# T.O.P. NEWSLETTER

October, 2023 Volume 15, Issue 10

# Manager's Message

The Town is trying something new this year for the fall community cleanup event and will be accepting yard waste and trash items each Friday of the month from noon to 3:00pm at 100 N. Division Blvd. This will replace the one cleanup weekend (Friday & Saturday) this year to allow more days in the month to get rid of these items since the focus of the fall cleanup is yard waste and tree trimming and not necessary trash and junk. I proposed this idea to the Board because in years past I heard complaints that more time was needed to trim trees and cleanup leaves and a couple of days during one weekend wasn't enough time. Prior to the Covid pandemic the fall cleanup was called Leaf & Limb Days and trash or junk items were only accepted during the Spring Cleanup Weekend that's held in April. The Town decided during the pandemic to take trash items again during the fall cleanup days as many residents were home more and working on their properties. The Town will continue taking trash and junk items during this year's fall cleanup days on Friday afternoons throughout October and evaluate how this schedule works and make adjustments accordingly for next year. Many towns in the area also have spring community cleanup events but we're the only one to my knowledge that also does a fall cleanup and take trash and junk items.

The Town's annual budget development process has started and the draft 2024 Operating & Capital Budget will be presented to the Board of Trustees during the October 3rd regular meeting. The Board and staff will hold a full day workshop on Friday, October 13th from 9:00am-4:30pm to review the budget and further decide on next year's capital projects. The Town's budget consists of the General Fund, which is our primary account, the Water & Sewer Enterprise Funds, which are the Town's business accounts due to providing utility services, and six Special Reve-

nue Funds including the Library, Cemetery, Harvest Daze, Conservation Trust, Law Enforcement Training & Equipment and Capital Improvement Funds. These funds are called "special revenue" funds as they each have a dedicated revenue source and such revenues can only be used for the purpose of the fund. As an example, 1% of the Town's sales tax is dedicated to the Capital Improvement Fund and all revenues in this fund can only be used on capital projects, such as street improvements and equipment purchases.

The Town's General Fund remains stable but more focus will be given to the Water and Sewer Funds as utility and operating costs continue to increase unfortunately. This past year the new wastewater treatment facility was built to replace the old sewer lagoon system which was very costly and the Town started paying the debt obligation on the State Revolving Fund loan this year. The final loan was approximately \$6.8 million which is the ultimate reason why our sewer base and usage rates increased approximately 57% the past few years and will continue to have annual increases. The Water Fund is currently being evaluated by a water engineer and a report on water rates and infrastructure needs will be presented to the Board in a few months. It is very likely that water usage and base rates will increase as our water provider, the Central Weld County Water District, notified us of an 18% increase from last year which all towns and cities who get water from CWCWD received as well. Developing the annual budget is never easy with many difficult decisions but the Board and staff strive to be transparent and always want the community to be informed.

# **Contact Information**

### Town of Platteville

400 Grand Avenue Platteville, CO 80651 (970) 785-2245 Mon-Fri 8:00am-4:30pm www.plattevillegov.org

# Police Dept.

(970) 785-2215 Non-Emergency Dispatch: (970) 356-1212 Emergency: 911

**Public Works Dept.** (970) 785-6415

# Recreation & Seniors

(970)785-2245 x. 1101 (720) 438-0711

# Platteville/Gilcrest Fire Protection District

303 Main Street Platteville, CO 80651 (970) 785-2232

## **Pioneer Museum**

502 Marion Avenue Platteville, CO 80651 (970) 785-6285 Mon & Wed 10:00am-3:00pm Sat. 10:00-2:00pm

### **Public Library**

504 Marion Ave./PO Box 567 Platteville, CO 80651 (970) 785-2231 Mon – Fri 10:00am-6:00pm Sat 10:00am-2:00pm www.PPLCO.us

#### Nantes Library (Gilcrest)

703 Birch Street Gilcrest, CO 80623 (970) 737-1035 Mon-Fri 10:00am-6:00pm Sat 10:00am-2:00pm www.nanteslibrary.us

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Manager's Message (cont.)