

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING – February 16, 2010**

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

Subject to approval at the March 1,  
2010 City Council Meeting.

CALL TO ORDER: A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of La Junta, Colorado, was called to order by Mayor Don Rizzuto on Tuesday, February 16, 2010, at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building.

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

INVOCATION: The City Clerk gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL: The following Council Members were present:

- Jackie Abrams, Ward 1
- Billie Johnson, Ward 2
- Don Rizzuto, Mayor
- Bill Schmidt, Ward 2
- Bob Freidenberger, Ward 3
- Michael Moreno, Ward 3

Absent: Eugene Mestas, Ward 1

- Also present:
- Rick Klein, City Manager
  - Bill Jackson, Assistant City Manager/Director of Public Safety
  - Phillip F. Malouff, Jr., City Attorney
  - Jan Schooley, City Clerk
  - Lloyd Smith, Electric Utility Director
  - Dan Eveatt, Director of Engineering
  - Patty Hurt, Finance Director
  - Mike Steeves, IT Manager
  - Pam Denahy, Events Coordinator
  - Basiel Layton, La Junta
  - Gary Wyant, La Junta
  - Cheryl Lindner, La Junta
  - Bette McFarren, The Local Buzz
  - Lisa Steeves, Tribune-Democrat

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS: Mayor Rizzuto asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the February 1, 2010, Regular City Council Meeting. Hearing none, he declared the minutes approved as published.

YEARS OF SERVICE AWARDS: Chris Arguello of the Electric Line Crew (5 years) and Phil Navarro of the Power Plant (10 years) were awarded certificates and pins commemorating their years of service with the City of La Junta.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION – Cheryl Lindner, 16 E. 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, presented a letter signed by 33 area business owners and citizens which stated “This letter is a formal petition asking the city council to expand the tourism board to be more broad-based and representative of the businesses and institutions in town that directly provide services to tourists. Specifically, we are asking the council to include more hotel owners, more restaurant owners, more tourism stakeholders, and activist citizens-at-large; or their representatives.” This matter was addressed later in the meeting under City Attorney’s Comments and Governing Body’s Comments.

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## REPORTS

**A. Events Coordinator.** Pam Denahy gave her report.

## NEW BUSINESS

**A. Liquor Licenses**

- 1. Renewal/Tavern Liquor License for Ronald E. Hall d/b/a The Railyard, 114 Colorado Avenue.** The City Attorney stated the application is in order and has been reviewed by City Supervisors for compliance with City and State codes. The requisite fees are attached. The City Attorney recommends granting the renewal.

MOTION TO GRANT THE RENEWAL OF THE TAVERN LIQUOR LICENSE FOR THE RAILYARD: Freidenberger

SECOND: Schmidt

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: The motion carried 6-0 (Mestas absent).

- 2. Renewal/Retail Liquor Store License for Roy's Liquor Store LLC d/b/a Roy's Liquors, 420 E. 1<sup>st</sup> Street.** The City Attorney told the Council that although this application is in order and all the appropriate fees are paid, there are continued repeated violations reported by the Fire Department and the premises has just recently completed a suspension period with the State of Colorado for a violation. Mr. Malouff also said he has concerns as to whether all of the employees have undertaken seller/server training. His recommendation to Council was to table this matter and schedule it for a hearing on March 1 or March 15 and invite a representative of Roy's Liquor Store to come in and answer some questions with regard to the nature of the suspension imposed by the State. He also asked that someone from the Fire Department attend that hearing to discuss the repeated violations.

MOTION TO TABLE THIS MATTER AND HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE RENEWAL OF THE RETAIL LIQUOR STORE LICENSE FOR ROY'S LIQUOR STORE ON MARCH 1, 2010: Freidenberger

SECOND: Schmidt

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: The motion carried 6-0 (Mestas absent).

- B. First Reading/AN ORDINANCE AMENDING EXEMPTIONS TO VENDOR LICENSE REQUIREMENTS; PEDDLERS LICENSE; AND CLARIFYING REQUIREMENTS OF LICENSE HOLDERS AND PERMIT HOLDERS.** Council Member Freidenberger introduced the ordinance by title only, there being copies available to those in attendance.

MOTION TO PASS THE ORDINANCE ON FIRST READING: Freidenberger

SECOND: Schmidt

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: The motion carried 6-0 (Mestas absent).

- C. Appoint Larry Tucker to the Airport Advisory Board.** Mayor Rizzuto said he would like to appoint Mr. Larry Tucker to the Airport Advisory Board and asked the Council to ratify his appointment.

MOTION TO RATIFY THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF LARRY TUCKER TO THE AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD: Johnson

SECOND: Abrams

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: The motion carried 6-0 (Mestas absent).

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D. **Letter of Support/Pike National Historic Trail.** Mr. Klein said the Pike National Historic Trail Association is requesting letters of support to make this a national historic trail. A letter from the City Council will aid in that effort, a copy of which has been drafted and provided in Council’s packets.

MOTION TO SIGN THE LETTER OF SUPPORT AS REQUESTED BY THE PIKE NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL ASSOCIATION: Freidenberger

SECOND: Moreno

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: The motion carried 6-0 (Mestas absent).

**E. Committee/Board Reports**

**F. City Manager’s Comments**

1. The deadline to sign up for the downtown sidewalk, curb and gutter project, which is being done through Urban Renewal, has been extended to March 12. Businesses located in the downtown tax increment district qualify for this project.

**G. City Attorney’s Comments**

1. Regarding the Tourism Board, and in light of the letter presented by Ms. Lindner this evening, it is important for the citizenry to know that this initial board is tasked with trying to get things off the ground. They have the implicit power to make recommendations to City Council with regard to their organizational needs and structures and what they feel they might need in regard to participation from others in the community. It may entail citizen groups, or citizen committees or an expansion of the board or all of the above. He said it is a welcome circumstance that so many people are interested in this board, and the Tourism Board Members will be encouraged to bring the citizenry into this process.

**H. Governing Body’s Comments**

1. Mayor Rizzuto said the Tourism Board met and it is getting organized. The Chairman is John Yergert and Tim Klob is Vice Chairman. At this time there is no money to spend since the lodging tax just went into effect January 1. Meanwhile the Board has the opportunity to review what types of projects or events they would like to help fund. They are also looking at how to implement an application process for those who want to apply for those funds.
2. Schmidt said he noticed this weekend a lot of the motels were full thanks to the various sport tournaments and games being held here in town.
3. Dan Eveatt invited Council to attend the dedication of the new Tiger Stadium this Sunday. Mayor Rizzuto will be one of the speakers.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

CITY OF LA JUNTA

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Janice L. Schooley, City Clerk

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Don Rizzuto, Mayor