TOWN OF LA JARA

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Regular Meeting

Date: November 12, 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/townoflajara

**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, Mayor Pro Tem Medina and Mayor Zaragoza.

Absent: Trustee Espinoza. Trustee Wagoner submitted a letter of resignation.

A quorum was present.

Also present were: Town Manager Dennis Koenig, Police Chief Jerry Lujan, Maintenance Supervisor Matt Herrera, Building Inspector Joe Trottner 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, Cummings, Mayor Pro Tem Medina and Mayor Zaragoza

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

**Approval of Consent Calendar**

***Motion:*** Trustee Valdez moved to approve the Consent Calendar; seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Medina.

Trustee Gallegos asked to make a comment on the bills to be paid during the trustee comments.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

**Recognition of Scheduled Public Comment**

Gil Lopez addressed the trustees regarding the tree in front of his property on Main street. He stated the tree roots have grown and caused the sidewalk to be pushed up causing a trip hazard. He also commented on the mess that the tree makes when the fruit it produces drops to the sidewalk. Lopez asked permission to remove the tree and replace it with a different kind of tree. Mayor Zaragoza suggested Town Manager Koenig, Maintenance Supervisor Matthew Herrera and himself look at the tree and sidewalk. Lopez stated that he would be willing to research a tree that would work in the space in the sidewalk and not produce fruit.

**Citizen Comments**

No Comments.

**Town Manager’s Report**

Town Manager Koenig reported that Mindy Russell requested a donation for the Conejos County Gift of Giving. This program gives about 800 gifts to children in the Conejos County. The Trustees had questions and wished that Russell was able to make a presentation. Mayor Pro Tem Medina suggested donating $100 and provide a place for a drop box.

***Motion:*** Mayor Pro Tem Medina moved to donate $100 and a drop box for the Conejos County Gift of Giving; seconded by Trustee Gallegos.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Town Manager Koenig reported that the sales tax is up 24% over this time last year and reminded the trustees that there was a 90-day lag between the time the sales tax is collected and when the town actually receives the funds.

Town Manager Koenig presented the trustees with a resignation letter from Trustee Wagoner. He stated the statutes indicate that the vacancy must be filled within 60 days, however since nomination petitions for the next regular election can begin to be circulated on January 7th it was suggested that the town not appoint anyone for the vacancy, but rather wait for the election.

Town Manager asked the trustees to consider nominating an individual for the Citizen of the Year. Lynette DePriest, Richard Ruybal and Sylvia Montano were nominated. Mayor Pro Tem Medina withdrew Lynette DePriest from the nominations as she is an employee. A roll call vote was held to determine the Citizen of the Year. Trustee Gallegos, Mayor Pro Tem Medina and Mayor Zaragoza voted for Sylvia Montano. Trustees Cummings and Valdez voted for Richard Ruybal. Montano received the highest number of votes and therefore was selected to be the Citizen of the Year for 2019.

**Approval of Town Managers Report:**

***Motion:*** Trustee Valdez moved to approve the Town Managers Report; seconded by Trustee Cummings.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

**Town Attorney’s Report:**

Town Attorney Valdez was not present.

**Trustee Comments**

**Mayor Pro Tem Medina**: No comments

**Trustee Cummings:** No comments

**Trustee Gallegos:** Asked about inviting Jim Hoogendoorn and James Bryant (Santa) to the Christmas Party. There was discussion on finding someone to be Santa. Mayor Zaragoza stated that he would contact Larry Burh to see if he could be Santa this year.

Trustee Gallegos questioned why JEAR Auto Repair was on the bill pay list and asked if there was a conflict of interest due to the fact that his wife is a trustee. Town Manager Koenig explained that JEAR Auto Repair put tires on the town car because his service was the cheapest. Mayor Pro Tem Medina suggested discussing policies clarifying the conflict of interest and making sure the town is using all businesses fairly.

Trustee Gallegos commented that she had citizens complain about a trash service company that comes very early in the morning and asked if the town could set a policy restricting the hours that they pick up trash. She suggested that they discuss this at another meeting.

**Trustee Valdez**: Commented that he had a lot of good reports on the Smash Fest.

**Mayor Zaragoza:** Commented that there was a great turn out for the Pete Martinez Veterans Memorial Park dedication service and thanked all those that helped to make it possible.

**New Business**

**Resolution 2019-2** – A resolution adopting the 2020 Budget. Mayor Zaragoza read the resolution.

***Motion:*** Mayor Pro Tem Medina moved to approve Resolution 2019-2; seconded by Trustee Gallegos.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

**Resolution 2019-3** – A Resolution appropriating funds for the 2020 Budget. Mayor Zaragoza read the resolution.

***Motion:*** Trustee Valdez moved to approve Resolution 2019-3; seconded by Trustee Cummings.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

**Executive Session**

***Motion:*** Mayor Pro Tem Medina moved to go into executive session for discussion of a matter required to be kept confidential by the following federal or state law, rule or regulation under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(c); seconded by Trustee Gallegos.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

**Return to Open Meeting**

Mayor Zaragoza stated “The time is now 8:11 pm, and the executive session has been concluded and we now return to the open Meeting.

***Motion:*** Mayor Pro Tem Medina moved to accept Robert Wagoner’s resignation as trustee; seconded by Trustee Gallegos.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

**Old Business**

**Short Term Rental –** Tabled until next meeting.

**Adjournment:**

**Mayor Pro Tem Medina moved to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm.**

**Respectfully Submitted by**

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**Assistant Town Clerk – Felicia Gomez Mayor / Mayor Pro Tem**