

ORDINANCE NO. 1977-1

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING FOUR-YEAR OVERLAPPING TERMS OF OFFICE FOR TRUSTEES AND FOUR-YEAR TERM OF OFFICE FOR THE MAYOR.

WHEREAS, the amendment to Section 12 of Article XIV of the Colorado Constitution, adopted at the 1970 general election, repealed the two-year limitation on terms of municipal officers; and

WHEREAS, passage by the General Assembly in 1971 of H.B. 1212 authorizes a Board of Trustees by ordinance to provide four-year overlapping terms for trustees and a four-year term for the mayor; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Town of La Jara, Colorado, has found and determined that it is in the best interest of the Town of La Jara that there be some measure of continuity in the management of municipal affairs from one election to another so as to avoid the possibility of there occurring a complete and total change in the composition of its Board of Trustees who most likely would be very unfamiliar with the past actions, decisions, and commitments of their predecessors; and

WHEREAS, this objective can best be achieved by providing for overlapping terms of office for trustees effective with the April 4, 1978, regular election.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE TOWN OF LA JARA, COLORADO:

Section 1. FOUR-YEAR TERMS FOR TRUSTEES. At the April 4, 1978, election, six trustees shall be elected. The three candidates for trustees receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected for four-year terms, and the three candidates for trustee receiving the next highest number of votes shall be elected for two-year terms. At the next subsequent regular election and at each regular election thereafter, three trustees shall be elected to serve four-year terms.

Section 2. FOUR-YEAR TERM FOR MAYOR. At the April 4, 1978, election, and at the regular election every four years thereafter, a mayor shall be elected to serve a four-year term.

Section 3. VACANCIES. The Board of Trustees shall have power, by appointment, to fill all vacancies in the Board or in any other elected office, and the person so appointed shall hold office until the next regular election and until his successor is elected and qualified. If the term of the person creating the vacancy was to extend beyond the next regular election, the person elected to fill the vacancy shall be elected for the unexpired term. Where a vacancy or vacancies exist in the office of trustee and a successor or successors are to be elected at the next election to fill the unexpired term or terms, the three candidates for trustee receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected to four-year terms and the candidate or candidates receiving the next highest number of votes, in descending order, shall be elected to fill the unexpired term or terms.

Section 4. REPEAL. Any or all ordinances or part of ordinances of the Town of La Jara in conflict or inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that the repeal of any ordinance or parts of ordinances of the Town of La Jara shall not revive any other sections of any ordinance or ordinances heretofore repealed or superceded. Ordinance No. 105 "An Ordinance Concerning the Election of a Mayor and Board of Trustees of the Town of La Jara" is hereby specifically repealed in its entirety.

Section 5. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. The Board of Trustees here-
with finds, determines and declares that this ordinance is neces-
sary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health,
and safety, because the election and terms of office of the Board
of Trustees and the mayor to be elected at the April 4, 1978,
election affects the public peace, health, and safety, and whereas
in the opinion of the Board of Trustees an emergency exists, this
ordinance shall take effect and be in force upon the expiration of
five (5) days after publication.

INTRODUCED, READ, ADOPTED, AND ENACTED AND ORDERED PUBLISHED
BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES TO THE TOWN OF LA JARA, COLORADO, THIS
4th DAY OF OCTOBER, 1977.

TOWN OF LA JARA, COLORADO

BY: Fred L. Velasquez
Fred L. Velasquez, Mayor

(TOWN SEAL)

ATTEST:

Atilano S. Mondragon
Atilano S. Mondragon
La Jara Town Clerk