

TOWN OF LA JARA

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Regular Meeting
Date: October 15, 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: Espinoza, Cummings, Wagoner, Mayor Pro Tem Medina and Mayor Zaragoza. Trustee Espinoza arrived at 7:03 and left at 7:05

Absent: Austin Valdez and Mary Ann Gallegos

A quorum was present.

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

Approval of Agenda

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

Vote Results: Ayes: Cummings, Wagoner, Mayor Pro Tem Medina and Mayor Zaragoza

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Approval of Consent Calendar

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

Vote Result: Ayes: Trustees Cummings, Wagoner, Mayor Pro Tem Medina and Mayor Zaragoza.

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Recognition of Scheduled Public Comment

Luis Alvarez:

Alvarez is the Partnership Specialist for the San Luis Valley. Alvarez assists in promoting the Census and asks partnerships to assist in the promotion of the Census for hard to reach populations. Alvarez states that the San Luis Valley is a hard to reach population. Alvarez mentions that 20-40% of the SLV population will get their surveys and not respond to the Census. Alvarez explains the importance of the Census, stating that, "funds go into Title I, Medicaid / Medicare and Homeland Security, and if the Census gets a low count in responses then that's less money for communities." Mayor Zaragoza asked Alvarez, "What the Town could do specifically to help promote the Census." Alvarez replies, "There are boards and County Commissioners that have declared a Census day to help promote it." Mayor Zaragoza

mentions that the Town could put a note in the water bills that are sent out to the residents in helping to promote the Census.

Citizen Comments

Tammy Garcia: Is requesting a couple of speed bumps at the street corner of Poplar and Richfield Rd, and also at Walnut and Richfield. Garcia mentions that these streets are high in traffic and speeding is a huge concern. Garcia states that kids play in these areas along with people walking. Garcia would like to see the traffic slowdown in these areas. Mayor Zaragoza asks Town Manager Koenig, "What is the situation on that road." Koenig explains that the road is within city limits. An additional comment from a citizen states that there is a school bus that makes stops within that particular area. Garcia, would like to know how soon she would find out the decision regarding speed bumps. Zaragoza replied, "It will not be an immediate decision, the board members will need to discuss it and also see what the Town's budget is because they're costly. Garcia stated that she would be willing to pay for the speed bumps. Koenig mentioned that the speed bumps run about \$1500 in price.

Town Manager's Report

Town Manager Koenig reported that the backflow devices are now 100% in compliance. He mentioned that the State is happy and so is Maintenance Supervisor Matt Herrera. Koenig states that we needed to be at 90% but we're 100% in compliance, and what a relief it is.

Town Manager Koenig moves presents with the 2020 Budget asking board members if they want to have a work session prior to November the budget will need to be approved prior to December. Koenig explains that we have a specific schedule that is set by the state. Koenig says, "The total budget is just \$10,000 short of 1.3 million and you're going to have about between \$80,000 and \$100,000 to play with." "Koenig also mentions, "If there's a project you want to do, the money is there to do it." Mayor Zaragoza asks Koenig, "Approximately how long do you think it will take the board to just kind of hash it over?" Koenig replies, "It shouldn't be too, long I don't think." Zaragoza informs every one of the change in date for next month's meeting, which will be Tuesday, November 12th instead of the 14th.

Town Manager Koenig mentions that the Short Term Rental Ordinance needs to be looked over and it will be ready for approval at the November meeting. Koenig says that he got a bunch of ordinances from other communities, some larger, some smaller that Town Attorney Valdez and himself got together and adopted the ordinances from communities our size.

Town Manager Koenig informs the board members about the SMASH Fest on October 19 at 10:00 a.m. He comments that there has been no archery contestant's sign up for the pumpkin archery shoot contest. Mayor Zaragoza asked what the timeline and activities consist of. Event Coordinator Felicia Gomez replied with what activities would be taking place with approximate times.

Town Manager Koenig reported that the Fall Clean-up begins on October 28th and will run to November 10th, 2019. He said there will be roll off dumpsters for La Jara residents to take debris.

Town Manager Koenig mentions the Christmas party will be on December 14 at 6:00 p.m. at the Dutch Mill restaurant in Antonito. Mayor Zaragoza explains that the board needs to discuss who will be honored as citizen of the year.

Town Manager Koenig moves forward to explain that "Faucette" is opening another business next to the Baroz shop. He said, "It will be an alignment and oil shop, they will be coming in to purchase their water and sewer tap permits."

Town Manager Koenig goes on to say, "We now have the goose gun, and Matt should now be getting that operational real soon."

Town Manager Koenig explains that sales tax is up 16% for the month. Mayor Zaragoza asks Koenig what the contributing factors are for the rise in sales tax. Koenig replies, "People are wanting to come here now, we got a nice friendly town, we got a good staff that works hard, low crime and we know who the bad actors are and we keep that under control."

Town Manager Koenig comes back to item number 7 on his report which is, "Managers Search; Qualifications time frame. Koenig informs the board with qualification criteria that other places use when actively searching for a Town Manager. Koenig says, "We can run the hiring ad for free with SGR, CML and CIRSA so we can get a broad spectrum of candidates." Koenig explains the hiring process along with time frame in hiring a new replacement for his position.

Approval of Town Managers Report:

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Medina moved to approve the Town Managers Report; seconded by Trustee Cummings.

Vote Results: Ayes: Trustee Cummings, Wagoner, Mayor Pro Tem Medina and Mayor Zaragoza.

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Town Attorney's Report:

Town Attorney Valdez begins by explaining to the board that he and Town Manager Koenig worked hard on the Short Term Rental. Valdez tells the board that he and Koenig have worked hand and glove over the years together and when Koenig retires he has decided it's time for him to follow. Valdez said he will submit a more "formal" resignation in a letter as time nears. Valdez comments, "I think Mr. Waggoner would be an excellent choice of replacement, which is completely up to him and the board of course, but after forty-six years, it's time to move on." Mayor Zaragoza comments, "I would like to thank the both of you for your service, forty-six years and seven plus years for everything you've both done for this community."

Approval of Town Attorney's Report:

Motion: Trustee Wagoner moved to approve the Town Attorney's Report; seconded by Trustee Cummings.

Vote Results: Ayes: Trustee Cummings, Wagoner, Mayor Pro Tem Medina and Mayor Zaragoza.

Nays: None

Motion: Carried

Trustee Comments:

Trustee Cummings: No comments

Trustee Waggoner: No comments

Mayor Pro Tem Medina: Medina comments, "A lot of people are asking about the laundry mat, is there any up-date on that?" Town Manager Koenig replies, "Red told me that he would have it open in October of 2018, and then 19, and now he's waiting on the plumber." Medina also asked about the Lara property and Koenig said he hasn't heard anything from Arnold since the last meeting.

Mayor Zaragoza: Zaragoza begins with thanking the Maintenance Department for their hard work with the water line break at Mr. Wilsons. Zaragoza said it was a long and hard task but with the help of the

Manassa Maintenance Department they were able to get the job done. Zaragoza informs the board that Trustee Espinoza had not been selected for the Women of Influence Award which he had nominated her. Zaragoza said that the roll-off dumpsters will be set out for the fall clean up, he also mentioned that the board meeting and work session for next month has been rescheduled. Zaragoza asked the board members for permission to attend the Mayors Summit coming up on November 15.

Approval of Mayor Zaragoza to attend Mayor Summit:

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Medina moved to approve Mayor Zaragoza's Mayor Summit Attendance; seconded by Trustee Waggoner.

Vote Results: Ayes: Trustee Cummings, Waggoner, Mayor Pro Tem Medina and Mayor Zaragoza.

Nays: None

Motion: Carried

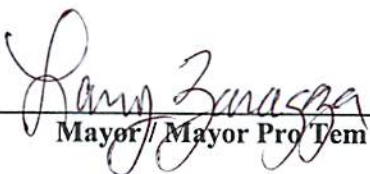
Adjournment:

Mayor Pro Tem Medina moved to adjourn; seconded by Trustee Cummings. The meeting adjourned at 8:13 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by


Assistant Town Clerk – Felicia Gomez




Mayor / Mayor Pro Tem