



TOWN OF CENTER NEWSLETTER

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May 1, 2019



NEW GRANTS WILL FUND PARK, VET'S WALL, OTHER PROJECTS

The Town of Center has received more than \$1 million in grants for upcoming projects that will enhance our community and protect our water resources. Here is a list of monies and improvements to come:

From the **Saguache County Sales Tax funds**, we are receiving:

- \$3,000 for security for our 4th of July celebration
- \$2,500 for playground equipment for Community Park
- \$5,000 for the challenge study for downtown development
- \$5,000 for body cameras for our policemen
- \$5,000 for body vests for our policemen



From **Saguache County Conservation Trust funds**, we are receiving:

- \$10,000 for completion of the Veterans' Wall in Casa Blanca Park

From the **Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA)**:

- \$1,000,000 for the installation of water meters. This is a major contribution to the water meter project, which is a requirement of the State of Colorado. We recognize that a number of Center residents are concerned about what water metering will do to our water bills, but this improvement will conserve water and help us to meet the requirements of the new state water laws. Meanwhile, we'll continue to maintain our rates as low as possible.



Kudos to Dispatcher/Grant Writers Katrina Martinez and Amanda Alexander and to Brian, Dave, and Rose for the successful grant writing and all work involved.

ADDITIONAL LOAN WILL HELP US WITH METER INSTALLATION



Center will also receive a \$1,144,280 low interest loan from the Colorado Water and Power Development Authority for completion of the water meter project, to be repaid over 20 years. This loan, plus the \$1,000,000 grant (above), means that Center residents will not have to pay for the water meters themselves.

Of course, we'll all soon be charged for the amount of water we use. We are required by Colorado law to meter our water . . . so this is a good incentive to use only what we need, and no more, *qué no?*

WAHOO! LUJAN BRINGS HOME CASH FROM COLORADO WORKSHOP

Town Manager Brian Lujan brought home a \$1,000 cash prize awarded to Center, matched by an additional \$1,000 from speaker Nita Mosby Tyler from the Downtown Colorado workshop he attended in Aspen on April 9-12.

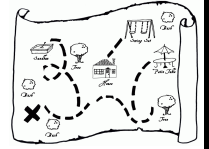
He also returned with ideas and motivation for developing economic opportunities for Center. Our Town will use this money for a youth competition for an entrepreneur project (a business project) by Center kids. Stay tuned for more information on this competition, as well as other Downtown Colorado news.

KIDS: If you have a business project idea, here is an opportunity, so put on your thinking caps!



SCAVENGER HUNT: HELP US FIND THOSE OLD WATER METERS!

We need your help: Several years ago, a number of water meters were installed in Center. If you have a water meter installed at your house, please let the Town know, so these old meters can be removed before the new ones are installed.



If the old meters are not removed, water flow to your house will be affected. Call 754-3497 or come in. The meters would be located in the crawl space under your house or in a nearby meter pit.

YOUR IDEAS WANTED FOR COMMUNITY PARK UPDATE

Community Park playground has seen many great times by many great kids over the years, but is showing signs of wear and tear. Soon a new climber will be installed, thanks to the grant from Saguache County. In addition, a grant from Go Colorado lottery funds will be applied for in the coming months. This is where you come in. **WE NEED IDEAS FROM CENTER CITIZENS!** Those who use the playground or use playgrounds in other communities know what kids like. Please step up with your ideas and suggestions. We want to make the best playground ever!

ELECTRICAL UPGRADE WORK BACK ON TRACK

Work to bring our aging electrical system up to 21st Century standards is back on track. Our utility crew has resumed their work on the installation of new electrical lines now that the weather has warmed up. The primary line has been laid on Warden Street north to south, from Highway 112 to 2nd Street, and they are now laying the primary line on Miles Street north to south, from the Highway to 3rd Street.

When the primary lines are laid, the crew will begin laying the lateral lines east to west from Torrez Street to Broadway and north-south from Hwy 112 to 5th Street for this year.

When these lines are laid, streets in this area will be paved. We expect the rest of the work to be done next year. This is an ambitious project, and we thank our utility crew for their hard work and expertise in undertaking this job.

4TH OF JULY COMMITTEE SEEKING VOLUNTEERS



The 4th of July committee will be meeting weekly starting in May to make plans for a fabulous celebration this year. All interested persons are welcome to serve on this committee. Call the Town to sign up!

WELCOME TO OUR NEW POLICE OFFICERS

Interim Police Chief, Jim McClosky has selected two new officers for our police force. Chris Williams from Monte Vista and Colton Murphy from Saguache have joined our department. Welcome aboard, Officers Williams and Murphy!

HAVE DOG? MUST LICENSE—AVOID A DOG-GONE CITATION!



All dogs are required to be licensed. The cost of a license is \$5 for neutered or spayed dogs and \$10 for unneutered dogs. Proof of rabies vaccination is required to purchase a license. The license is required for each dog and must be renewed every year.

If you purchase your license(s) now, you will not have to renew until January of 2021. That is a 6-month savings. Get those dogs signed up!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR MAY

May 5, Sunday, all day: Cinco de Mayo—celebrate Mexican Independence Day with our neighbors here and to the south

May 13, Monday, 10:00 am-1:00 pm: Saguache County Commissioner visit, Town Hall.

May 14, Tuesday, 6:30 pm: Town Board meeting, Town Hall.

May 27, Monday, Memorial Day: Town Hall closed all day.

May 28, Tuesday, 6:30 pm: Town Board Meeting, Town Hall.

