



TOWN OF CENTER NEWSLETTER

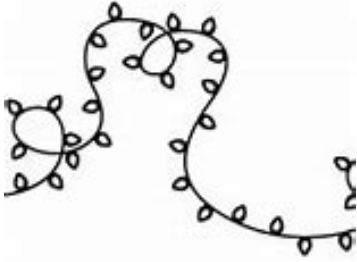
P.O. Box 400 • 294 S Worth • Center, CO 81125

719/754-3497 • 719/754-3379 (Fax)

December 1, 2020



CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES WITH COVID CARE



Our Christmas lighting contest will be held as usual. Prizes will be given for the top three winners. Center has always shown its sense of beauty and artistry through Christmas lighting displays.

As of November 30, the annual Christmas parade is being planned together with the Center Kiwanis Club. The parade is scheduled for December 12 at 1:00 pm. However, due to the corona virus grinch, there is the chance that Christmas activities may need to be cancelled. Check your Nixel or the Post Office bulletin board.



But for now, let's be optimists: All Center residents and businesses are encouraged to enter the parade. The line-up will be at the north end of Worth Street beginning at 12:30. The drawings and sacks for children will be part of the festivities, although covid guidelines will be followed. We are all hoping for a merry—and safe—celebration!

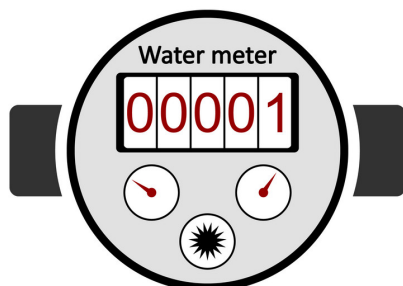
NEW WATER RATES COMING

New water rates will be coming into effect sometime this spring.

To keep Center citizens informed and prepared, and to work out all the bugs in the system, the Town will be sending out a "sample" water bill with your regular December utility bill to show your water usage and projected water bill with the new rates. This "sample" bill will be printed on yellow paper.

You are not expected to pay this "sample" bill. It is for your information only.

The water meters and new water rates are a necessary development to meet the requirements of the State and to keep our water system financially sound. Thank you for your cooperation and support of this effort.



Was Your Business Hit by COVID?

COVID RELIEF APPLICATIONS FOR BUSINESSES DUE

The Town will still accept applications for grants up to \$5,000 from Center businesses that have been hit financially by the corona virus pandemic.

Application forms are available at the Town Hall and are due December 15, 2020 at noon. Any business that has lost revenue from March 2020 to the present due to the corona virus may apply.

2021 BUDGET HEARINGS SCHEDULED

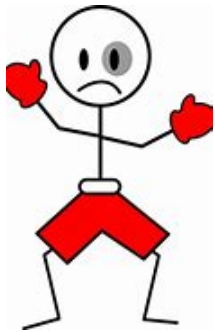
The Town Board and employees have been hard at work preparing the budget for 2021.

This involves a study of the revenues and expenditures of 2020 and a projection of revenues and expenditures for 2021 in all the areas of our Town government. During December, a budget workshop will be held on December 3 from 4:30 to 7:30 pm at the Town Hall. All Center residents are welcome to attend to listen, ask questions, or make suggestions.

A public hearing on the final budget will be held at 6:00 pm on December 15 at the Town Hall.

CORONA VIRUS ON THE UPSWING

Sad to say, the virus is still with us and will be for some time to come. As of the most recent report, Saguache County has 43 cases and Center has 25 cases. Rio Grande County has 48 cases. It is still essential for our own protection and for the protection of others that we continue to observe the recommended guidelines. Wear a mask. Keep a distance of 6 feet between yourself and others. Avoid large gatherings of people. Wash hands frequently.



BEEN WALLOPED BY THE CORONA VIRUS?

Many people are struggling with economic hardships as a result of COVID-19. If you have been impacted by the pandemic and have fallen behind on the payment of your home energy bills, help is available to qualifying households today.

Please apply to the Colorado State LEAP Program or Energy Outreach Colorado's Bill Payment Assistance Program. Learn more at <https://www.energyoutreach.org/programs> or call 1-866-HEAT-HELP (1-866-432-

8435). We are here to help.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR DECEMBER

December 3, Thursday, 4:30-7:30 pm: Town budget workshop, Town Hall. Everyone welcome

December 12, 1:00 pm*: Christmas parade Line up at 12:30.

December 15, Tuesday, 6:00 pm: Budget hearing, Town Hall.

December 15, Tuesday, 6:30 pm: Town Board Meeting. No other Town Board meeting this month.

December 24-25, Thursday-Friday, Christmas holiday: Town Hall closes at 1 pm on Thursday, and will remain closed all day Friday.

December 31-January 1, Thursday and Friday, New Years holiday: Town Hall closes at 1 pm Thursday and will remain closed all day Friday.

***Please check Nixel or the Post Office bulletin board for any late-breaking decisions on the parade.**

**WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!**