

TOWN OF LA JARA

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Regular Meeting
Date: January 9, 2018

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, Mayor Pro Tem Medina, and Mayor Zaragoza. Trustee Espinoza arrived at 7:03pm.

Absent: None.

A quorum was present.

Also present were: Town Manager Dennis Koenig, Police Chief Jerry Lujan, Building Inspector Joe Trottnner, Maintenance Supervisor Matthew Herrera and Town Clerk Shawn Pagnotta.

Approval of Agenda

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Medina moved to approve the Agenda; seconded by Trustee Valdez.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Approval of Consent Calendar

Motion: Trustee Valdez moved to approve the Consent Calendar; Mayor Pro Tem Medina seconded.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Recognition of Scheduled Public Comment

Fred Gutierrez requested a donation for his basketball program. He stated that this year will be the 50th year of the program that teaches fundamentals of basketball to boys and girls ages 5 to 12 years old. He stated the donation will help to buy uniforms for the participants in his program.

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Medina moved to approve donating \$400 to Fred Gutierrez's youth basketball program. Motion was seconded by Trustee Valdez.

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

Recognition of Unscheduled Public Comment

No unscheduled public comments.

Police Chief Lujan introduced Margarita Ortega as a new officer for the town. The town welcomed her to the town.

Town Manager's Report

Town Manager Koenig reported that Ciello has installed fiber in Town Hall and the Police Department. He stated that by switching the phone and internet service the Town will have a significant savings.

Town Manager Koenig reported on the water main break at 2nd and Medina Lane. He explained that when the subdivision was put in a galvanized saddle was used to tap into the water main. The galvanize saddle corroded causing the leak. Koenig stated that while the maintenance department was digging they uncovered an old valve to the water main.

Town Manager Koenig stated that he is in the process of updating the personnel policies and procedures manual. He stated that CIRSA will be reviewing the policies.

Town Manager Koenig mentioned a minor subdivision of the McDaniels' property. June McDaniel is selling a portion of the land by her house to the Shawcroft's and the Villagomez's. He stated the land transaction doesn't have anything to do with the town, but he wanted to make the trustees aware of the situation.

Town Manager Koenig stated that he would be attending a meeting with Richfield Ditch Company to notify them that the town expects the weeds to be taken care of in a timely manner this summer.

Town Manager Koenig reported that Dollar General is still interested in bringing a store to La Jara. He stated they are looking at locating the store next to the Catholic Church. They are trying to purchase a section of land on the north side of the Catholic Church that they would like to trade for the Town's easement.

There will be a new business on Hwy 285 between County Line Liquor and Jack's Market. Town Manager Koenig reported that the business will possibly be a sporting goods/pawn shop and ATV sells.

Town Manager had the property at 312 South Main appraised. He stated the town paid \$93,000 for the land and it now appraises for \$412,000. He stated that five acres of land where the housing development will be has been appraised at \$87,000.

Town Manager Koenig reported that another small manufacturing business is possibly looking at coming into town.

Koenig asked that the meeting in February be moved to February 15th because he will be attending a manager's conference during the 8th. The trustees agreed to move the meeting.

Town Manager Koenig suggested having a retreat in April at the Conejos Ranch. The retreat was tentatively scheduled for April 13-14.

Town Manager Koenig reported that Maintenance Supervisor Matt Herrera was excused from attending the council meeting due to a family emergency.

Trustee Valdez asked about the status of the road grader that was to be purchased from the Town of Sanford. Town Manager Koenig explained that he had requested that we pay the Town of Sanford in two payments with the first being paid immediately and the second half being paid in August to help alleviate cash flow issues. Town of Sanford wanted the second payment in April. Town Manager Koenig was going to attend the Sanford Council Meeting to request that the second payment be paid in August.

Approval of the Town Manager's Report:

Motion: Trustee Salazar moved to approve the Town Manager's Report and Trustee Espinoza seconded.
Vote Results Ayes: Trustees Valdez, Gallegos, Espinoza, Cummings, Salazar, Mayor Pro Tem Medina and Mayor Zaragoza.

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Town Attorney's Report:

Town Attorney Valdez was absent.

Town Board of Trustees Comments

Trustee Valdez: Reported that the Christmas dinner at the Wagon Wheel was good.

Trustee Espinoza: Asked about the status of the claim the town was making against the construction company that was working for Jade that drilled through numerous water and sewer lines in town. Town Manager Koenig explained the Jade Communication has the contract with the town and contracted with Bower Construction to bury fiber lines in the town. He stated that the Town has sent a letter to Jade for reimbursement for all the repairs, but has yet to hear anything back. Koenig reported that as a result, Bower will not be issued a license and will not be allowed to work in the town limits.

Trustee Espinoza reported that she rented her last office space and asked what the town could do to add more housing in the town. She suggested marketing to investors and get the word out to developers for housing developments.

Trustee Espinoza asked about how the meeting with Vicente Valdez's family went regarding negotiations for sewer service to their property. Mayor Zaragoza stated they were not willing to negotiate.

Trustee Salazar: Reported on the housing board that he sits on and stated that they are in the process of doing a RAD conversion. He stated that once the conversion is made they will own those properties. After the process is complete they might be able to address the need for housing in La Jara through a subsidy. He stated they have created a nonprofit, but are in the early stages and are working on the bylaws. He stated their focus would be on help with purchasing homes and or rehab of homes. Trustee Salazar stated that they had a few smaller grants that helped with rehab for homes in the county. He stated their executive director is doing a great job and has been asking the right questions and working with HUD. He stated they are wanting make the conversion from HUD to RAD because HUD will likely be defunded in 10 years.

Mayor Pro-Tem Medina: Suggested having Fred Gutierrez recognized by the paper for providing his basketball program for 50 years.

Trustee Cummings: Had nothing to report.

Trustee Gallegos: Asked what would be involved in operating a mortuary in town. Town Manager Koenig stated that mortuaries are heavily regulated through the state.

Trustee Gallegos asked why the Christmas lights were not put up down the street. Town Manager Koenig explained that the light poles did not have any outlets to plug them in.

Trustee Gallegos asked about the park in Polkowske subdivision; Town Manager Koenig stated that the town owns the park. Trustee Gallegos asked if the park could be developed so that the kids in that area had a place to play. Town Manager Koenig suggested discussing this issue at the upcoming retreat.

Mayor Zaragoza: Asked for some feedback on the Christmas party at the Wagon Wheel. He stated that he initially wanted to spread the Town's business around even though the business is outside of the town limits, he felt they were still part of the community. However, he felt he was misled by a few of the details. Mayor Zaragoza informed everyone of the passing of Della Jaramillo from Mel's Restaurant. The trustees asked that flowers be sent to the family.

Mayor Zaragoza reminded everyone that dog licenses need to be renewed and asked the chief to remind people as well. Town Clerk Pagnotta stated that a reminder was put in the water bills in December.

Mayor Zaragoza thanked the maintenance department for putting up and taking down the Christmas lights.

Mayor Zaragoza asked Town Clerk Pagnotta if all businesses are required to get a sales tax license. Town Clerk Pagnotta replied that if the business is a service type business they are not required to get a sales tax license, only a business license.

Mayor Zaragoza reported that he requested that a letter be sent to the Polkowskes for having the best Christmas decorations this year.

New Business

Mayor Zaragoza introduced and read Resolution 2018-1 – A Resolution of the Town of La Jara designating the public place for posting notices of regular and special meetings.

Motion: Trustee Valdez moved to approve Resolution 2017-5 and Trustee Espinoza seconded.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Old Business

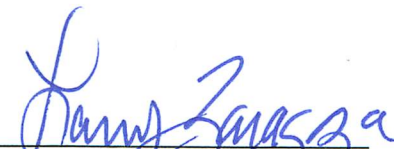
No old business.

Adjournment

Trustee Salazar moved to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:54 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by


Town Clerk – Shawn Pagnotta


Mayor / Mayor Pro Tem

