

***Subject to approval at
the May 2, 2022
City Council Meeting***

STATE OF COLORADO)
COUNTY OF OTERO) SS
CITY OF LA JUNTA)

CALL TO ORDER: A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of La Junta, Colorado, was called to order by Mayor Ayala on Monday, April 18, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building.

INVOCATION: Mayor Ayala gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Ayala led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: The following Council Members were present:

Damon Ramirez, Ward 1
Paul Velasquez, Ward 1
Elaine McIntyre, Ward 2
Joe Ayala, Mayor
Chandra Ochoa, Ward 2
Edward Vela, Ward 3
Lisa Pantoya, Ward 3

Absent: none

Also present: Rick Klein, City Manager
Phil Malouff Jr., City Attorney
Melanie Scofield, City Clerk
Paula Mahoney, Admin. Asst.
Chris Arguello, Line Crew
Larry Aragon, Line Crew
Juan Garcia, Line Crew
Anthony Aguilar, Line Crew
Drew Yochum, Line Crew
Gary Cranson, UB Commissioner
Bette McFarren, RF Gazette

PROCLAMATION: Mayor Ayala signed a proclamation declaring the week of April 24 – 30 , 2022 as National Crime Victims' Rights Week.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: Mayor Ayala asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of April 4, 2022. After hearing none, the Mayor asked for a motion to approve the minutes as published.

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE APRIL 4, 2022 MINUTES AS PUBLISHED: Ochoa

SECOND: Pantoya

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS (5 minute time limit per person):

1. Chris Arguello, Electric Superintendent: Explained that they had to remove some trees to re-locate a line at 18th & Colorado Avenue. Solar lights have been installed for the trail and have also installed more poles using fabricated brackets.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – April 18, 2022**NEW BUSINESS****A. Committee/Board Reports**

1. Utilities Board (Mayor Ayala):
 - Waiting on Bill to continue our discussion on net metering and solar.
 - Brought on Joe Kelley to help out with the Ark Valley Conduit.
 - A meeting with AVC has been scheduled for May 16th at 5:00 p.m. for Council and Utilities Board.
2. AVRMC Board (Council Member McIntyre):
 - Shared the 1st Quarter Executive Summary. Meeting all of the trigger points.
3. Senior Center Board (Council Member Velasquez):
 - Have 495 members.
 - The breakfasts have been really busy. Shout out to the City departments for supporting the meals.
 - Congratulations to Dawn Block for her appointment to the Governors Clean Transit Enterprise Governing Board.
 - Lunch will be ham and scalloped potatoes on the 21st.
 - The “Senior Prom” will be on the 29th. The theme is the “Kentucky Derby”.
 - Membership: 50 years of age and \$6.00 per year.
4. Urban Renewal (Mayor Ayala):
 - The video of the last meeting was sent out. I encourage you all to watch it.

B. City Manager’s Comments

- The new turf being installed at 22nd Street Ball Field by Otero College is almost done.
- We have four new picnic tables at Livewell Park and lights and shades are ordered.
- Its weed season. All crews are preparing for spring.
- Moltz Construction has inspected the project at the water tank pump replacement and are scheduling materials and installation.
- We had fires at Bent’s Fort and Fort Lyon at the same time. Fire departments from around the State were helping. There was 85% of Bent’s Fort 800 acres burnt.
- Soccer has started. The games are on week nights.
- We have been putting out the bikes from our Bike Share grant. Road signs are going up.
- T-Ball, Softball/Baseball registrations are open until May 6th.
- The equipment for the Brick and Tile Park has arrived. We will finish prepping the ground and placing concrete as soon as the area is prepared.
- We helped Otero County tear down a structure at the 1300 block of Kenilworth.
- We are told that asphalt won’t be available until May. We are looking at different sources now.

C. Governing Body Comments

1. Council Member Velasquez:
 - Next week is National Administrative Professionals Day.
2. Council Member McIntyre:
 - The bathrooms at City Park are open. We need to be respectful.
3. Mayor Ayala:
 - The new microphones and voting equipment should be installed by our next meeting.
 - The Kids Theatre would like to utilize the Livewell Park for their performance of Wizard of Oz. The production dates are July 15, 16, and 17 at 3:00 p.m.
 - We will have a Strategic Planning Session with Michael Yerman on April 27th and May 9th at 5:30 in the AVRMC Medical Education Rooms.
 - Brad and the other firefighters are great host, working together. We have amazing workers for the City.
4. Council Member Ramirez:
 - Commended the businesses and those who donated to the firefighters. Thank you.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

ATTEST:

CITY OF LA JUNTA

Melanie R. Scofield, City Clerk

Joseph Ayala, Mayor