

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
October 20, 2025
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
Ramirez (Ward 1)
Velasquez (Ward 1)
Johnson (Ward 2)
Ayala (Mayor)
Ochoa (Ward 2)
Pantoya (Ward 3)
Rikhof (Ward 3)

EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARD

- A. October 2025
 - 1. Brock Hinkhouse, Parks/Rec Director – 10 years
 - 2. Jennifer Hinkhouse, Purchasing Director – 5 years

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION (*5-minute time limit per person*)

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Regular Meeting Minutes October 6, 2025
- B. Application for Renewal of a Retail Liquor Store License by J & S Liquor LLC, d/b/a J & S Liquor Store, 420 E. 1st Street
- C. Application for Renewal of a Retail Liquor Store License by Punjabi 4 Corp, d/b/a Big D's Liquor Mart, 26730 W. US Hwy 50
- D. Application for a Special Events Permit by Our Lady of Guadalupe/St. Patrick Parish, Delbert DeLeon, Parish Administrator. The event is their Annual Winter Festival to be held December 13, 2025 from 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. at the Church Parish Hall

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Second Reading/AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA JUNTA AMENDING TITLE 17 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING EXPEDITED REVIEW FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROJECTS (City Attorney) (Action)
- B. Second Reading/AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA JUNTA AMENDING TITLE 17 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING SIGN STANDARDS (City Attorney) (Action)

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Approval of the 2026 Proposed Budget (City Attorney) (Action)
 - 1. A Resolution Approving the 2026 Proposed Budget
 - 2. First Reading/AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE MILL LEVY FOR ASSESSMENT OF VALUATIONS FOR THE YEAR ENDING ON DECEMBER 31, 2025 (FISCAL YEAR, 2026)

3. First Reading/THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE: APPROPRIATING SUMS OF MONEYS TO DEFRAY EXPENSES AND LIABILITIES OF THE CITY OF LA JUNTA, COLORADO FOR THE CITY'S FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2026 AND ENDING ON DECEMBER 31, 2026

- B. Committee/Board Report
- C. City Manager Report
- D. Community Events/Council Report
- E. Governing Body Report
- F. ADJOURN

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – October 6, 2025

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

CALL TO ORDER: The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of La Junta, Colorado, was called to order by Mayor Ayala on Monday, October 6, 2025, 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:

Carly Johnson, Ward 2
Joe Ayala, Mayor
Chandra Ochoa, Ward 2
Lisa Pantoya, Ward 3
Maureen Rikhof, Ward 3

Absent: Damon Ramirez, Ward 1
Paul Velasquez, Ward 1

Also present: Michael Hart, City Manager
Erin Harris, City Attorney
Melanie Scofield, City Clerk
Aliza Libby, Director of Finance
Gary Reed, Rocky Ford
Elaine Wittman, La Junta
Tammy McCann, La Junta
David Polley, La Junta
Angela Ayala, La Junta
Lynne Tabb, La Junta
Judy Yoder, La Junta
Nancy Bennett, La Junta
Erika Lively, La Junta
Joe Farra, La Junta
Nancy Harrington, SECO News
Adrian Hart, SECO News
Bette McFarren, RF Gazette


Subject to approval at the
October 20, 2025
City Council Meeting


OATH OF OFFICE TO NEWLY APPOINTED COUNCIL MEMBER. The City Clerk administered the oath of office to newly appointed Council Member Carly Johnson (Ward 2).

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION (5-minute time limit per person):

1. David Polley, 622 Colorado Avenue: Was a fireman in his youth for the Forest Service and is an expert in fire behavior. Also trained as an arson investigator, as an observer. Had watched the Fire Chief at the last council meeting and shared his observations of the fire that happened at 618 Colorado Avenue
2. Angela Ayala, 1514 San Juan Avenue: Spoke about the Tarantula Fest and how big it has become. Thanked the City of La Junta, the community and the Tourism Board. The effort on everyone’s part was very appreciated. For those who don’t know, National Geographic has spotlighted La Junta quite a bit since Tarantula Fest. Thanked everybody for supporting the Tarantula Fest.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – October 6, 2025

3. Erika Lively, 213 Lewis Avenue: Suggested the idea of creating some sort of bike train and/or trail that's used along the ravine on the east side of town outside of the baseball field. Then bringing that trail and the trail on the west side together to make a full loop around La Junta.
4. Lynne Tabb, United Methodist Church Pastor, 601 San Juan Avenue: Invited everyone to a celebration on October 26th, Sunday afternoon at 1:00 p.m. The church buildings have been placed on the state and national registers of historic places as well as city. She thanked the council for their support. There will be music, information given out about the history of the buildings and then there will be an ice cream social afterwards.

INFORMATION

- A. **LJHS Theatre** - Gianna Ayala and Maranatha Hoyt, members of the La Junta Jr./Sr. High School Tiger Theatre: Invited everyone to their fall production of Beetlejuice Jr, the Musical. Will be held October 23rd and 24th at 7:00 p.m. and October 25th at 2:00 p.m. Run time for the play is one hour and fifteen minutes. Tickets are \$10.00 and may be purchased at the door.
- B. **2026 Budget Revision** – Aliza Libby, Director of Finance: Received the \$1.9 million in PFA's money this year instead of next year as planned. The revised 2026 budget is available online.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. **Regular Meeting Minutes September 15, 2025**
- B. **Application for a Special Events Permit by Otero College Foundation, Bethany Bender, Event Manager. The event is their 30th Annual International Foods Night to be held November 7, 2025 from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at 2001 San Juan Avenue (Rizzuto Banquet Hall)**
- C. **Application for a Special Events Permit by American Legion Auxiliary Unit 9, Elaine Wittman, Event Manager. The event is their Annual Gala to be held November 15, 2025 from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. at 2001 San Juan Avenue (Rizzuto Banquet Hall)**
- D. **Application for Renewal of a Tavern Liquor License by Tran & Yen LLC, d/b/a Asian Café, 414 W. 1st Street**
- E. **Application for Change of manager by Tran & Yen LLC, d/b/a Asian Café, from Charles Ly to Qiang He**

MOTION TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 6, 2025 CONSENT AGENDA: Ochoa

SECOND: Pantoya

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 5-0 (Ramirez and Velasquez absent)

NEW BUSINESS

- A. **First Reading/AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA JUNTA AMENDING TITLE 17 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING EXPEDITED REVIEW FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROJECTS.** The ordinance was introduced by title only, there being copies available to those in attendance. Director of Engineering Montoya brought attention to a small discrepancy under Section 1 of the definitions that needs to be changed for the second reading. It says “. . . one-hundred (100) percent or less of the area median income for rentals or earning sixty (60) percent or less of the area median income for ownership . . .” It should actually read as follows: “. . . one-hundred (100) percent or less of the area median income for ownership or earning sixty (60) percent or less of the area median income for rentals . . .”

MOTION TO PASS THE ORDINANCE ON FIRST READING WITH THE TWO CHANGES THAT DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING MONTOYA OF SWAPPING THE “OWNERSHIP” AND “RENTALS”:
Ochoa

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – October 6, 2025

SECOND: Pantoya

DISCUSSION: There was no further discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 5-0 (Ramirez and Velasquez absent)

- B. First Reading/AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA JUNTA AMENDING TITLE 17 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING SIGN STANDARDS.** The ordinance was introduced by title only, there being copies available to those in attendance. Several people in town participated in the conversation and it is appreciated.

MOTIN TO PASS THE ORDINANCE ON FIRST READING: Rikhof

SECOND: Johnson

DISCUSSION: There was no further discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 5-0 (Ramirez and Velasquez absent)

C. Committee/Board Reports

1. Planning Commission (Council Member Rikhof):
 - The two ordinances of the affordable housing and sign standards were passed.

E. City Manager's Comments

- Woodruff Memorial Library October Calendar
 - Oct. 13th – Free Legal Clinic. Appointments are available via phone call since they Library is closed that day.
 - Oct. 19th – 25th – Friends of the Library Week. They are celebrating their 30th anniversary. Be sure to stop by the library and pick up your Friends of the Library registration form.
 - Oct. 20th – 25th – Friends of the Library Silent Auction.
 - Oct. 23rd 4:00 p.m. – 6:00. p.m. – Author Talk. Corryl Mersettler, Sheri Dubois.
 - Oct. 25th 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. – Author Talk. The Lost Sand Creed Site. Mike and Chuck Bowen.
- Fire Department
 - This week is Fire Prevention Week.
 - Our safety trailers will be at various different schools, not just La Junta. They'll also be in Manzanola, McClave, Swink and Cheraw.
 - They're looking at about 650 kids that they'll have in front of them.
 - Also, Halloween candy will be at the station during the day on October 31st.
- Police Department
 - Oct. 10th is the homecoming parade that will start at 1:00 p.m.
 - Then Saturday, they will be helping with Trunk-or-Treat at Wal-Mart.
 - Oct. 31st is the Elks Annual Halloween party at the La Junta High School gym starting at 6:00 p.m.
- Senior Center
 - Lunch this month will be on Oct. 16th and will be enchiladas for only \$3.00.
 - Their Halloween party will be on the 30th.
- Parks & Rec
 - K-2nd Grade basketball registration has started and will run through the end of the month.
- Water/Wastewater
 - Been doing some replacement of membranes on RO "B".
 - Seasonal maintenance going on.
 - Replaced two fire hydrants.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – October 6, 2025

- Motor Pool continues to handle large repairs to include multiple air conditioners and hydraulic systems.
- Streets/Sanitation/Engineering
 - City-Wide clean-up. Open every day in October, except Sunday, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 - The sidewalk trail on 10th Street is still in process, hopefully to be done by the end of the week.
 - Projects that still need to be complete by year-end are: 6th Street by the Library, 14th Street fixing water cuts and paving at the Plaza Building.
- Human Resources
 - Currently advertising for Police Department and Electric Department positions.
 - By end of the week, all departments should be trained in Narcan administration.

F. Community Events/Council Reports

- Basketball game on Halloween at Otero College.
- Internation Food Night at Otero College on November 7th.
- Maureen will not be available next week for her Ward 3 meeting. Can reschedule if needed. Otherwise, it will resume on November 10th.
- Chamber of Commerce will have Trick-or-Treat Street.
- Inspiration Field has Trunk-or-Treat.
- Inspiration Field is also having their Monster Bash on October 24th.
- This weekend is CASA's Boots-n-Bling

G. Governing Body Reports

1. Mayor Ayala:
 - Want to thank everyone in this community. Tarantula Fest, we had people from all over, not just Colorado but the United States. They think it's the greatest thing that's ever happened. The Tarantula Committee is small but they're mighty and I thank them and Tourism for everything they're doing to put La Junta on the map.
 - I also thank the Chamber for all of the events that they do as well. It's all a team effort.
 - Thank you to everybody that came out tonight and spoke. There are some tough conversations that might need to be had but we'll have them and work on them together.
 - Attended the presentation last night about Farmland Direct possibly opening a type of a co-op here in La Junta. It's still a long way from coming to fruition. But those things start with an idea and it takes people being active.
 - There was a high school football game, which is a rivalry game, called the Whistle Game which was in Lamar. The high school boys did a great job in bringing the whistle back to La Junta.
2. Council Member Rikhof:
 - Also, a big shout out to the A.R.T. Project. We had over fifty artists in town.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

ATTEST:**CITY OF LA JUNTA**

 Melanie R. Scofield, City Clerk

 Joseph Ayala, Mayor

ORDINANCE NO. 1683

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
LA JUNTA AMENDING TITLE 17 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING
EXPEDITED REVIEW FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROJECTS**

WHEREAS, the City of La Junta, Colorado (“City”) is a statutory City and political subdivision of the State of Colorado, duly organized and operating under the constitution and laws of the State of Colorado; and

WHEREAS, the City of La Junta’s Zoning Regulations allow for housing projects but do not directly address expedited review for affordable housing to be developed for its workforce and residents; and

WHEREAS, the City of La Junta opted into Proposition 123 on the 17th day of April, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the City of La Junta Planning Commission held a public hearing on the 16th day of March, 2023 and recommended the following amendments to Title 17-Zoning to provide incentives for the development of affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is desirous of amending the zoning regulations to comply with CRS 29-32-104 Colorado’s Proposition 123 expedited review requirements; and

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

Section 1. Section 17.01.80 of the La Junta Municipal Code is amended by the addition of the following definition, to appear in alphabetical order:

17.01.80. – Definitions.

* * *

“Affordable housing unit” means a dwelling unit which is available for purchase on terms that would be affordable to households based on Otero County’s AMIs earning one hundred (100) percent or less of the area median income for ownership or earning sixty (60) percent or less of the area median income for rentals of town residents, as adjusted for family size, and paying less than thirty (30) percent of their gross income for housing, including principal, interest, taxes, insurance, utilities, and homeowners’ association fees.

Section 2. Chapter 17 Article II of the La Junta Municipal Code is amended to add subsection 17.2.70 to read as follows:

17.2.70 Zoning Development Applications.

- (a) All applicants subject to these zoning regulations shall complete an application for zoning review on an application provided by the City.
- (b) Once an application for zoning review has been filed with the City, a pre-application conference with the City will be scheduled within 15 days of submittal if a public hearing is required.
- (c) At the pre-application conference, the applicant and the City Manager will discuss the proposed change, development, and/or review the appropriate land use review criteria or procedures.
- (d) Once the appropriate completed application is received, the City Manager shall commence review and notify the applicant of completeness within 15 days of submittal. Staff will review the development request and provide the applicant of the necessary procedures and the required materials for the public hearing.
 - 1. Complete applications will be scheduled for a hearing before City Council within 45 days of City staff's determination of completeness.
 - 2. Additional review time will be required for applications requiring professional review.
 - 3. If the application is determined to be incomplete, it will not be scheduled for a hearing before City Council or Planning and Zoning Commission until it is complete.
- (e) Projects that provide 50% or more affordable housing units of the total units within the project shall be expedited and a decision rendered within 90 days of a complete application being received by the City pursuant to this Article. Any administrative permit application, site plan, variance, conditional use, or other zoning permit for affordable housing is eligible for expedited review. This does not include rezoning, PUDs, subdivisions, or other applications requiring ordinances of the City Council. An applicant or the City may request an extension pursuant to C.R.S. 29-32-105(2) (b) and (c) or elect to not proceed with expedited review at any time throughout the review process. Upon a final decision being rendered, if applicable, the City shall issue a building permit once final plans are approved.
- (f) Development plan. Applicants applying for a zoning application shall be prepared to provide the following information to the City to allow the Staff to make a determination of the appropriate zoning procedures. The following list is not inclusive or exclusive of requirements for a development application.
 - 1. Completed application and fee as required by the City.
 - 2. Survey.
 - 3. Site plan.
 - 4. Parking plan, traffic studies, or CDOT access permit if warranted.

5. Utility and grading plan.
6. Landscape plan.
7. Architectural building elevations.
8. Lighting plan.
9. Historical characteristics.
10. A vicinity map.
11. A narrative describing the proposal and how the development meets the required zoning requirements of this chapter.
12. Other details as requested pursuant to the City review.

Section 3. Severability. If any section, sentence, clause, phrase, word or other provision of this ordinance is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining sections, sentences, clauses, phrases, words or other provisions of this ordinance, or the validity of this ordinance as an entirety, it being the legislative intent that this ordinance shall stand notwithstanding the invalidity of any section, sentence, clause, phrase, word or other provision.

Section 4. Savings Clause. Except as amended hereby, the La Junta Municipal Code, as amended, shall remain valid and in full force and effect. Any provision of the Code that is in conflict with this ordinance is hereby repealed as of the effective date hereof.

INTRODUCED, READ, APPROVED AND ORDERED PUBLISHED in full on first reading this 6th day of October, 2025.

CITY OF LA JUNTA, COLORADO

Joseph Ayala, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melanie R. Scofield, City Clerk

PUBLISHED in full in ____ a newspaper of general circulation in the City of La Junta, Colorado, on this ____ day of _____, 2025.

PASSED AND ADOPTED ON FINAL READING AND ORDERED PUBLISHED,
with any amendments, this ___ day of _____, 2025.

CITY OF LA JUNTA, COLORADO

Joseph Ayala, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melanie R. Scofield, City Clerk

PUBLISHED BY TITLE ONLY in The _____ a newspaper of general circulation in the
City of La Junta, Colorado, following final reading on this ___ day of _____, 2025.

ORDINANCE NO. 1684

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
LA JUNTA AMENDING TITLE 17 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE
REGARDING SIGN STANDARDS**

WHEREAS, the City of La Junta, Colorado (“City”) is a statutory City and political subdivision of the State of Colorado, duly organized and operating under the constitution and laws of the State of Colorado; and

WHEREAS, the City of La Junta’s Zoning Regulations allow for signs that promote or identify business, locations, and other organizations throughout the City; and

WHEREAS, the City of La Junta Planning Commission held a public hearing on the 16th day of March, 2023 and recommended the following amendments to Title 17-Zoning to updates sign standards throughout the City; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is desirous of amending sign regulations in the zoning regulations to promote and protect the health, safety, and welfare of the City’s citizens and business community; and

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

Section 1. Chapter 17 Article V Sign Regulations. Sections 17.50.010-17.50.120 of the La Junta Municipal Code is hereby repealed and replaced with the following sections:

17.50.010 Declaration of intent; findings and purposes.

A. Findings. The City finds with respect to the display of signs:

1. That the time, place and manner in which signs are displayed on property within the City’s jurisdiction has a significant impact on the public health, safety and welfare.

2. That signs serve many important functions in the efficient operations and economic vitality of the City, including communication, identification and direction.

3. That the number, location, size, relative scale, design and construction of signs for public display have a significant impact on the community’s aesthetics and beauty.

4. That poorly designed, constructed, installed or maintained signs can present a significant danger to traffic and public safety and a harmful impact on the aesthetics and economic vitality of the City.

5. That, because legitimate and necessary interests of each zone district are different, each district requires the application of different time, place and manner regulations to achieve the purposes furthered in the sign code.

6. That the cumulative impacts that would accrue if every member of a residential neighborhood chose to display a sign could be harmful to the best interests of the City and its residents.

B. Purpose. The purpose of this Article is to promote the public health, safety and welfare, by providing uniform standards for the times, places, and manners in which all signs within each zone in the City shall be displayed. This Section advances the following legitimate and necessary public purposes:

1. Communication, Identification and Direction. To allow the reasonable display of signs for the purposes of communication, identification and direction, while protecting the public from the display of signs that are unsafe, unattractive, obsolete, out-of-scale or incompatible with surrounding property uses.

2. Transportation Safety. To protect the public, including motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians, by prohibiting the display of signs in a manner that results in visual distractions, impaired visibility or other dangerous conditions that impair transportation safety.

3. Safety. To protect the public by prohibiting the display of signs that are designed, constructed, installed or maintained in a dangerous manner.

4. Aesthetics. To protect, enhance and preserve the visual beauty and aesthetic character of the City by prohibiting the display of signs in a manner that detracts from the beauty and character of their particular location, adjacent buildings and uses and the surrounding neighborhood.

5. Economic Vitality. To support the economic vitality of commercial enterprises and investments while providing uniform standards that allow equal opportunity in the competition to attract and inform customers.

6. Equal Opportunity. To divide and allocate the cumulative benefits and impacts realized through the display of signs so that each member of the community possesses an equal opportunity to communicate, or not communicate, through the display of signs.

7. Privacy. To protect the privacy of the community members who do not wish to be overwhelmed by unsolicited communications displayed on signs visible to the public.

17.50.020. Applicability.

This article shall apply to all signs or attention-attracting devices located within the City. Signs or attention-attracting devices shall only be allowed as permitted by this

article. The provisions of Section 17.50.110, nonconforming signs, also apply to signs within the City.

17.50.030. Sign permits and administration.

A. Purpose. The purpose of the sign permit requirement is to assure compliance with the sign code, prevent waste and provide for the orderly, fair and uniform application of the sign code to all individuals and situations. This Section only addresses which signs require permits prior to installation.

B. Permit Required. A sign permit is required prior to the installation of any sign or group of signs, whose total aggregate square footage equals more than nine (9) square feet per property. In multiple-tenant nonresidential buildings or developments with an approved comprehensive sign plan, a separate permit shall be required for each business entity's signs. Any multiple-tenant nonresidential buildings or development existing at the time of adoption of this Code that do not have a comprehensive sign plan shall be required to create a comprehensive sign plan allocating sign area to each business or tenant by the owner of the property at the time of application pursuant to the requirements of this Article. Separate building and electrical permits may be required for signs and will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

C. Exempt Signs. A sign permit is not required for the display of a sign or group of signs, whose total square footage equals nine (9) square feet or less per property.

D. Application for Sign Permit. The application for a sign permit shall include the following information:

1. Applicant's name, mailing address and phone number.
2. Location of the property where the sign will be installed.
3. Sign Type. Identification of the type of signs proposed.
4. Sketch. A sketch showing the proposed sign, including dimensions and any other information needed to calculate permitted sign area, sign height and type of illumination. A certification by a structural engineer may be required for a pole sign or projecting sign.
5. Location. A site plan which identifies the proposed location of the sign on the property, and the location and size of all other existing signs on the building or parcel.
6. Consent. A letter of consent from the owner of the building or property, if the applicant is not the owner.
7. Form. Any other information required on the form provided by the Administrator.

8. Nonrefundable permit fee.

E. Determination of Sufficiency. After receiving the permit application, the Administrator shall determine whether it is complete. If the application is not complete, the Administrator shall notify the applicant within ten (10) business days following receipt of the application and take no further action until the deficiencies are remedied.

F. Issuance of Permit.

1. Compliance with Standards. If the application is complete, the Administrator shall determine whether the application complies with the standards of this Article. The Administrator shall be authorized to issue the permit, issue the permit with conditions or deny the permit application.

2. Review. Review of the application shall be completed and notice sent to the applicant within ten (10) business days from the date the application was deemed complete.

3. Inspections Generally. All signs shall be subject to inspection to determine that the sign is being installed and/or maintained in accordance with the terms of this Chapter.

G. Expiration. Whenever the construction of any sign has not been completed within one hundred eighty (180) days after its approval, the permit shall expire and be of no further force of effect.

17.10.040. Types of signs.

A. Awning Sign. An awning sign is a type of wall sign that is painted, stitched, sewn or stained onto the surface of an awning. An awning is a shelter supported entirely from the exterior wall of a building and composed of nonrigid or ridged materials except for the supporting framework. Sign area shall only be the lettering or graphics affixed to the awning. All awnings must be a minimum of 8' above grade.

B. Canopy Sign. A canopy sign is a type of wall sign that is permanently affixed to a roofed shelter attached to and supported by a building, by columns extending from the ground or by a combination of a building and columns.

C. Election Signs. An election sign is a temporary sign displayed during the election season beginning ninety (90) days prior to an election and ending fifteen (15) days following the election for the purpose of expressing opinions concerning candidates, ballot issues and ideological positions.

D. Externally Illuminated Sign. An externally illuminated sign is a sign that is lighted from an external source.

E. Ground Sign. A ground sign is a freestanding sign where the entire bottom is in contact with the ground. Ground signs are also referred to as "monument signs."

F. Internally Illuminated Sign. An internally illuminated sign is a sign that is lighted from an internal source, including signs that are lighted from fixtures attached to the structure of the sign such as light tubes or exposed neon tube lighting.

G. Mural. A mural is a painted image located on a building wall. A mural is a type of wall sign. Murals that promote La Junta, that do not contain wording promoting an individual business, and are approved under the creative sign permit or ghost signs do not count towards a property's allowable sign area.

H Neon Sign. A neon sign is an internally illuminated sign that utilizes gas-filled tubes.

I. Nonconforming sign. A nonconforming sign is a sign that was lawfully established pursuant to the sign codes in effect at the time of its erection, but which does not conform to the standards of this Article.

J. Pole Sign. A pole sign is a freestanding sign being supported by a pole or poles and otherwise separated from the ground by air. Pole signs shall be a minimum of fourteen (14') feet above grade when located adjacent to or projecting over a pedestrian way.

K. Projecting Sign. A projecting sign is any sign structurally supported by a building wall and projecting from the surface of the building or wall. Projecting signs shall not be higher than the eave line or parapet wall of the building, shall be a minimum of eight (8) feet above grade when located adjacent to or projecting over a pedestrian way. When two (2) sign faces are placed back-to-back and are at no point more than two (2) feet from each other, the area of the sign shall be counted as the area of a single face if both faces are of equal area, or the area of the larger face if the faces are not of equal area.

L. Sidewalk Sign. A sidewalk sign is an advertising or business ground sign constructed in such a manner as to form an "A" or a tent-like shape, hinged or not hinged at the top; each angular face held at an appropriate distance by a supporting member. Sidewalk signs are also referred to as "sandwich board signs."

M. Temporary Sign: A temporary sign is a sign, attention-attracting device or advertising display constructed of cloth, vinyl, canvas, fabric, plywood, sidewalk chalk, or other light material that is intended for display for less than ninety (90) days per calendar year.

N. Window Sign. A window sign is a sign that is painted on, applied or attached to a window that can be read through the window.

O. Wall Sign. A wall sign is a permanent sign that is painted on, incorporated into, hanging from or affixed to the building wall, in such a manner that the wall becomes the supporting structure for, or forms the background surface of, the sign. Wall signs shall not be higher than the eave line or parapet wall of the building, and no sign part, including cut-out letters, shall project more than six (6) inches from the building wall.

P. Billboards. A larger outdoor sign typically of premise found along major roads and highways used to display advertisements to passing pedestrians and vehicles.

17.50.050 Time, place and manner for display of signs.

A. Residential Zones (AL, R-S, R-1a, R-1, R-2, R-3, PUD, M-S and M-P). Each dwelling unit on a lot with nonresidential uses in a residential zone may display up to the total sum of nine (9) square feet of signs. The display of signs in residential zones is limited to pole or ground signs that do not exceed five (5) feet in height, wall signs and window signs. Signs in residential zones may not be illuminated.

B. Residential Uses in Commercial Zones. Each lot with a residential use in a commercial zone may display up to the total sum of nine (9) square feet of sign area per dwelling unit. The display of signs related to residential uses shall be limited to pole, ground wall, and window signs.

C. Subdivisions and Planned Developments. Each subdivision or planned development may display one (1) pole or ground sign not to exceed sixteen (16) square feet per street entrance. Each final plat of a subdivision or final plan of a planned development must have an approved comprehensive sign plan for the display of signs on property owned or utilized in common by the lot owners or tenants of the subdivision or planned development. Up to thirty-two (32) square feet of sign area may be displayed at each entrance to a subdivision or planned development for no more than two (2) years from the beginning of the physical development process for the purposes of advertising the development and advertising property sales.

D. Nonresidential Uses in Commercial Zones. An owner or tenant of a lot used for nonresidential purposes in a commercial zone may display the following types of signs. No individual sign may exceed one hundred fifty (150) square feet in area. In no event shall the total amount of sign area displayed exceed two hundred fifty (250) square feet. Signs located on the C-S zone district do not have a maximum size and the total sign area shall be based on the property's linear street frontage. C-S zone district maximum sign area shall be (1.0) square foot of sign area for each linear foot of lot frontage on a street.

1. Wall, Pole, Ground or Projecting Signs: The owners or tenants of a lot used for nonresidential purposes in a commercial zone may display an aggregate sign area totaling no more than the larger of forty (40) square feet or one (1.0) square foot of sign area for each linear foot of lot frontage on a street. If there is more than one (1) floor of nonresidential uses, an additional one-half (0.5) square foot of sign area for each linear foot of building frontage on a street is available for each additional floor above the first.

2. Sidewalk Signs: The owners of businesses operating in a building in C-1 or C-2 zones may display one (1) sidewalk sign per building on the sidewalk adjacent to the public business entrance of the building. If the business entrance is not adjacent to a city street, the sidewalk sign may be placed at the nearest

sidewalk, but only with the express permission of the owner of the business that is adjacent to the location of the sidewalk sign. All sidewalk signs are limited in size to a maximum width of three (3) feet and maximum height of five (5) feet. No sidewalk sign shall be displayed that presents a danger to the public or impedes the reasonable flow of pedestrian traffic. Sidewalk signs may only be displayed while the business is open to the public and must be removed at all other times. Sidewalk signs do not require a sign permit and do not count towards total area allowed.

3. Temporary Signs: The owners of businesses operating in a building in a commercial zone may display no more than one (1) temporary sign at any given time. The total size of a temporary sign shall not exceed sixteen (16) square feet. The total number of days in which signs may be displayed shall not exceed ninety (90) days per calendar year (January 1 to December 31). Temporary signs shall be of professional quality and displayed in a safe manner. Temporary signs may not be affixed to public property or infrastructure. Temporary signs do not require a sign permit and do not count towards total area allowed.

E. Election Signs; Additional Allowed Signage During an Election Season. During the political campaign period beginning ninety (90) days prior to an election and ending fifteen (15) days following the election. Each residential dwelling unit in any zone shall be allowed an additional nine (9) square feet of sign area for the purpose of expressing opinions concerning candidates, ballot issues and ideological positions. The height of individual election signs shall be limited as established in Table 17-L.

TABLE 17-K Time, Place and Manner for the Display of Signs		
<i>Zone District</i>	<i>Sign Type Permitted</i>	<i>Maximum Sign Area</i>
Residential (AL, R-S, R-1a, R-1, R-2, R-3, PUD, M-S and M-P)	Wall, pole or ground	9 sq. ft. per dwelling unit
Commercial (C-S, C-1, C-2, I-1, I-2) Residential Use	Wall, pole or ground	9 sq. ft. per dwelling unit
Commercial (C-S, C-1, C-2, I-1, I-2) Nonresidential Use	Wall, pole, ground or projecting	First floor: 25 sq. ft. or up to 1.0 times the linear footage of lot frontage Additional floors: Up to 0.5 times the linear footage of building frontage
Notes: Every New Planned Development, subdivision, multi-tenant building or coordinated development shall have a comprehensive sign plan once approved by building owner. The maximum size of any individual sign shall be 250 sq. ft. except in the C-S zone. Any existing nonconforming sign may be modified or replaced if it is not enlarged. Billboards- No new off premise billboards are permitted in City limits. No Max height for wall signs attached to a building.		

TABLE 17-L Illumination and Height of Signs		
<i>Zone District</i>	<i>Illumination</i>	<i>Maximum Sign Height</i>
Residential (AL, R-S, R-1a, R-1, R-2, R-3, PUD, M-S and M-P)	May not be illuminated	5 feet for pole and ground signs
C-S, C-1, C-2, I-1, I-2 Residential Use	May not be illuminated	5 feet for pole and ground signs
C-1, C-2 Nonresidential Use	Externally or internally illuminated	40 feet for pole and ground signs
Commercial (C-S) and Industrial (I-1 and I-2) Nonresidential Use	Externally or internally illuminated	60 feet for pole signs and 20 feet for ground signs

17.60.060. Prohibited signs.

The following signs are inconsistent with the policy, purposes and standards in this Article and are prohibited in all zoning districts.

A. Off-Premises Signs. The right to display signs on a property is limited to the actual residents of the property where the sign is displayed or to commercial entities actually doing business on the property where the sign is displayed, with the exception that a nonresident owner may display signs on a property for the purpose of promoting the sale or lease of the property where the sign is displayed. The City Council may allow off-premises signs to be displayed following a finding that the proposed sign promotes a legitimate and necessary public interest in public safety, traffic safety, wayfinding, location identification, public information or promotes the economic vitality or arts and culture of a commercial district. Special event signs are allowed 60 days prior to the event and are allowed for any special event approved by City Council. The City Council shall review sign permit applications for off-premises signs and approval shall be for events that do not require a special event permit but promote the Economic vitality or Arts and Culture of the Commercial District. The City Council shall determine at that time whether the sign area requested would apply towards the square footage of sign area permitted on the site.

B. Signs on Public Property. Unless otherwise provided for in the Code, no sign shall be displayed on public property or within the right-of-way of any road or highway without the written approval of the City Council and following a finding that the proposed sign promotes a legitimate and necessary public interest in public safety, traffic safety, wayfinding, location identification, public information or the economic vitality of a commercial district.

C. Moving Signs. Flashing, rotating, blinking or moving signs, animated signs, signs with moving, rotating or flashing lights or signs that create the illusion of movement, except for time and temperature devices, are prohibited.

D. Hazardous Signs. No sign shall be displayed that is erected in such a manner or location as to cause visual obstruction or interference with a motor vehicle, bicycle, pedestrian traffic or traffic-control devices, including any sign that obstructs clear vision in any direction from any street intersection or driveway.

F. Dangerous Signs. No sign shall be displayed that poses a danger due to poor design, construction, installation or maintenance.

G. Decrepit Signs. No sign shall be displayed that is in a state of disrepair, wear or ruin due to age or neglect. All signs, including signs exempt from these regulations with respect to permits and fees, shall be maintained in good condition and in compliance with all building and electrical codes.

H. Roof Signs. A roof sign is a sign which is erected, placed or maintained, in whole or in part, upon, against or directly above the roof, or which projects above the eaves of a pitched roof or above the walls of a flat roof. Signs which are manufactured into the material of awnings or on an approved bracket that does not project above the roof line shall not be considered roof signs.

I. Obsolete Signs. An obsolete sign is a sign or sign structure, excluding murals, which advertises an activity, product or business which no longer occupies the premises on which the sign is located. Obsolete signs shall be removed by the legal owner of record of the property within a period of ninety (90) days after the business, product or service is no longer located upon the premises where the sign is located. Obsolete signs that are an integral part of the facade or which are determined to be historically significant by the Administrator but which do not advertise a business or product on the site, are permitted.

J. Attention-Attracting Devices. Attention-attracting devices in general are prohibited, unless otherwise approved under this Article. Bow-flags or other like signs are allowed in Commercial or Industrial districts may only be displayed during regular business hours and be in good repair.

K. Uncivil Signs. There shall be no signs or pictures of an obscene, indecent or immoral character such as will offend morals or decency in accordance with constitutional standards.

17.50.070. Sign measurement.

A. All Signs Counted. The aggregate area allowed for signs shall include all signs displayed on the site.

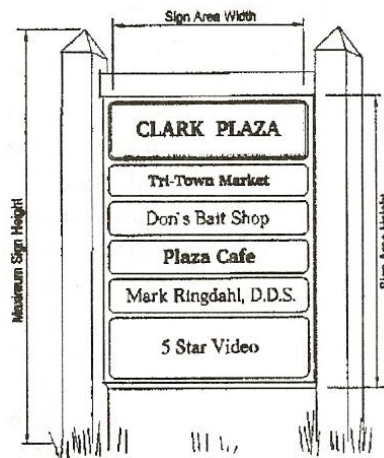
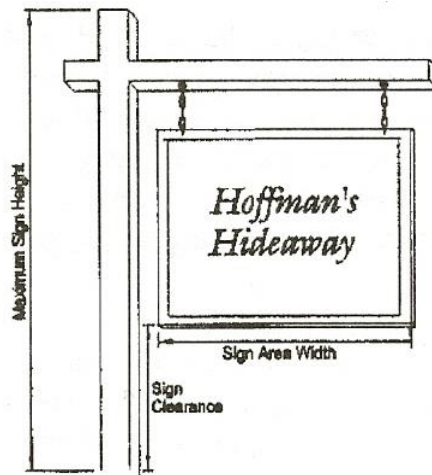
B. Sign Surface Area. Sign area shall be the area within the outer boundaries of standard geometrical shapes which encompasses the sign facing, including copy, insignia, background and borders.

C. Sign Support. Supporting framework or bracing that is clearly incidental to the display itself shall not be computed as sign area.

D. Cut-Out Letter Signs. The area of cut-out letter signs shall be considered to be that of a single rectangle or square encompassing all of the letters used to convey the message of the sign and shall include the open space between letters of words within that rectangle or square. The height of letters will be measured on the uppercase letters.

E. Multi-Face Signs. The sign area for a sign with more than one (1) face shall be computed by adding together the area of all sign faces visible from a single point, unless otherwise specified in this Article. When two (2) sign faces are placed back-to-back and are at no point more than two (2) feet from each other, the area of the sign shall be counted as the area of a single face.

F. Sign Height. The height of a sign shall be measured from the highest point of a sign to the ground surface beneath it. When berms are used in conjunction with signage, the height of the sign shall be measured from the mean elevation of the fronting street.



Sign Measurement Details

17.50.080. Sign location and appearance standards.

A. Creative Design. Creative designs are encouraged. Signs shall make a positive contribution to the general appearance of the street and commercial area in which they are located. A well-designed sign can be a major asset to a building. The City encourages imaginative and innovative sign design. The creative sign application procedure (Section 16-8-90 below) is specifically designed for artistic and unusual signs that might not fit the standard sign regulations and categories.

b. Externally Lit Signs. Illumination of signs shall be arranged in such a manner as to be reflected away from residential properties and the vision of motorists, bicyclists or pedestrians. Lighting shall be placed so as to light downward onto a sign and be fully shielded. Fixtures used to illuminate signs shall be aimed so as not to project their light beyond the sign.

C. Internally Lit Signs. Illumination of signs shall be arranged in such a manner as to be reflected away from residential properties and the vision of motorists, bicyclists or pedestrians. To reduce glare and increase the ability to read signs at night, it is recommended that internally lit signs use white lettering against a dark background color.

D. Location of Signs. The following setbacks for signs shall be met for street and driveway intersections: No sign shall be located within a "clear sight triangle" between the height of two (2) and ten (10) feet above the ground.

E. Architectural Elements. Signs should not be placed so that they cover essential, character-defining architectural details of a building.

F. Construction. All signs shall be made by a commercial sign manufacturer or be of similar professional quality. All signs shall be completed and erected in a professional manner and in accordance with this Chapter.

G Right-of-way. Any sign which projects over a right-of-way in such a manner that it may cause a danger to the public shall have supports, hangers or fasteners certified by a Colorado-licensed structural engineer.

17.50.090. Creative signs.

A. Policy and Purpose. It is the policy of the City to encourage the use of creative signs that exhibit a high degree of thoughtfulness, imagination and inventiveness. The purpose of the creative sign process is to establish standards and procedures for the design review and approval of creative signs which, due to their unique design and construction, will make a significant contribution to the aesthetic beauty, historic character and cultural identity of the community, yet due to their creative qualities or site constraints would not be otherwise allowed under this Code.

B. Applicability. An applicant may only request the approval of a sign permit under the creative sign section for a sign that employs design standards that differ from the provisions of Sections 17.50.050 and 17.50.060 above, and otherwise comply with all other provisions of the sign code.

C. Approval Authority. A sign permit application for a creative sign shall be subject to approval by the Planning Commission.

D. Procedure.

1. Submittal of Application. The applicant shall submit a complete application including all of the materials required in Subsection 17.50.030 D above. Murals that promote La Junta may be granted a fee waiver.

2. Staff Review. The Administrator shall review the application to determine whether it is complete. The Administrator shall forward a report to the Planning Commission, which summarizes the application's compliance with the review standards contained in Subsection (e) below and other applicable provisions of this Chapter. The technical comments and professional recommendations of other agencies, organizations and consultants may be solicited in drafting the report.

3. Public Notice. Public notice that the Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing to consider the application for a creative sign shall be provided as specified in Section 17.2.20 of this Chapter.

4. Public Action by Planning Commission. The Planning Commission shall conduct a public hearing to review the conformance of the application with all applicable provisions of this Chapter. The Planning Commission shall approve, approve with conditions or deny the application, or remand it to the applicant with instructions for modification or additional information or action.

E. Review Standards.

1. Impact Review Standards. No sign shall be approved under the creative sign process that the Planning Commission finds:

a. Will have a significant adverse impact on adjacent properties. The sign shall not adversely affect neighboring property owners, businesses or residents and should be compatible with the uses, character and identity of the area in which it is displayed;

b. Creates a dangerous condition. Granting the creative sign permit will not adversely affect public safety. The use of signs or attention-attracting devices should not significantly distract traffic on adjacent streets; or

c. Distracts from the important architectural, natural or historic features of the building or neighborhood in which the sign is displayed.

2. Design Review Standards. In addition to the Impact Review Standards, to approve a sign under the creative sign process, the Planning Commission must find that the unique and creative design of the sign will meet Standards a, b and c or Standard d:

a. Constitute a substantial aesthetic improvement to the site and have a positive visual impact on the surrounding area that justifies departure from the parameters of Section 17.50.0-50 and/or 17.50.060 above.

b. Utilize and/or enhance the architectural or historic elements of the building or location where it is displayed in an historic, unique and/or creative manner that justifies departure from the parameters of Section 17.50.0-50 and/or 17.50.060 above.

c. Provide strong artistic character through the imaginative use of design, graphics, color, texture, quality of materials, scale and proportion uses, character and identity of the area in which it is displayed.

d. A creative sign may be appropriate to provide reasonable visibility of a business's main sign in some rare situations where topography, landscaping, existing buildings or unusual building design may substantially block visibility of the applicant's existing or proposed signs from multiple directions. Despite the possibility of a creative sign permit, visibility of a sign or attention-attracting device may not be possible.

17.50.100. Nonconforming signs.

A. Authority to Continue. Any sign legally established on the effective date of this Zoning Code or any amendment thereto which does not conform with any provisions of the Zoning Code shall be allowed to remain and to be maintained in good repair, subject to the discontinuance provisions below.

B. Discontinuance. A legal nonconforming sign shall be removed if any one of the following conditions occurs. In all such cases of discontinuance, if a replacement sign is proposed it shall be constructed in accordance with the provisions of this Land Use Code.

1. If a change of use occurs, regardless of ownership, such that the new use would be a different classification under Table 17-D;
2. The principal use with which the sign is associated terminates for ninety (90) days or longer;
3. The principal building with which the sign is associated is demolished or destroyed;

4. The nonconforming sign is destroyed or damaged as a result of either an intentional act of the owner (other than for maintenance which shall not exceed two [2] weeks), an unintentional act of another or an act of nature, the replacement sign shall be constructed in conformance with the provisions of this Zoning Code if the estimated cost of restoration to its condition before the occurrence exceeds fifty percent (50%) of the value of the sign structure prior to being damaged;
5. The building official determines that the sign is an immediate hazard to the public health, safety and welfare because of disrepair, unsafe mounting, imminent dislodging or other safety factors.

Section 2. Severability. If any section, sentence, clause, phrase, word or other provision of this ordinance is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining sections, sentences, clauses, phrases, words or other provisions of this ordinance, or the validity of this ordinance as an entirety, it being the legislative intent that this ordinance shall stand notwithstanding the invalidity of any section, sentence, clause, phrase, word or other provision.

Section 3. Savings Clause. Except as amended hereby, the La Junta Municipal Code, as amended, shall remain valid and in full force and effect. Any provision of the Code that is in conflict with this ordinance is hereby repealed as of the effective date hereof.

INTRODUCED, READ, APPROVED AND ORDERED PUBLISHED in full on first reading this 6th day of October, 2025.

CITY OF LA JUNTA, COLORADO

Joseph Ayala, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melanie R. Scofield, City Clerk

PUBLISHED in full in ____ a newspaper of general circulation in the City of La Junta, Colorado, on this ___ day of _____, 2025.

PASSED AND ADOPTED ON FINAL READING AND ORDERED PUBLISHED,
with any amendments, this ___ day of _____, 2025.

CITY OF LA JUNTA, COLORADO

Joseph Ayala, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melanie R. Scofield, City Clerk

PUBLISHED BY TITLE ONLY in The _____ a newspaper of general circulation in the
City of La Junta, Colorado, following final reading on this ___ day of _____, 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. RUB-4-2025

A RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING TO CITY COUNCIL THE ADOPTION OF THE 2026 PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE ELECTRIC FUND, WATER FUND, WASTEWATER FUND, AND SANITATION FUND.

WHEREAS, the proposed budget for the City of La Junta for 2026 has been prepared in conformance with the La Junta City Charter; and

WHEREAS, discussions were held at the regular meeting of the Board of Utility Commissioners on August 12th & September 9th to discuss the upcoming fiscal year and the anticipated rate increases for all utility funds; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Utility Commissioners has reviewed the proposed budget for the Electric Fund, Water Fund, Sewer Fund and Sanitation Fund over which the Board of Utility Commissioners has review and authority;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF UTILITY COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF LA JUNTA THAT THE PROPOSED 2026 BUDGE FOR INCOME AND EXPENDITURES FOR ALL FUNDS BE RECOMMENDED TO THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE COUNCIL'S CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION:

- | | | |
|---------------------|---|-----------------|
| 1. Electric Fund | - | \$12,487,700.00 |
| 2. Water Fund | - | \$ 4,302,100.00 |
| 3. Waste Water Fund | - | \$ 3,706,500.00 |
| 4. Sanitation Fund | - | \$ 1,759,600.00 |

The Board of Utility Commissioners reduced the Holbrook legal by 15,000 This is reflected

ADOPTED this 14TH day of October, 2025.

BOARD OF UTILITY COMMISSIONERS

By: Paul Velasquez, Vice Chairman

ATTEST:

Cristian Estrada, Deputy City Clerk

RESOLUTION NO. R-12-2025

2026 PROPOSED BUDGET

WHEREAS, a proposed budget for the City of La Junta for the year 2025 has been prepared in conformance with the La Junta City Charter; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing has been held on September 22ND, 2025 regarding the proposed 2026 budget for all funds for the City of La Junta;

NOW, THEREFORE, Be It Resolved By The City Council of the City of La Junta that the proposed 2026 budget for income and expenditures of all funds be approved as follows:

General Fund	\$18,229,900.00
Library Endowment Fund	\$ 5,400.00
Internal Services Fund	\$ 2,370,000.00
Employee Benefit Claim Fund	\$ 2,050,200.00
Economic Development Fund	\$ 60,500.00
Property Management Fund	\$ 1,483,300.00
Lodging Tax Tourism Fund	\$ 250,400.00
Electric Fund	\$12,487,700.00
Water Fund	\$ 4,302,100.00
Waste Water Fund	\$ 3,706,500.00
Sanitation Fund	\$ 1,759,600.00
Moving Violation Surcharge Fund	\$ 2,000.00
Cemetery Endowment Fund	\$ 15,300.00
Conservation Trust Fund	\$ 100,000.00

The Board of Utility Commissioners reduced the Holbrook legal by 15,000
This is reflected

Adopted as amended this 20TH day of October, 2025.

CITY OF LA JUNTA

Joseph Ayala, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melanie Scofield, City Clerk

ORDINANCE NO. 1685

**AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE MILL LEVY FOR ASSESSMENT OF
VALUATIONS FOR THE YEAR ENDING ON DECEMBER 31, 2025.
(FISCAL YEAR, 2026)**

WHEREAS, the County Assessor of Otero County, Colorado has certified to this City Council the 2025 assessed valuation of \$40,934,881 as the valuation subject to the City taxes for the calendar year ending on December 31, 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE, Be It Ordained By The City Council of the City of La Junta that there be and hereby is levied 3.104 mills on each dollar of said assessed valuation as the levy for the City of La Junta, Colorado for the calendar year ending on December 31, 2025 to cover the corporate expenses of the City of La Junta as set forth for the City of La Junta Budget for the calendar year 2026.

PASSED On First Reading this 20TH day of October, 2025.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this _____ day of November, 2025.

CITY OF LA JUNTA

Joseph Ayala, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melanie Scofield, City Clerk

ORDINANCE NO. 1686

THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE: APPROPRIATING SUMS OF MONEY TO DEFRAY EXPENSES AND LIABILITIES OF THE CITY OF LA JUNTA, COLORADO FOR THE CITY'S FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2026 AND ENDING ON DECEMBER 31, 2026.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of La Junta has adopted a budget for the City for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2026 and ending on December 31, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the City Council shall make the proper tax levy in mills upon each dollar of the total assessed valuation of all taxable property within the City, such levy representing the amount of taxes for the City purposes necessary to enable payment during the City's said fiscal year of all properly authorized demands upon the treasury; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is now desirous of making appropriations for the ensuing fiscal year (2026);

NOW, THEREFORE, Be It Ordained by the City Council of the City of La Junta, Colorado:

SECTION 1. That the sum of \$18,229,900.00 is hereby appropriated for the City of La Junta, Colorado for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2026 and ending on December 31, 2026 from the General Fund for the payment of operating expenses and capital outlay of the general government.

PASSED On First Reading this 20TH day of October, 2025.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED as amended this _____ day of November, 2025.

CITY OF LA JUNTA

ATTEST:

Joseph Ayala, Mayor

Melanie Scofield, City Clerk