

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: January 9, 2020

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, Mayor Pro Tem Medina and Mayor Zaragoza.

Absent: Trustee Espinoza and Trustee Cummings.

A quorum was present.

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

Approval of Agenda

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

Vote Results: Ayes: Trustees Valdez, Gallegos, Mayor Pro Tem Medina and Mayor Zaragoza

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Approval of Consent Calendar

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

Vote Result: Ayes: Trustees Valdez, Gallegos, Mayor Pro Tem Medina and Mayor Zaragoza

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Recognition of Scheduled Public Comment

Mayor Zaragoza invited Sylvia Montano to attend the council meeting to recognize her as the Citizen of the Year. Mayor Zaragoza explained the various boards and activities that she is involved in. He thanked her for all that she does for the Town and presented her with a plaque.

Citizen Comments

No Comments.

Town Manager's Report

Town Manager Koenig reported that the short-term rental ordinance has been revised to include references to the current pet and dog ordinance. Town Attorney Valdez stated that the ordinance would only need to be published by caption only.

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Medina moved to approve Ordinance 2020-1, an ordinance of the Town of La Jara, Colorado, defining short-term rentals, providing for the licensing thereof, requirements to be met before licensing and providing for penalties with respect thereto; seconded by Trustee Gallegos.

Vote Result: Ayes: Trustees Valdez, Gallegos, Mayor Pro Tem Medina and Mayor Zaragoza
Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Town Manager Koenig reported that he received a bid from Jerry's Plumbing and Heating to put a heater in the Maintenance Department's office upstairs at Town Hall. He stated that this was the only bid that he received. The bid totaled \$3700 and included everything.

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Medina moved to approve funding for the installation of the heater in the Maintenance Department office; seconded by Trustee Valdez.

Vote Result: Ayes: Trustees Valdez, Gallegos, Mayor Pro Tem Medina and Mayor Zaragoza
Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Koenig reported that a letter was drafted offering support to Mayor Pro Tem Medina to apply for a scholarship to attend the annual CML Conference. Mayor Pro Tem Medina stated she appreciated the board's support.

Koenig reported that he has 3 potential candidates for the Town Manager position. He also stated that a few people have begun to start circulating nomination petitions for the upcoming elections.

Mayor Zaragoza stated that he would like to have a work session to discuss and update the job description for the Town Manager position. They would also like to discuss qualifications and salary range.

Town Manager Koenig reported that he has not heard anything new regarding the water or waste water issues. He also reported that there have been several water lines and meters around town that have frozen due to the cold weather.

Koenig reported that he discussed the removal of the trees along Main Street with Joe Valdez from the pharmacy. Koenig stated that Valdez was ok with the trees being removed as long as they were replaced. Koenig stated that he talked to North River Greenhouse about a tree that blooms like the current trees, but do not produce fruit.

Approval of Town Managers Report:

Motion: Trustee Valdez moved to approve the Town Manager's Report; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Medina.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Town Attorney's Report:

Attorney Valdez reported on the work that he did drafting the short-term rental ordinance. He stated that there has been advertisement for the replacement for Town Manager and asked if the board had started doing anything for replacing himself. He asked if the position had been advertised. He suggested Karl

Kuenhold and others. Mayor Zaragoza asked Attorney Valdez if he would be willing to assist in drafting an advertisement that would explain the duties of a town attorney.

Approval of Town Attorney's Report:

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Medina moved to approve the Town Attorney's Report; seconded by Trustee Valdez.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Trustee Comments

Trustee Valdez: Commented on the snow removal. He reported that the fire department has received several calls for carbon monoxide alarms. It was suggested to put a notice in the water bills reminding everyone to make sure they have a carbon monoxide detector installed and working properly.

Mayor Pro Tem Medina: Reported on a program called LEAD that works with addicts providing them with assistance and resources. She stated that a LEAD Case worker will be working with the law enforcement agencies in Conejos County to provide assistance for addicts. She wanted to thank the police department for all they do as it was Law Enforcement Appreciation Day. She also asked for everyone's support as she is throwing her hat in the ring and running for Mayor.

Trustee Gallegos: Asked if the town uses Cielo. It was explained that the town uses Cielo for fiber service and uses Viaero for cellular phone service.

Mayor Zaragoza: Reported that he also met with Gil Lopez and Joe Valdez regarding removal of the trees on Main Street. Mayor Zaragoza would like to hold a work session to discuss the job description for town manager as well as discuss replacing the town attorney. He also asked Attorney Valdez about having a picture of him and his wife, Darlena, put up in the board room to honor him for all his years of service as the Town's Attorney.

Mayor Zaragoza reported that on January 26th he is representing the town by participating in the Polar Plunge. The event will be held at the Blanca Vista Pond at the Alamosa Golf Course at noon.

A work session was scheduled for Monday, January 20, 2020 at 5:30.

New Business

Resolution 2020-1 – Mayor Zaragoza read and introduced Resolution 2020-1; 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 2020-1; seconded by Trustee Gallegos.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Trustee Gallegos asked if the current board could be involved in putting together the animal ordinance. Mayor Zaragoza suggested discussing this at the upcoming work session.

Old Business

Short Term Rental – Ordinance 2020-1 was approved earlier in the meeting.

Adjournment:

Trustee Gallegos moved to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:39 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by

Shawn Pagnotta
Town Clerk - Shawn Pagnotta

Pam Zucchi
Mayor / Mayor Pro Tem

