

TOWN OF LA JARA

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This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer
Special Meeting
Date: June 24, 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

A Special Meeting of the La Jara Town Board of Trustees was called to order by Mayor Medina at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Medina.

Roll Call

Present were Trustees: Chavez, Espinoza, Gallegos, Villagomez, Wagoner, Mayor Pro Tem Valdez and Mayor Medina.

Absent:

A quorum was present.

A special meeting was held with the Town of La Jara's business owners to discuss Resolution 2020-4 (Public health order to require face coverings within The Town of La Jara). Along with business owners was one attorney representing Kim's Fitness and a member of Kim's Fitness.

The following were present:

1. Kelly Cornum- Montes Service
2. Attorney Mark Jackson
3. Joseph Baroz- Baroz Auto
4. Mitchell Barr- Everything Diesel & Auto
5. Louis Doyle- L&S Feeds
6. Darlene Buhr- T&D Liquor
7. Denise Jiron- Conejos County Public Health Director
8. Vaughn Jackson- Jackson Medical Clinic
9. Monica Edgar- Subway
10. Brad Reed- Reed Tire
11. Martille Faatz- Accounting
12. Laura Cordova- Bellez De Laura/ Boxcar Espresso
13. Kristi Thomas- Kim's Fitness member
14. Leroy Polkowski
15. Julian Espinoza- JEAR
16. Lucas Larsen- Lucky Lukes
17. Scott Johnson- Johnsons Welding
18. Robert Taylor- Boxcar Espresso

Citizen Comments

Business owners/ representatives each had a maximum of three minutes to voice their opinions/concerns regarding the resolution. The majority of business owners, 16 out of 18 believe that it should be a person's choice whether or not they want to wear a mask. An individual stated, "It shouldn't be mandated that people wear a mask, this is not about a virus it's about control." Another business owner explained to the board that he had a family with children that were from out of town and their vehicle broke down. He said, "none of them had masks and I wasn't about to refuse service to them, or make them sit outside in the hot sun." A concerned/emotional business owner explained that she was recovering from an illness that caused her body to become paralyzed. She strongly voiced her opinion regarding the importance of wearing a face mask, and was not against the ordinance. Business owners were very concerned that the resolution would cause people to take their business elsewhere and eventually La Jara would be a "ghost town."

Mayor Medina explained to the attendees that the board members would be going into executive session and would re-open the meeting to the public afterwards. A business owner commented, "You cannot legally have an executive session under Colorado Sunshine Law without prior notification to those involved." Business owners wanted to be included in the executive session because they felt that the board's decision would have a direct impact on their businesses.

The board of trustees discussed possibly modifying the resolution and removing imposed fines.

After listening closely to the citizens' concerns /comments trustees decided to rescind the resolution.

Motion: Trustee Gallegos moved to approve the motion to rescind Resolution 2020-4, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Valdez.

Vote Result: Ayes: Trustees Chavez, Gallegos, Espinoza, Villagomez, Mayor Pro Tem Valdez and Mayor Medina.

Nays: None

Abstain: Trustee Wagoner

Motion: Carried

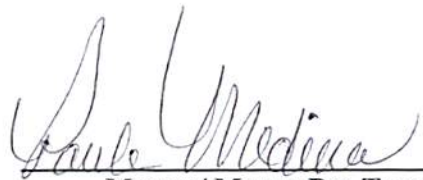
Adjournment:

Mayor Pro Tem Valdez moved to adjourn, seconded by trustee Espinoza. The meeting adjourned at 7:02 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by


Assistant Town Clerk - Felicia Gomez




Mayor / Mayor Pro Tem