



TOWN OF CENTER NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 400 • 294 S Worth • Center, CO 81125

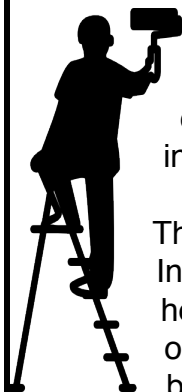
719/754-3497 • 719/754-3379 (Fax)

November 1, 2018



HOW ABOUT A FACELIFT FOR OUR DOWNTOWN?

We can all agree that Center's main street could use some improvement, and we all know that more businesses would help our economy. But this doesn't happen overnight. It takes work and planning.



We have some help from Downtown Colorado, Inc., an organization that helps small towns with economic development. The Downtown representatives are coming to Center on December 3 for a workshop for business people and other interested citizens. You are invited!

The workshop will be held at the Town Hall from 9:00 am to 11:30 am. Downtown Colorado, Inc. will provide us with assistance and training to develop our main street. Also on board to help will be Tom Monaco, from the Small Business Development Center, a Valley-wide organization dedicated to supporting economic development and to connecting people with business opportunities. He will be here for the workshop with Downtown Colorado, Inc.

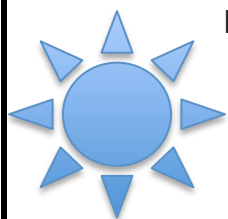
Here is an opportunity for us to learn more and to begin to work on improving our main street and encouraging business development. We hope to see Center business people and other energetic folks attend this workshop and see what we can do. All are welcome.

2017 AUDIT SHOWS FINANCIAL PROGRESS



The Town Board received the audit as presented by Wall, Smith, and Bateman auditors on September 27. Auditors carefully reviewed the report of revenues, expenditures, profits, and losses. The audit basically shows that the Town is meeting its financial responsibilities and is being managed competently. As always, the auditors made suggestions for improving the system and noted the significant progress made in the past few years.

UPDATE ON ELECTRICAL CONTRACT



In the August newsletter, we reported that we would be ending our electric contract with Xcel Energy and contracting instead with Municipal Energy Agency of Nebraska, for better rates.

Unfortunately, this is not going to happen in 2019. Xcel is holding the Town to their contract for one more year so Xcel will be providing our electricity until April 2020. We will re-negotiate a new contract next year.



REMINDER: NO MORE WATERING 'TIL SPRING!

As of October 15, watering of lawns and gardens is prohibited until next spring. Put those hoses away and give it a rest for the winter. Citations will be given to anyone continuing to water.

LARGE ITEM PICKUP

If you have a large item that needs to be picked up and won't fit in your trash container, your trash service may be able to help you. If you have service with Conley Waste Management, call their office at 655-2844 or 655-2833. If your service is with Waste Management, call 852-5895 or go to wastemanagement.com and click on Request a Bulk Pick-Up.

BUDGET WORKSHOPS NOW IN PROGRESS

Town Board members and fiscal staff attended the first of three budget workshops on October 25. General fund revenues (money coming in to the Town) were projected from property and sales taxes, licenses and permits, fines, intergovernmental agreements, highway users tax, and franchise fees. Income from the light and power, gas, and water operations was estimated.

Next steps will be the projections of expenditures for salaries, insurance, supplies, training, equipment, maintenance, travel, legal, and many, many other expenses. Hard decisions have to be made to ensure that the operations continue and the community receives the needed services, at the same time expenses are kept within the limits of revenues coming in.

The next budget workshops are planned for November 14 and 28 tentatively at 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. Citizens are welcome to attend. A public hearing is scheduled for December 4 before the Town Board meeting. The budget is due to the State by December 30.

REMINDER: ELECTION NOVEMBER 6—YOUR VOTE COUNTS!



Your vote
still counts!

National, state, and local elections are set for November 6. If you are not registered to vote, you still have until Election Day to do it. To register in Colorado, you need to be 18 years of age, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Colorado for at least 22 days.

You may register by going on-line to GoVoteColorado.com. You may also register at the Saguache County Clerk's office in Saguache.

In Colorado, we use the mail-in ballot, so your ballot should have arrived in the mail by the time you receive this newsletter. After you vote, you can mail in your ballot—**it must arrive at the Saguache County Courthouse on or before November 6**—or you can drop it in the drop box at the Saguache Court House. The drop box will be open 24 -7. If you deliver it to Saguache on November 6, it must be there by 7:00 pm.

Voting is a right and a privilege and everyone is encouraged to vote. **YOUR VOTE DOES COUNT!**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR NOVEMBER 2018

- **November 12, Veterans' Day:** Town Hall closed all day
- **November** Saguache County Commissioner visit: info not available at press time. Call 719 655-2231 for details.
- **November 13 and 27, 6:30 pm:** Town Board Meetings, Town Hall
- **November 14 and 28, 11:30 am—1:30 pm:** Budget workshops, Town Hall
- **November 22-23:** Thanksgiving holiday: Town Hall closed all day

