



TOWN OF CENTER NEWSLETTER

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

719/754-3497 • 719/754-3379 (Fax)

August 1, 2019



BOARD HIRES DALE MEEK AS NEW POLICE CHIEF

The Town Board took great care in selecting a Police Chief for Center. After a careful look at applications, interviews with selected candidates, and a Meet and Greet with the community, the Board selected Dale Eugene Meek as our new Police Chief.

Mr. Meek has 25 years of law enforcement experience with degrees in Criminal Justice and Homeland Security. He has expertise in gang investigations, intelligence based policing, teaching and training officers, mental health issues in policing, and several other areas of law enforcement.

Currently from Santa Fe, Mr. Meek is looking for a small town to settle in. He will be a working chief, committed to building a good police department and protecting the community in a fair manner. He will begin his duties on August 12, 2019.

INVESTIGATIONS OF RECENT CRIMES ONGOING

Unfortunately, there have been several crimes committed in Center recently, including burglary and trespassing.

We want to assure the public that these crimes are under investigation. Our police department is working with other law enforcement agencies to resolve these crimes.

Anyone with information related to any crimes in our town is encouraged to contact the police, the Town Manager, or any member of the Town Board so the crimes can be solved.

BOARD SIGNS WITH DOWNTOWN COLORADO, INC.

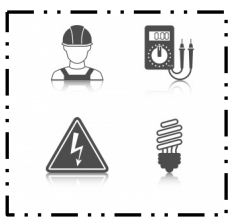
The Town Board agreed to sign a Memorandum of Agreement with Downtown Colorado, Inc. to work on assessing our downtown and commercial areas and to create a plan for enhancing Downtown Center. The agreement will include meeting with a team of trainers and other professionals to help develop strategies for economic development.

A focus on youth engagement will be part of the project with consultants providing training for potential upcoming entrepreneurs. Kids can then enter a mini-business-plan competition. The project will also work with the Town to create messaging on social media, print media, and flyers to promote our town as a business-friendly community. The Town has received \$10,000 in grants from the Colorado Department of Local Affairs and the Saguache County Commissioners to pay for this effort.

Business Opportunity!

A local computer technician is leaving town and is looking for a knowledgeable, dependable, and motivated individual to refer his customers to—someone to keep those customers' computer systems running smoothly. Call Andrew at 719 588-5541 if interested.

PROGRESS SEEN ON ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE



Working hard to lay new underground electric lines to replace our outdated lines, Center's Utility crew have finished laying primary lines down Miles and Warden Streets from the highway to 2nd Street. They are now laying east-west lines on 3rd, 5th, and 7th Streets. By doing the work on this major project ourselves, our crew is saving the Town many thousands of dollars. Hats off to the Utility Crew!

SOUTH BASEBALL FIELD TO BE TOUCHED UP

With the north baseball field at Community Park looking good, the Town Board agreed to complete work on the south baseball field to bring it up to regulation. RMP Landscaping from Alamosa will be doing the work.



THE SIREN WILL REMAIN

An informal survey was conducted to assess the opinion of Center residents on whether to continue sounding the siren daily at 8:00 am and 10:00 pm. The result was 81 people were in favor of keeping the siren and 10 people were in favor of halting it. So the siren will continue to sound. Thanks to those who took the time to share their opinion on this.

WEEDS!!! LET'S GET AFTER THEM!

Weeds seem to be thriving in and around Center this year. It is our own job to keep the weeds on our property under control. Each property owner/tenant is responsible for removing weeds from their lot, the alley, and the right of way (the area from your property line to the street). This is a Town ordinance, and fines could result if weeds become unsightly.

Also, several properties around town are looking rundown with trash, debris, and junk collecting on them. Owners and tenants, please take responsibility for keeping your property looking presentable.

This is also required by a Town ordinance.



4TH OF JULY RECAP: A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL

The 4th of July celebration was great fun with lots of people, food, music, laughter, and visiting. Most people enjoyed it and felt that we should continue to have the celebration. There were also a few good suggestions for improvement. About \$4,000 was brought in from beer sales, the poker run, and the raffles. This helped to defray the costs.

We would like to thank the following for their contributions to the success of the day:

- Volunteer committee members, Lucy Trujillo, Sobeida Moreno, Leslie Rodriguez, Connie Trujillo, and Jenó Gowens.
- Peggy Martinez and Marie Gonzalez for organizing the poker run and raffles
- Saguache County Commissioners for funding the security team, Southern Valley Canine and Security
- Adrian Duran for use of his sound system and for arranging the music
- The Center Fire Department for presenting the fireworks
- Town employees who worked hard to make it happen
- All those who attended and participated in a great 4th of July
- All those who donated to the raffle or in any way: M&M Liquor, Leonardo's, Family Dollar, Dollar General, Big R, Jones Oil, Robert Gonzalez, Richie Barela, High Velocity Graphics, Don Tomas, Stacey Curtis, Stretche's Barber, All Stars, Final Touch, Stone Farm Supply, K&J Market, and Rainbow's End.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR AUGUST

August 2, Friday, 6:00-8:30 pm: UZ Band, Casa Blanca Park.

August 12, Monday, 10:00 am-1:00 pm: Saguache County Commissioner visit, Town Hall.

August 13, Tuesday: 6:30 pm: Town Board Meeting, Town Hall..

August 27, Tuesday, 6:30 pm: Town Board Meeting, Town Hall.

August 29, Thursday, 6:00-8:30 pm: Old School Band, Casa Blanca Park.

