T.O.P. NEWSLETTER

April 2024

Manager's Message

Board of Trustees

Several new Trustees will be sworn -in or appointed to the Board on April 2nd while three others continue another term as elected officials. Mike Cowper, Trustee and Mayor Pro-Tem for the past few years, will be sworn-in as Mayor and Nick Ralston and Larry Hatcher will serve their second 4-year terms as Trustees. A former Trustee and Mayor, Steve Nelson, will also come back on the Board as a Trustee while Trustees Larry Clark and Miko Rios continue their current terms. Since Mayor Cowper held a Trustee position that has two years remaining for the term the Board will appoint an interested citizen to serve those remaining years until the next Municipal Election in April, 2026. This change occurs as the Town received just enough interest to fill all positions so the regular election was cancelled for April 2nd as there was one candidate for each elected official position on the Board.

A very deserved and appreciated thank you goes out to Adrienne Sandoval and Troy Blum for their many years of service on the Board of Trustees. Adrienne has termed-out as Mayor after serving the past six years (three 2-year terms) and served another four years as Trustee prior to being Mayor. Troy also termed-out as Trustee after serving two 4-year terms and both have been very instrumental in positively improving our community and providing strong leadership. Over the years Adrienne and Troy also served on the Planning Commission as the Mayor and two Trustees serve on the Commission along with three Board appointed members from

the community. Thank you again Adrienne and Troy for your dedicated service to our community.

Arbor Day Tree Planting

The Annual Arbor Day Tree Planting event is scheduled for Tuesday, April 30th at 9:30am in Lincoln Park. This will be our 18th year celebrating Arbor Day and being a member of the Arbor Day Foundation's Tree City USA program. The Town partners each year with the Platteville Elementary School and the 5th grade classes to plant a new tree in one of the parks and this will be our third year at Lincoln Park after many years planting trees in Riverview Park. The Parks, Trails & Trees Committee, Public Works and Administrative staff, and the Colorado State Forest Service also participate in the tree planting event. The PES art teacher and students further participate by making posters which are judged by the 5th grade teachers and Parks, Trails & Trees Committee with the winner being sent to the State and displayed at the capital with other school poster winners. The Arbor Day Tree Planting event has always been a nice community event to promote the importance of planting trees and helping improve our public parks.

Audit Season

Each year the Town has two audits completed in April so I refer to this month as audit season as we have the annual financial audit completed

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Town Departments

Administration

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

Public Works Dept.

(970) 785-6415 After Hours: (970) 304-2534

Recreation & Seniors

508 Reynolds Avenue (720) 438-0711

Pioneer Museum

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

Ft. Vasquez Museum Welcome Center 13412 US85 (970) 785-2832 Wed, Sat, Sun 10am-3pm

Public Library

504 Marion Ave./PO Box 567 (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.)

for the previous fiscal year and also the annual risk control audit that reviews the required training and policy implementation that staff must complete. The auditing firm of The Adams Group will work with myself and the Town's contract accountant to complete the financial audit for the 2023 budget and financial statements and will report the audit findings to the Board in May or early June. During the past fifteen years the Town's overall financial status has improved in the General Fund going from a fund balance of \$384,372 in 2009 to the current fund balance of \$4,962,433. The fund balance is the available unrestricted funds after revenues and expenses are budgeted. The Town also did not have any debt service in recent years until last year when the \$5.9 million dollar loan was finalized for the new wastewater treatment facility. The General Fund and Sewer and Water Funds are managed separately as is our Capital Improvement Fund and various Special Revenue Funds such the Mizpah Cemetery and Harvest Daze.

Website & Citizen Notification System

A new Town website will be launched in the next few weeks as we've been working with a website designer to build a much more user friendly website for our residents. The current website is hosted by a company called Civic Plus and it's a good website for larger communities but not easy to navigate at times. With the help of our new website designer the Town will transition to a state hosted website platform through the Colorado Statewide Internet Portal Authority or Colorado SIPA. The website has been designed to have clear and easy to use tabs and links to access a wide variety of information and programs that the Town provides. The current website URL will change from www.plattevillegov.org to www.platteville.colorado.gov. The front office staff will update the website information weekly and it will also be in compliance with the new accessibility requirements that go into effect July 1st.

With the new website being launched this month the Town will also change from the current Everbridge Notification System to what's called the GOGov Citizen Notification and Alert System. For several years the Town has used the Everbridge Notification System to send out weekly or as needed messages regarding town and community events and information that gets received by phone call, text or email. The GOGov Notification System is an app that you download on your cell phone and messages are delivered through the app as phone notifications, emails or can be sent via other social media sites such as Facebook. The GOGov app also includes various "applets" that are shortcuts to other resources such as the Town's website links including utility billing, staff directory, Board meetings, budget, park and facility locations and information on all departments. Overall it's a much more practical notification system and allows a larger access to information and resources for residents and businesses. The GOGov Notification System will likely be available in early May as I'm currently working with the GOGov support team to build the applets for the system that will also be linked to our new website.

Spring Cleanup Days

The Town's Annual Spring Cleanup Weekend is scheduled for Friday, April 19th and Saturday, April 20th from 8:00am to 3:00pm both days. The location remains at 100 N. Division Blvd near the corner of Division and Reynolds directly east of the Community Center and ball fields. Flyers are available at Town Hall and on the Town's website and burn permits can also be applied for through the Weld County Department of Public Health & Environment.

Troy Renken, Town Manager

