses will need to be notified. Town Attorney Ray Valdez will draft a letter to convey this message.

Motion to approve notice for backflow prevention devices.

Motion: Trustee Salazar moved to approve notice for backflow prevention devices, including timeline changes, seconded by Trustee Gallegos.

Vote Results: Ayes Valdez, Gallegos, Salazar, Espinoza, Cummings, and Mayor Zaragoza.

Nays: None

Motion carried

Motion to approve Town Managers Report:

Motion: Trustee Gallegos moved to approve Town Manager report, seconded by Trustee Espinoza.

Vote Results: Ayes Valdez, Gallegos, Salazar, Espinoza, Cummings, and Mayor Zaragoza.

Nays: None

Motion carried

Trustee Espinoza: Stated she had been featured in Stanford Business Magazine. That had always been her lifelong goal. The story was about her business among four others on access capitol. The Town board congratulated her and gave a round of applause.

Trustee Salazar: stated he would like to revisit the photo preservation. He stated he had ideas including more research, museums, catalog photos, and enclosed boxes displaying the photos also for safe handling. He stated he has been elected Chairman of the Conejos County Housing Authority. He stated the Housing Authority is in a decent position, however, negligence on the government shut down has had a major impact on SLV Housing. He stated they will soon be perusing grants and affordable housing. He stated the Conejos County Housing Authority has purchased a building in Manassa to use as a storage facility.

Trustee Cummings: No comments

Trustee Gallegos: stated maintenance took a long time to plow the west end of town and so she and her husband ended up plowing and pushing a lot of people out of the snow with their own equipment.

She asked how the dispatch process works on emergency calls. Town Manager Koenig stated the officer on duty was on a stop before dispatch called in Trustee Gallegos emergency. An officer must complete his duty before they can move on to the next call unless it is a fatal emergency. Trustee Gallegos stated the officer on duty did catch the perpetrator and retrieved the stolen property. Trustee Valdez stated that dispatch is slow.

Mayor Zaragoza: He wanted to thank maintenance for putting up the Christmas decorations. He also wanted to thank Deputy Clerk Krista Ross for keeping the Town Hall up and running while Administration and Maintenance were out of town.

Mayor Zaragoza stated he would like to revisit the scholarship program once again. He also asked about the vintage pictures and if there was a Planning and Zoning Committee. He stated that James Hoogendoorn needs to be invited to the Christmas party next time because he is a part of the Planning and Zoning Committee.

He stated the Maintenance vehicles are looking a bit grungy and asked that they make sure they are looking good.

Trustee Valdez wanted to thank Events Coordinator Krista Ross for the Christmas with Santa.

Trustee Salazar wanted to thank the town for the good Christmas Party.

New Business

Resolution 2019-1 A Resolution designating a public place for posting notices.

Motion: Trustee Valdez moved to approve resolution 2019-1 a resolution designating a public place for posting, seconded by Trustee Salazar.

Vote Results: Ayes Valdez, Gallegos, Salazar, Espinoza, Cummings, and Mayor Zaragoza.

Nays: None

Motion carried

Old Business

Animal ordinance.

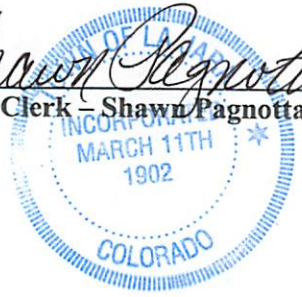
Mayor Zaragoza stated the animal ordinance will be revisited at a later time.


Adjournment

Trustee Valdez moved to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Cummings. The meeting adjourned at 8:55pm.

Respectfully Submitted by


Town Clerk - Shawn Pagnotta




Mayor / Mayor Pro Tem