

Council Goals

Envision a safe, flourishing downtown that provides a strong commercial tax base

Strive to be active stewards of existing aging infrastructure

Recognize importance of experience, well trained, and community minded staff

Ensure its electorate is well informed of on-going successes and future plans

Envision a safe, secure community for its families and youth

Promote redevelopment of existing businesses and neighborhoods and increase quality of life for all its residents



AGENDA REGULAR MEETING LA JUNTA CITY COUNCIL

La Junta, Colorado
February 5, 2024
6:00 PM
Council Chambers
Municipal Building
601 Colorado Avenue

CALL TO ORDER (Mayor Ayala)

INVOCATION (Mayor Ayala)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (Mayor Ayala)

ROLL CALL (City Clerk)

Council Members

Supervisors

Others

Ramirez

Velasquez

Stoker

Ayala

Ochoa

Pantoya

Rikhof

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS (Mayor) (Action)

Regular Meeting January 16, 2024

Special Meeting January 30, 2024

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS ONLY *(5-minutes time limit per person)*

FBLA RECOGNITION

REPORTS

A. Tourism Update (Pam Denahy)

NEW BUSINESS

A. Liquor Licenses (City Attorney) (Action)

1. Application for a Special Events Permit by Inspiration Field, Event Manager, Brittany Baylor. The event is their 3rd Annual Mardi Gras to be held February 17, 2024 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. at 612 Adams Avenue
2. Application for a Special Events Permit by Inspiration Field, Event Manager, Brittany Baylor. The event is their 39th Annual La Junta Trading Golf Company Classic to be held May 10, 2024 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. at 612 Adams Avenue
3. Application for a Special Events Permit for Arkansas River Basin Water Forum, Event Manager, Jean VanPelt. The event is their Local Leaders Dinner and Reception to be held March 5, 2024 from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. and their Ark River Basin Water Forum Networking Dinner to be held March 6, 2024 from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., both events will be at 612 Adams Avenue
4. Application for Renewal of a Fermented Malt Beverage Off Premise Liquor License by Love's Travel Stops & Country Stores, Inc. d/b/a Love's Travel Stop #12, 308 E. 1st Street
5. Application for Renewal of a Lodging & Entertainment Liquor License by Yak and Yeti Hotel Inc., d/b/a Yak and Yeti, 1325 E. 3rd Street

6. Application for Renewal of a Fermented Malt Beverage and Wine Liquor License by Walmart Inc, d/b/a Wal-Mart #1384, 6 Conley Road
 7. Application for Report of Change of Manager, from Jonna Leggitt to Heidi Samson, Walmart Inc., d/b/a Wal-Mart #1384, 6 Conley Road
- B. A Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Real Property to Inspiration Field (City Attorney) (Action)
 - C. First Reading/AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TOWING ORDINANCE (City Attorney) (Action)
 - D. Interim City Manager Selection (Mayor) (Action)
 - E. Committee/Board Reports
 - F. City Manager's Comments
 - G. Governing Body Comments
 - H. EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DETERMINING POSITIONS RELATIVE TO MATTERS THAT MAY BE SUBJECT TO NEGOTIATIONS, DEVELOPING STRATEGY FOR NEGOTIATIONS, AND/OR INSTRUCTING NEGOTIATORS, UNDER C.R.S §24-6-402(4)(e)
 - I. ADJOURN

*Subject to approval at
the February 5, 2024
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 Tuesday, January 16, 2024, at 6:04 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
- Joe Ayala, Mayor
- Lisa Pantoya, Ward 3
- Maureen Rikhof, Ward 3

Absent: Jeremiah Stoker, Ward 2
Chandra Ochoa, Ward 2

Also present: Bill Jackson, Asst. City Manager
Phil Malouff Jr., City Attorney
Melanie Scofield, City Clerk
Paula Mahoney, Admin. Asst.
Gary Cranson, Utility Board
Tom Seaba, Director of Water/Wastewater
Meghan Yergert, RO Plant ORC
Mike Bourget, Utility Board
Julie Worley, La Junta
Nancy Bennett, La Junta
Connie Shane, La Junta
Cathy Hurd, La Junta
Betty Velasquez, La Junta
Chad Penner, La Junta
Michael Weber, Denver
Ed Vela, La Junta
Adrian Hart, SECO News
Bette McFarren, RF Gazette

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: Mayor Ayala asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of January 2, 2024. Hearing none, the mayor asked for a motion to approve the minutes as published.

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE JANUARY 2, 2024 MINUTES AS PUBLISHED: Rikhof

SECOND: Ramirez

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 5-0 (Stoker and Ochoa absent)

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – January 16, 2024**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS (5-minute time limit per person):**

1. Julie Worley, 2417 San Juan Avenue: Otero College will be collaborating with Southeast Colorado Creative Partnership to host a Smithsonian exhibit in Southeast Colorado. “Crossroads: Change in Rural America” will be showcased and exhibited at the Otero College Student Center from Friday, January 26th through Thursday, February 29th. It is being sponsored by Southeast Colorado Creative Partnership, Otero College, and Colorado Humanities. (Event Schedule is attached)
2. Ed Vela, 1101 Russell Avenue: Listed several things that have been on the agenda for several years:
 - Bathroom at City Park for the ladies. The entryway hasn’t been fixed in three years.
 - Conley Road by Wal-Mart. The road needs to be fixed between Highway 50 and the entryway to Village Inn.
 - Tourism Fund. Has a million and a half dollars to work with. Management needs to come up with something that makes it clear what the money will be used for.
 - Interview of City Manager candidates. Wants council to afford the citizenry the opportunity to listen in on the new candidates before a decision is made on who the successor will be.

REPORTS**A. Economic Development.** Cynthia Nieb gave the following report:

Gaps in Downtown Development

- The second block of Colorado Avenue is losing businesses at a rapid rate. There are a couple of challenges to retaining businesses in that location:
 - Some of the commercial buildings are in a distressed state and need repair
 - Some chosen businesses are not high value, meaning there is not a strong need for them in La Junta or in the immediate area. Most people choose to open business based on their desire to offer a certain product, not on community need or desire. We do need people in who provide needed services as well as goods.
 - I *believe* that the Opera House Pizzeria is trying to open under new management
- We will focus on finding grants that can allow us to engage a consultant who can produce a more detailed leakage study than our 2016 study that is linked to empty buildings or those that are in blighted/unsafe condition with round rehabilitation numbers attached: we should have a plan. We also need to have Urban Renewal and the City collaborate on how to save our downtown building stock before it is too late.

New Businesses

- Kava Bar on the 2nd Block of Colorado Avenue, Carly Johnson
- Reinvention of Yak and Yeti into a lounge
- Ruiz Dance Studio on 2nd Block of Santa Fe
- K Lunchbox at Midtown Inn & Suites, Korean and Greek food
- Bocca Felice/The Barista reopened on the 2nd Block of Colorado Avenue
- Sutherlands is scheduled to open in March and is interviewing for positions now
- Soco Froyo is hosting vendors in its space as well as Karaoke on Wednesday evenings
- Jake Pruyne, Kate Pruyne, Damon Nichols and Celeste Nichols have started a new venture called Strength Under Stress. They sell clothing to raise funds to combat domestic violence.

City Park Tennis Courts

- We applied for a National Park Service *Save America’s Treasures* grant on December 19, 2023 in the amount of \$255,700.60. We will apply for a State Historical Fund grant as match in the amount of \$250,000 in April. We’ll figure out a way to obtain the remaining \$5,700.60 in match.
- We crunched some numbers, and if we do have the anticipated number of meets for tennis and pickleball, our economy could be improved by as much as 1-2 million dollars in local related costs.
- These tennis courts are a historic, rare resource from the WPA/CWA program. They cannot be removed without endangering our status as a National Register resource and access to grants.
- Tennis courts are easy to maintain.
- The Tennis Court Survey stands at 177 replies with 96.6% in favor of rehabilitation. The survey ends on February 15, 2024.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – January 16, 2024

Grants

- We need to be measured in applying for grants to accommodate our capacity to administer them and complete work. We only have one grant writer and administrator who also has numerous other duties. We also need to be mindful of other City divisions and their grant-related commitments.
- The Colorado Health Foundation representative for our area, Charles Reese, has asked to speak to me about their new direction and how they can help La Junta.
- We have been invited to work with the Colorado Trust. I'll update that information during the next report.

Housing

- I have been asked to speak to officials from THE COLORADO FORUM on housing in southeastern Colorado. I presented on that topic in June 2022 for the Gates Family Foundation board retreat in Wyoming, and Tom Gougeon, GFF Executive Director, suggested my name to The Colorado Forum. That ZOOM call will occur next week.

Boards

- As of December 2023, I am a new board member of the Community Resource Center, which is responsible for Rural Philanthropy Days.

Urban Renewal

- Board Elections will take place on January 25 for the executive committee and one board position. Four applicants will attend the meeting on February 25 to be interviewed:
 - Bethany Bender
 - Carly Boudreau
 - Ben Mason
 - Randall Roberson
- SBrand (Sheryl Trent) created a Strategic Plan for the LJ URA over the last half year. We held a retreat and several work sessions to get to the point where we are having a final work session on Thursday, January 18 in the Power Board Room at 4pm. The final vote on the plan will take place at the regularly scheduled meeting on the 25th. The components of the plan include:
 - The Mission
 - LJ URA Discovery Report and Brand Guide
 - Guiding Principles
 - Strategic Plan
 - Financial Application Review
 - We discovered that most of the community does not understand LJ URA
 - Our mission is to address blight and safety issues in the district by creating public and private partnerships and leveraging funding sources

Certified Local Government

- Last Friday, we turned in a \$25,000 Certified Local Government grant application to perform a Historic Survey of East 1st & 2nd Streets. Preliminary investigation has suggested that there are significant Hispanic, railroad, and Green Book resources in the area. With the potential to be listed as a Historic District, there would be the opportunity to apply for historic tax credits and State Historical Fund grants for buildings in the area.
- The First United Methodist Church is seeking designation for their church to capture its history and become eligible for historic tax credits and State Historical Fund grants.
- Board member Toni Madrid approached the La Junta Rotary to develop a program that captures the local histories of businesses and their buildings (already available from our last Downtown Historic Survey) and provides access to that information via a QR Code that will be exhibited in the individual storefront windows.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – January 16, 2024**La Junta RISE (Main Street & Creative District)**

- La Junta RISE was contacted by The COLORADO SUN to provide information pertaining to cultural events and programs in La Junta.
- La Junta RISE staff attended a planning session for the Otero College Facilities Master Plan and offered suggestions on funding.
- THE AGE OF A LOBSTER, a novel by Stephen Mathews about coming of age was a finalist in the 2023 Best Indie Books Awards.
- Kleinmaker Space is receiving an award on Tuesday, March 12, 2024 from the Colorado Business Committee for the Arts for fostering creativity and innovation for the betterment of their entire community through education, tourism, economic development, inspiration and local pride.

Note: I would like to take this opportunity to thank Rick Klein for believing in me by hiring me over six years ago. I've been inspired by your leadership, vision (at least five years ahead of everyone else), broad range of skills, ability to plan and execute, and willingness to give anyone a second chance. Your kindness is legendary, starting with the phrase "Let's not" when you don't want to move forward with an item to pushing endless wheelchairs of residents so that you can get an update on their lives. Your love for La Junta is unquestioned, and, although most residents don't know it, you are the nexus of forward momentum at the regional, state and federal levels: your expertise and ability to "get 'er done" no matter what the challenges has made all the difference in La Junta receiving programs, projects, businesses, and money. Thank you for always putting La Junta first and your ego second. We will miss you more than you know, Rick.

Mayor Ayala: The mayor read City Manager Rick Klein's resignation letter. It will be effective February 29, 2024. There are a lot of things that need to be done. As soon as the council knows more, they will let everyone else know.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Application for a Special Event Permit by La Junta Chamber of Commerce, Event Manager, Jessica LaPage. The event is their Annual Banquet to be held January 29, 2024 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at 2001 San Juan Avenue. The application is in order and has been reviewed by City supervisors for compliance with City and State codes. The appropriate fee has been tendered and the premises have been posted. The City Attorney recommends approval.

MOTION TO GRANT A SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT TO LA JUNTA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR THEIR ANNUAL BANQUET TO BE HELD JANUARY 29, 2024 FROM 6:00 P.M. TO 9:00 P.M. AT 2001 SAN JUAN AVENUE: Rikhof

SECOND: Velasquez

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 4-0 (Stoker and Ochoa absent, Pantoya abstained)

B. Committee/Board Reports

1. Senior Center Advisory Board (Council Member Velasquez):
 - Offering a trip to San Antonio in May.
 - Looking at reinstating the dances in May.
2. Utility Board (Council Member Velasquez):
 - There was a main leak at 1900 San Juan that affected the water service to Otero College.
 - They assisted contractors on the new Sheriff's office buildings.
 - Replaced several leaking meter setters.
 - Assisted plumbers in removing a clog out by one of our businesses caused by a fat, oil, grease and flushable wipes that don't disintegrate.
 - There's going to be continued work on the lead and copper survey of the city.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – January 16, 2024

- Cheraw High School had students that toured the RO Plant and it was educational.
- There were damaged cross arms replaced at 2209 Carson Avenue and at the Airport.
- Three power poles were removed from 501 Barnes Avenue, 1322 W. 5th Street and 2909 San Juan Avenue. The poles have been abandoned with no services attached.
- Several of the high pressurized sodium lights, which are the old lights, were replaced with LEDs throughout town.
- Bidding process will begin for electric substation equipment testing. It's been some time since it was last tested and the equipment is old.
- Discussion is in the beginning stages of replacing the trash trucks. They are quite expensive.

Director of Water/Wastewater Tom Seaba: We've retained the firm Hazen and Sawyer on January 2nd. They're going to assist us going over information and data requests concerning the Arkansas Valley Conduit. Tonight, Mr. Mike Weber, who works for Hazen and Sawyer, wanted to be present to see if anyone had questions. We've already began trying to fill data requests. We're hoping to see this initial report from them completed in early March. It'll definitely be completed before the Utility Board meeting the third week in March and it should resolve a lot of questions that we have concerning volume of water that the city could use, the volumes of water that will help us meet permit compliance, especially concerning selenium, manganese and all of the PFAS elements.

D. Governing Body Comments

1. Council Member Rikhof:
 - Have questions about the process for filling the city manager's position. This business needs to be done in public and people in the city should be part of the process and know as soon as possible what their part is. The people of La Junta deserve to have some sort of statement from the council on what to expect for the process.
2. Council Member Pantoya:
 - The La Junta Chamber of Commerce Banquet is Monday the 29th. If anybody wants to buy any tables or tickets, they can contact the Chamber.
3. Council Member Velasquez:
 - Glad to see that there was a contingency plan to get people that would be exposed to the cold temperatures to a shelter. Thanked Marty Lee, United Methodist Church of Rocky Ford, which was the shelter. Also thanked Sheriff Shawn Mobley, Mr. Rick Ritter from the Otero County Health Department, La Junta Fire Chief Brad Davidson and Chief of Police Todd Quick.
4. Mayor Ayala:
 - Representative Ty Winter urged the governor to disperse more funds to rural communities when they declare a state of emergency.

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

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – January 16, 2024

MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR DISCUSSION OF A PERSONNEL MATTER UNDER C.R.S. §24-6-402(4)(f) AND NOT INVOLVING: ANY SPECIFIC EMPLOYEES WHO HAVE REQUESTED DISCUSSION OF THE MATTER IN OPEN SESSION; ANY MEMBER OF THIS BODY OR ANY ELECTED OFFICIAL; THE APPOINTMENT OF ANY PERSON TO FILL AN OFFICE OF THIS BODY OR OF AN ELECTED OFFICIAL; OR PERSONNEL POLICIES THAT DO NOT REQUIRE THE DISCUSSION OF MATTERS PERSONAL TO PARTICULAR EMPLOYEES: Velasquez

SECOND: Pantoya

DISCUSSION: Purpose of the executive meeting is to devise a plan regarding the search for a city manager.

VOTE: The motion carried 5-0 (Stoker and Ochoa absent)

ATTEST:

CITY OF LA JUNTA

Melanie R. Scofield, City Clerk

Joe Ayala, Mayor

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – January 16, 2024

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
Museum on Main Street (MoMS) Exhibition

EVENT SCHEDULE

“CROSSROADS: Change in Rural America”
Otero College Student Center/2001 San Juan Avenue – La Junta
Friday – January 26, 2024 – Thursday – February 29, 2024

Sponsored & Hosted by:
Southeast Colorado Creative Partnership (SECCP)
Otero College (OC)
Colorado Humanities

Exhibition and all companion events free and open to the public.
Exhibition schedule is subject to change depending on weather.
For updates, please listen to La Junta Radio, Lightning AM 1400 or Thunder Country 92.1 FM

- Friday, January 26, 2024** **Exhibition Opening Reception – 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.**
Otero College Student Center Banquet Room
Public Invited to Attend
All attendees to the opening reception receive a free ticket to the OC men’s basketball game at 7:00 p.m. Friday evening.
- Showing of Colorado Humanities Documentary Film
“5 States of Colorado” – 5:00 p.m./Banquet Room.
Facilitator from Colorado Humanities will be present.
- Saturday, January 27, 2024** **Exhibition Open – 12:00 noon – 4:00 p.m.**
Showing of “5 States of Colorado” – 1:00 p.m.
Otero College Student Center
- Thursday, February 1, 2024** **Exhibition Open – 12:00 noon – 8:00 p.m.**
Otero College Student Center
- Companion Presentation – “History of La Junta”
Presenter: Bob Fowler
Presentation at 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.
Otero College Student Center – Room 120
- Saturday, February 3, 2024** **Exhibition Open – 12:00 noon – 4:00 p.m.**
Showing of “5 States of Colorado” – 1:00 p.m.
Otero College Student Center – Room 120
- Thursday, February 8, 2024** **Exhibition Open – 12:00 noon – 4:00 p.m.**
Otero College Student Center
- Saturday, February 10, 2024** **Exhibition Open – 12:00 noon – 4:00 p.m.**
Showing of “5 States of Colorado” – 1:00 p.m.
Otero College Student Center – Room 120
- Thursday, February 12, 2024** **Exhibition Open – 12:00 noon – 8:00 p.m.**
Otero College Student Center
- Companion Presentation – “My Vision/The Manzanola Dry Settlement”
Presenter: Darlene Derbigny
Presentation at 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.
Otero College Student Center – Room 120

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – January 16, 2024

Saturday, February 17, 2024 **Exhibition Open – 12:00 noon – 4:00 p.m.**
Showing of “5 States of Colorado” – 1:00 p.m.
Otero College Student Center

Thursday, February 22, 2024 **Exhibition Open – 12:00 noon – 8:00 p.m.**
Otero College Student Center

Companion Presentation
“Holly/Swink Railroad Company Helped Grow the Arkansas Valley”
Presenter: Chuck Hanagan
Presentation at 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.
Otero College Student Center – Room 120

Saturday, February 24, 2024 **Exhibition Open – 12:00 noon – 4:00 p.m.**
Showing of “5 States of Colorado” – 1:00 p.m.
Otero College Student Center

Thursday, February 29, 2024 **Exhibition Open – 12:00 noon – 4:00 p.m.**
Otero College Student Center
(LAST DAY EXHIBIT IS OPEN)

*Subject to approval at
the February 5, 2024
City Council Meeting*

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

CALL TO ORDER: A special meeting of the City Council of the City of La Junta, Colorado, was called to order by Mayor Ayala on Tuesday, January 30, 2024, at 5:30 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
- Jeremiah Stoker, Ward 2 – via telephone
- Joe Ayala, Mayor
- Chandra Ochoa, Ward 2
- Lisa Pantoya, Ward 3
- Maureen Rikhof, Ward 3

Absent: none

- Also present:
- Rick Klein, City Manager
 - Bill Jackson, Asst. City Manager
 - Phil Malouff Jr., City Attorney
 - Melanie Scofield, City Clerk
 - Paula Mahoney, Admin. Asst.
 - Meghan Wiker, RO Plant ORC
 - Pam Denahy, Director of Tourism
 - Tom Seaba, Director of Water/WW
 - Jennifer Hinkhouse, Purchasing Director
 - Brock Hinkhouse, Director of Parks & Rec
 - Aliza Libby, Director of Finance
 - Cynthia Nieb, Economic/UR Director
 - Chris Arguello, Electric Superindendant
 - Todd Quick, Chief of Police
 - Aimee Hill, Building Code Official
 - Bret Coates, Property Mgmt. Forman
 - Gary Cranson, Utility Board
 - Edward Vela, La Junta
 - Robert Houston, La Junta
 - Betty Velasquez, La Junta
 - Scott Wiker, La Junta
 - Nancy Bennett, La Junta
 - Paula Klein, La Junta
 - Adrian Hart, SECO News
 - Bette McFarren, RF Gazette

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

1. Ed Vela, 1101 Russell Avenue: Congratulations Rick on your retirement. I wish you well. Whatever you do, do it well. This young council before you, full of millennials, now has an opportunity to make positive changes to our city. We must remove the traditional pecking order, if you will. Process of selecting managers because it has created what some citizens thought were dynasties. It may have worked in the last century but the 21st century, today, is more demanding of our city government. Like many people, in our country, our people are still unsettled about the future. It's a new world and things must be done differently. Practically every day. With the passing of the 1% sales tax, it's time to ante up on your pitch for the yes votes. We are worth the investment. Prove it. The process you will engage in tonight should be reaching out to the best person with minimum state wide advertising. That person will have new ideas, a good accounting knowledge, good people skills, and a vision for our city. That person should be a licensed engineer in the State of Colorado. We need to get the best candidate who wants to come to La Junta and demonstrate an enthusiasm to grow and vitalize our city. It is a huge undertaking. A strong accounting background would be a tremendously helpful supplement. They should be versed in La Junta's storied history and a fighter for funding for our city endeavors that make us great. The candidate should also have good people skills and be a leader of various department supervisors without micromanaging them. The citizens should also have an opportunity to meet the candidates.

NEW BUSINESS**A. Discussion of City Manager job vacancy/hiring process:**

City Attorney Malouff: I sent each of you the wording out of the Charter with regard to what the requirements of the city manager are. I sent you a flyer from Colorado Municipal League with regard to their view of what steps need to be taken. I recall at our last meeting what we were going to do tonight was to try to identify two things. One is what are we looking for, not in the type of person necessarily, as much as an interim city manager or city manager. We have to fill the void in the short term, so what does that mean. The second thing would be if we're going to have a selection committee. What type of individual are we looking for to be a member of that committee. These were the two things I thought we were going to do tonight.

Mayor Ayala: Okay, I have the document you gave out. I have job description. So, I just want to make sure we're all in agreement here. Job description for city manager and interim city manager. The committee that we talked about. I have some search firms that I've reached out to and they've responded back. Do we want to add anything to that? Are we missing anything?

Council Person Velasquez: Just a question. Will any of these search firms assist in developing a new job description or is that on us?

Mayor Ayala: I did not ask that. I thought we were going to do the job descriptions. I could always reach out to them. Out of the three, one is SGR, which is the one that did Lamar's city manager search, the other one is Baker Tilley. That's the one Rick is always sending me openings for. And the Raftelis is the third one. They have all reached out. SGR is the only one who has turned in a quote so far. The other two are working on it and should have these any day now.

City Manager Klein: Just because I've been around so long and I've read them for decades. They'll help you if that's what you want. They'll give you a list of services.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – January 30, 2024

Mayor Ayala: On the job description, I thought we were going to look at what we already have. Then if we wanted to make changes to that we could. Is that what we were thinking?

Council Person Rikhof: Do we have a copy of the current job description?

City Manager Klein: I'll have Dawn send you the job description.

Council Person Rikhof: Is it twenty-five years old?

City Manager Klein: Yes.

Council Member Rikhof: Okay.

City Manager Klein: It's the same one they hired Dan Noller on and the same one they hired me on.

Council Member Rikhof: That's a good place to start. I would just put out that I think part of the process is we need to do some information gathering before we can finalize a job description. I think that includes some public process of gathering what people want, what people of City of La Junta want out of a city manager. I certainly think having a conversation with city council about what we see fit. I think it needs to be more inclusive than that.

Mayor Ayala: Also, the document that Dean sent out, we did post on our Facebook page. So, if anybody wants to download that and look that up. It's from CML.

Council Member Rikhof: How to Hire a Local Government Manager. It's an excellent document. Thank you.

Mayor Ayala: What's the pleasure? Do we want to discuss job description more? What are we thinking on that? What do we want to do? Just referencing 'How to Hire a City Manager', the first thing was to look for an interim city manager. Do we need the job description for that? Or what are you guys feeling on that level?

Council Member Ochoa: With the interim, is that job description going to be time based as well?

Mayor Ayala: We can talk about that right now.

Council Member Velasquez: With the interim position, they become an employee of the city council, which the Charter demands and puts the rules for a permanent manager.

City Attorney Malouff: Yes, he's your employee. Term, length, services and this, that and the other are all up to you folks as that gets negotiated. I would like to see that there's at least some general parameters created as to what interim means. I believe that the search process is going to take more than a day or two. I have no idea and I'm not a novice at this but I believe it would be months. I don't know how long the school district had to fight through it the last time they did it. Or OJC, how long they did it or the hospital how long they had to go through it but I think it's more months than weeks. I think we need to get a grasp and understanding a view of just what interim means. Is it going to be a 2-year deal, 5-year deal, in which case it might as well be just city manager or is it just going to be until the replacement determined. I think it's important to know all those things.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – January 30, 2024

Council Member Velasquez: According to the Charter, that position is for an undetermined amount of time. Correct?

City Attorney Malouff: City managers at will, yes. But with any, in today's world, no offense to the Charter, employees, or prospective employees want more solid terms than at will. It's your bidding. If you want it at will, it's at will.

Council Member Velasquez: So, we have to come up with two job descriptions. One for interim would be fair to everybody because the Charter doesn't really allow for interim. The only thing it references is in the absence or temporary absence of the city manager, he designates somebody by putting that name with the clerk for assisting his duties for a temporary period of time, whether it's a sickness or just an absence.

Mayor Ayala: That's more life if he's still coming back not...

Council Member Velasquez: That's the only guidance the Charter allows for and that's not very much.

Council Member Rikhof: If that's the case, then it seems like we probably should determine if we're going to start a search for a permanent city manager and if we need a motion to discuss it.

Mayor Ayala: The way I understood at our last meeting, is you guys wanted me to look for a committee and you had some parameters. Just so everyone knows what we kind of talked about. We wanted someone from higher ed, we wanted someone from K-12, we wanted someone from the hospital, health care field. And we wanted someone from our Industrial Park and then just like a regular citizen and the mayor and a council member. A max seven-person committee. What we all want that committee to end up doing, that's also going to be up for discussion as well too.

Council Member Ochoa: So, going back to the interim, let's say that it, the qualified candidate is someone that has the knowledge of La Junta and how things run here, are we going to put into the job description training? Is that going to be part of it or...

City Attorney Malouff: Well, that's the real wildcard. If there's going to be a national search and if familiarity with the culture and lore of the area is a significant issue to you. Then I think you guys are going to have to hash that out. What that means. You're going to find somebody from Ohio that doesn't even know where La Junta is.

Council Member Ochoa: But would we be expecting the interim to be kind of guiding?

City Attorney Malouff: I think that's the ultimate point.

Council Member Ochoa: So, then the interim we're going go out like you had stated to possibly the two-year mark in that contract and are what is expected within that...

Mayor Ayala: That would be more contract negotiations.

Council Member Ochoa: Well, a job description or what?

City Attorney Malouff: I think that's a little bit ahead of where we are. I would like to think that the search people and I haven't delt with them, maybe Rick you have, I haven't. But maybe they can tell us

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – January 30, 2024

realistically to look at the candidates, to interview, to do all of the performas that they're going to recommend, it's going take six months, two months, two years. I don't know.

City Manager Klein: Three to four months.

Council Member Rikhof: That document we got said three to six is standard.

Mayor Ayala: SGR told me up to five.

Council Member Ramirez: So, in determining this job description, do we need that other document before we...

Council Member Rikhof: I think the job description comes after. I think the first thing we need to decide is if we are going to initiate a search for a permanent city manager and then appointing both the search committee and an interim manager. But I think the first thing that makes sense for the council to do is to make our intention clear that we're doing a search and hiring a search firm to do that. To that end, so we can have discussion on that, I'll make a motion.

MOTION THAT THE COUNCIL VOTES ON HIRING A SEARCH FIRM WITH THE INTENT OF COMMENCING A SEARCH FOR A PERMANENT CITY MANAGER THINKING IT'LL BE ABOUT SIX MONTHS TIMELINE FOR THE SEARCH TO PLAY OUT: Rikhof

SECOND: Ramirez

DISCUSSION:

Mayor Pro Tem Pantoya: Are you saying that by hiring a search firm that we'll find that we'll look for the city manager that locals couldn't apply?

Council Member Rikhof: Oh no. Absolutely anybody can apply. Hiring...

Mayor Pro Tem Pantoya: Well, that's what we need to clarify. To me, if we're hiring a search party, how would locals be able to. If the firm is going to look for them.

Council Person Rikhof: They don't look for them. They help with the process of...

Mayor Pro Tem Pantoya: But do they have candidates too that are like people that are...

Council Member Rikhof: I hope not. For it to be a fair and transparent search. It would just be put out that City of La Junta is hiring a city manager, here's the job description. And that's probably, I would guess, a month at minimum away from being at that point.

Mayor Ayala: And then the committee would weed it out a little bit before they come to a final level right there. They're going to work with the committee. What do you guys want? Do you want locals to apply? Do you want it to go this far? What are you looking for? What's important to you? So, I would say, absolutely you can be from La Junta, you could be from Maine. It's just whatever, however they put that out there and what we end up back with it.

Council Member Velasquez: I don't have a problem with making a resolution or your motion. I would like clarification on time. When you do start this search. Obviously, Ricks in the room and he can hear everything we're saying.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – January 30, 2024

Council Member Rikhof: No. He knows how this works. We're not doing anything that isn't totally standard. Just the search processes I've been on before. The president of a university announces that they are retiring, resigning, whatever their path is for their departure, and then immediately, the governing body starts. It's really our only job to hire and...

Council Member Velasquez: Because we really can't advertise for candidates for that position when the position is still occupied. Am I wrong there?

City Attorney Malouff: I think you can. As to the motion on the floor, which you should research, I think we should dispose of that one or the other than I'd like to comment to you what I think the next step should be. Could we call for the question please?

Mayor Ayala: Any other discussion? If not, I'll ask for your vote. That's unanimous.

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

City Attorney Malouff: The whole purpose of having a search committee is to do two things. One, to develop the job description and two is to go through the selective process of weeding out the undesirables or the non-sustainable positions. I think that the critical issue now is who's going to be on the search committee, are they willing to serve, will they sit down and pound out what the job description should be? That's why we have a mayor and city councilman on the deal and that's why we're looking for other CEO's or someone of that nature to help us do what's appropriate in the 21st century. That's their job in my view. I don't think we need to develop a job description today. We've got the Charter as a guideline but there are resources that are out there that will help us know what city managers job descriptions are and whether that's appropriate or not. I would be advocating that your next step is do you want a search committee, and if so, the seven positions that the mayor articulated, is that okay with you. Then somebody designated to contact those people and see if they're willing to help us. Take it step by step.

Mayor Ayala: I thought that's what you asked me to do last time? I already did my homework. All I'm waiting for is the council person if we go that route. Then I'll give you guys my list and you guys say yay or you say nay.

Mayor Pro Tem Pantoya: So, tonight we could go ahead and vote on a council member to be on that committee?

City Attorney Malouff: Do you want a search committee? The seven positions that the mayor suggested. Are you happy with that? That's two votes. Then who's going to go solicit their participation. Just because we name someone doesn't mean that they're willing to serve. Unless you already contacted them. You have?

Mayor Ayala: I'm just being productive. You guys told me...

MOTION TO GO AHEAD AND SELECT A SEARCH COMMITTEE: Pantoya

SECOND: Rikhof

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – January 30, 2024

Mayor Ayala: That passes unanimously. Do you want me to give you the individuals I reached out to and then we pick a council member to serve with me in this committee? How do you guys want to do that? For higher ed I reached out to Gary Addington. He said he would be more than willing to do that. From K-12, I reached out to the newly resigning Rick Lovato. He said he would be thrilled to do that. He's leaving in June I believe. For the Industrial Park, Brett McIntosh, the plant manager at Lewis Bolt & Nut. He said he would be delighted to do that. From the community at large, MJ Romano said she would love to serve on that committee. And from the hospital, Andy Flemer would love to be on the committee as well. All of them were enthusiastic Dean. They loved the idea.

Council Member Ochoa: Would that be a conflict with the hospital?

Mayor Ayala: That would have to be from Dean if it would be.

City Attorney Malouff: I don't think so. Good question.

Mayor Ayala: And then myself and I'd be more than willing to be on it. So, we just need one council member.

MOTION TO NOMINATE CHANDRA OCHOA: Velasquez**SECOND: Pantoya****DISCUSSION:**

Council Member Rikhof: I guess I'm curious, Chandra is that something you'd want to do?

Council Member Ochoa: When will the meetings and such be to go over.

Mayor Ayala: I can't call it now but it would like around 5:30 I would guess. Since all of them are working and doing stuff. So, I'd say in the evenings, not during the day. There might be a day here and there that we have to get something done with the search committee. I mean with the search firm that we'd have to do but we'll be pretty flexible. We can also use technology to zoom it.

Council Member Ochoa: I appreciate it but I think I'll pass on that Paul. I really do appreciate the thought but, just for the time and such. Thank you very much for that. With that being said I motion for Lisa Pantoya.

Mayor Ayala: Wait, wait, wait. We have the discussion. Now we've got to end that motion. So, let's vote.

VOTE: The motion failed 7-0

Mayor Ayala: Now you can motion to nominate.

MOTION FOR LISA PANTOYA TO SIT ON THE COMMITTEE: Ochoa**SECOND: Velasquez****DISCUSSION:**

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – January 30, 2024

Mayor Ayala: Lisa, do you want it?

Mayor Pro Tem Pantoya: I do.

Mayor Ayala: Okay that makes it easier. Any other discussion. I'll ask for your vote.

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

Mayor Ayala: That passes unanimously. Alright, so, now you have a search that's going to go out, you have a search committee that is approved. That search committee will now do the job description and the search firm will be in charge of getting that part of it done. Do we want to talk about interim manager?

Council Member Ochoa: Yes.

Council Member Velasquez: We're going to have to make that decision. I guess we can talk about pretty much talk about anything, right?

City Attorney Malouff: Right.

Council Member Velasquez: If we have a candidate. I don't have a person in mind right now without talking to anybody.

Mayor Ayala: Mr. Malouff, do you have any guidance on this?

City Attorney Malouff: Yes, I do. I don't want to influence your ultimate decision so I think this is a different question than the ultimate decision. So, I hope we won't read too much into this but I think that you're looking tonight for who is going to help you with continuity issues, familiar with the supervisors, familiar with the projects that are going on, familiar with the city. Arguably that's why you had an assistant city manager, it may not be your hire, but that was the whole thought process in developing, so that we weren't caught with our shoes untied, if something were to happen. I think interim wise, you should be looking from within and then that gets us past that hurdle until the committee can do their initial job description and then you can do the screening. The public can give their input and do all the very valid things that you that everybody suggested. I think continuity is a real issue here. You got 100 employees in the city, or maybe its 71. How many is it Rick?

City Manager Klein: About 100.

City Attorney Malouff: About 100 that would like to know who they're working for.

Council Member Ochoa: Are we going to request that that interim apply?

City Attorney Malouff: That's up to the individual.

Mayor Ayala: It's a little bit difficult when we see what happened with Mrs. Ochoa here. We don't want to nominate someone who'd say whoa wait, thank you for the nomination but. We don't want that type of deal. Right? Would that correct Dean?

City Attorney Malouff: Yes, you're right.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – January 30, 2024

Council Member Ochoa: So, you're going to put it out there for someone to apply for the interim. Then we would make that decision?

City Attorney Malouff: Maybe the motion is the mayor should contact Phil Malouff to see whether he wants to be interim city manager. And I can assure you that if nominated I will not run if elected, I will not serve...

Mayor Pro Tem Pantoya: I was hoping it was going to be me.

City Attorney Malouff: If impeached, I'm not going to go quietly. There you go.

Council Member Velasquez: As discussed, if they are a current city employee, they would have to resign from that position to become an employee of the city council without protections, if they're an at will? Because that's the Charter.

City Attorney Malouff: That's a complicated question but the answer is that the interim city manager is your employee. I don't think they have to resign as a city employee, actually Mr. Klein's employee. But they would become your employee. I think that's the simple way of looking at it. I don't think there's any need of a resignation as such.

City Manager Klein: When they put me in back in '99 they just took a vote and then a sheet came through saying they're changing the job title from assistant city manager to city manager. That was it.

Council Member Velasquez: I don't know if that was the correct way of doing it.

City Manager Klein: Well, that's the way they did it. That's all I know.

Mayor Pro Tem Pantoya: If they don't have to resign and they become the interim, do they go back to their position?

City Attorney Malouff: The reason I don't think they have to resign is that we're asking them to fill on a temporary basis the position and they have an entitlement, don't want to say right to work, because Colorado doesn't have that, but their continued employment as an employee, after we get past the interim kind of thing and we have that's up to the city manager. We can't influence that. City manager elect.

Mayor Ayala: Whenever you have a new city manager coming in, I don't want to scare anybody, you don't know what their going to do or how their going to work or how their going to run their thing. So, it's not to say you won't be safe but they might have a different way of doing things. They might not need that. I don't think resign but maybe reassign certain things. For instance, I'm going to pick on let's say it was water person. Let's reassign your water duties while your interim city manager to do X, Y, Z. This one person will take care of this, this, and this, while you're doing the interim job. Now, whether that ended up going back to that person at the end, ultimately, the new city manager is going to.

Council Member Ochoa: In our world, they call it a detail. So, I could leave mine to go detail over here and then go back to mine if I chose to.

Mayor Ayala: That's accurate but at the end of the day, the city manager is going to be, whoever we pick is going to be in control of who's doing what position and who's assigned what and all of that.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – January 30, 2024

We're only in control of picking this next city manager and interim right now. But who they pick after that is out of our control.

Mayor Pro Tem Pantoya: I get that. That doesn't mean that they automatically go back to what they were doing before because the new city manager could say its...

Mayor Ayala: It's not that they couldn't but...

Mayor Pro Tem Pantoya: Yes, I get it.

Council Member Velasquez: So, where are we Charter wise? Since the city manager can abolish or create positions or departments? Interim would not have that authority. Couldn't hire and fire.

City Attorney Malouff: Again...

Council Member Velasquez: I'm just trying to stay true to the Charter and make sure we don't step on ourselves because the only way the Charter can be changed is by vote of the people.

City Attorney Malouff: You're accurate about that.

Council Member Velasquez: The first step of city government and is the people are our bosses. The citizens are. That's why I want to stay as close to city Charter, not as close. I want to be right smack dab in the middle of it.

City Attorney Malouff: Ok, we're splitting hairs, in my opinion, with all respect to you councilman, I think that we're getting caught in the weeds a little bit. Whoever the person is, you want to hire Phil Malouff, he says no I don't want the job. Well then you got to talk to somebody else. As a matter of contract, not Charter, contract, if there is a relationship between the council and this other person. If we're talking about the ability to hire and fire, which seems to be a sore spot, I believe that is, on a temporary basis, that's the whole purpose of the term "interim" is temporary. That's a matter of contract. And, if the terms of the contract are, we're going to pay Phil Malouff a gazillion dollars, he might say okay or the contract could say we're going to pay him a McDonalds hamburger once a week. That may not be acceptable. I think we're with all respect, I think we're a little ahead of ourselves. As to what, we've got to decide on whether we're looking for an interim manager, I think you've decided that, somebody's going to have to approach somebody if its going to be internal, we haven't decided that. Then that person has some flexibility to say yes I'm willing or no I'm not. The benefit of, in my view, internally is that we could accept the job description that's already in place and not have to invent that wheel before we go out and hire somebody. So, Phil Malouff, if you want to be the temporary city manager, you got that job description and that's how it is. Then the only variable is to decide on the wage. I think that is not offensive to the Charter. This stuff about resigning as an employee, is academic to me and not necessarily an important issue here. You want an interim manager, fine. Are you going to look outside, are you going to look inside? You're going to look inside? Who are you going talk to and who's going to do it. And I think you preserve the job description of the interim manager as whatever's in place now. It may change for the permanent guy but not for the interim guy.

Council Member Ramirez: We don't even know what that is.

City Attorney Malouff: The job description?

Council Member Ramirez: yes.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – January 30, 2024

City Manager Klein: You'll be getting that tomorrow. Dawn came back and she'll send it out to us.

City Attorney Malouff: Paul's right though, it's not going to offend the Charter. The Charter's going to control what the job description is and you can read it again for yourself. But that's what he's responsible for and as a matter of, just common sense here, we know what the job description is, what we've expected of Rick, written or unwritten and there you have it. It's temporary guys.

Mayor Ayala: So, would it be proper to have a motion for an interim city manager to apply, if it's internally, give them a week to submit their interest and talk about it on Monday? That gives them time for interim and know you're not resigning but you're at will at that point.

City Attorney Malouff: If I could structure the motion, and I agree with you 1000% Mr. Mayor, I would say that the motion needs to be that the council wants to hire an interim city manager for the period of time until a permanent position is filled and that solves that problem. Then your comfort level, the mayor suggested, maybe just say anybody internally that's interested, let us know within the next four or five business days. Maybe you want to do that. Don't forget your going to have to talk about wages at some point and maybe that's a legitimate question. Certainly, the budget issues are going to come into play but that's something if somebody applied and willing to work for the next four months as interim city manager and expect to be paid two hamburgers a week and French fries. Whether you do that tonight or some other time.

Mayor Ayala: I think the contract negotiation should be a little bit later, in my opinion.

MOTION THAT WE INTEND TO SOLICIT LETTERS OF INTEREST FOR BEING AN INTERIM CITY MANAGER AND THAT THE TIME FRAME ON THAT IS THE END OF BUSINESS THIS FRIDAY. THOSE LETTERS SHOULD GO TO OUR MAYOR AND THE COUNCIL WILL REVIEW AND DISCUSS AND MAKE A DECISION NEXT MONDAY WITH INTENTION THEY WILL SERVE AS INTERIM CITY MANAGER UP UNTIL A POINT THE PERMANENT CITY MANAGER ASSUMES THE POSITION: Rikhof

SECOND: Pantoya

DISCUSSION:

Council Member Ochoa: Until the new city manager takes that position, what if that's within eight months, that's why I want that time frame of at least you've got an interim city manager that's got a wealth of knowledge. We need to be sharing that and it can't be done in just a short amount of time, so could we put a time frame on that for the interim to be not to exceed or a time frame of it.

City Attorney Malouff: We don't know. Here's why. Our heart is set on hiring Rick Klein who is the city manager in Gainesville Florida, he's got to then give notice to his people and maybe, he's not available for ninety more days or something. So, I think that the safety here is until a permanent position is filled. Now, two months from now, if you're not liking how that's shaking out, you can change it. But I think until the position is filled is a safe bet for today.

Mayor Ayala: Any other discussion. If not, I'll ask for your vote.

VOTE: The motion carried 7-0

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – January 30, 2024

Mayor Ayala: Alright, what else do we have that we need to look at?

City Attorney Malouff: Mr. Mayor, I think that if council person Pantoya, suggested that we have until Friday, I think we should just consensus, sealed envelope, directed to the mayor.

Mayor Ayala: Or email.

Mayor Pro Tem Pantoya: Yes, and that was Maureen.

City Attorney Malouff: It was Maureen?

Mayor Pro Tem Pantoya: Yes.

City Attorney Malouff: Okay, it's still a good idea.

Council Member Velasquez: Was it stipulated as an internal search or anybody? I didn't hear it.

Mayor Ayala: I thought it said internally.

Council Member Rikhof: We said internal. That was part of my motion, I thought. And that we're going to get the job description emailed tomorrow. So, if anybody wants to know what they're getting into.

Mayor Ayala: And we'll post that. Anything else we want to go over regarding the city manager position?

Council Member Velasquez: Joe, the only question I have about the committee, should we not include our HR person from the city as a non-voting member just for guidance.

Mayor Ayala: I have no problem with that.

City Attorney Malouff: I do. Certainly, that wealth of knowledge that's a good idea but she's now voicing to the committee and she's her employee eventually.

Council Member Ochoa: I think with Andy Flemer and Brett and a lot of them here, they've got a lot of that hiring experience and HR knowledge.

Council Member Rikhof: If I remember correctly, attorney Malouff agreeing to serve...

City Attorney Malouff: No.

Mayor Ayala: I already tried that one. Before I forget, just so I'm on record, it's live, I have absolutely zero interest in being the city manager. I thank Rick for what he does but I have no intentions.

City Attorney Malouff: You can't do it anyway. The Charter says you can't.

Mayor Ayala: I'm not giving it up. I'm not doing any of it. So, don't ask me. Don't stop me in Wal-Mart. It's not happening. Anything else?

Council Member Rikhof: I have on more picky point. It's important to me and hopefully for other people. Our Charter, as lovely and solid as it is, only has he/him pronouns when discussing the city

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – January 30, 2024

manager and I want to make it absolutely clear that we all understand that is out dated language and everyone is welcome to be a city manager.

City Attorney Malouff: This is a joke, we gave you guys the right to vote and drivers licenses, what more do you want? I think if you look in the ordinance, we've got a curative ordinance that talks about pluralities and gender.

Council Member Rikhof: That is good to know. I was a little worried.

There being no further business, the regular meeting adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

ATTEST:

CITY OF LA JUNTA

Melanie R. Scofield, City Clerk

Joe Ayala, Mayor

RESOLUTION NO. R-1-2024

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZATING THE SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

WHEREAS, the City is a Home Rule City organized under the laws of the State of Colorado; and

WHEREAS, the City owns certain real property described as follows:

Lots 25, 26 and 27, Block 2 in La Junta Heights Subdivision to the City of La Junta, according to the recorded plat thereof, in Otero County, Colorado.

WHEREAS, INSPIRATION FIELD donated the real property to the City of La Junta for the sum of \$1.00 and the City agreed to resell the property to INSPIRATION FIELD at a later date for \$1.00; and

WHEREAS, the City Council believes that the real property has no utility to the City and as such is surplus property; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to sell the same to INSPIRATION FIELD (a non-profit organization) for the sum of \$1.00.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF LA JUNTA, COLORADO as follows:

1. The City determines that the property is surplus property.
2. The City authorizes the Mayor and City Clerk to execute a Deed of Conveyance to INSPIRATION FIELD in exchange for \$1.00.
3. The resolution is enacted by the City Council of the City of La Junta.

Executed this 5th day of February, 2024.

CITY OF LA JUNTA

Joseph Ayala, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melanie R. Scofield, City Clerk

ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TOWING ORDINANCE

WHEREAS, the City of La Junta has enacted Ordinances to regulate towed vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the time frame for enforcement is lengthy and inhibits proper enforcement of the City's Tow Ordinances; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA JUNTA AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 10.12.070(a) is repealed in its entirety.

SECTION 2. A new Section 10.12.070(a) is enacted as follows:

If, after an investigation, there is probable cause for believing a violation of this Chapter exists, a written notice of violation shall be issued immediately to the owner of the vehicle or any person in charge or control of the vehicle or the property owner, or his or her agent, manager, tenant, resident, lessee, renter or occupant of the premises on which such vehicle is located. Such notice of violation shall include the date issued, the name of the person to whom the notice is issued, the violation involved, a time limit of seventy-two (72) hours to remove or correct the cause of such violation, and the signature of the issuing office

SECTION 3. This amendment shall become effective as of March 15, 2024.

PASSED on first reading this 5th day of February, 2024.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED as amended on the ___ day of February, 2024.

CITY OF LA JUNTA

Joseph Ayala, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melanie R. Scofield, City Clerk