

Morrison Hogback

January 2018

EAT · DRINK · PLAY · STAY

TOWN OF
MORRISON



THANKS YOU!

TOWN.MORRISON.CO.US

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Town of Morrison Information

Town Office - 321 Highway 8
303-697-8749

Town Hall—110 Stone Street
www.town.morrison.co.us

Mayor and Board of Trustees

Mayor: Sean Forey
Mayor
Pro-Tem: Brewster Caesar
Trustees: Debora Jerome
Allen Williams
Chris Wolfe
Katie Gill
Venessa Angell

Police Department

303-697-4810
Police Chief: George Mumma
Police Secretary: Jennifer Sponnick

Board Meetings are the **first** and **third**
Tuesday at 6:00 p.m.

Planning Commission meetings are the
second Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.

Town Staff

Town Administrator: Kara Winters
Town Clerk: Lyndsey Davis
Deputy Town Clerk: Kristi Dixon
Court Clerk: Charla Bryant
Public Works Director: Fritz Fouts
Museum Curator: Matt Mossbrucker



FUN FACTS ABOUT JANUARY

- › On average, it is the coldest month of the year in the Northern Hemisphere
- › It is the second month of winter
- › National Book Month
- › National Thank You Month
- › National Volunteer Blood Donor Month
- › National Soup Month
- › January in Italian is gennaio

News

From the Mayor and Board of Trustees

As touched on in last month's report, the primary job of the Board of Trustees is to proactively plan for the future of the Town. Periodically, though, it's helpful to look back and assess progress. Since Kara Winters, the Town Administrator, has recently provided the Board with such a report, this seems like an opportune time for a look back and her report is largely incorporated here.

Projects Completed in 2017

Hiring of new Police Chief – George Mumma

Consolidation of Utility Director and Streets, Grounds & Buildings Director – Fritz Fouts

Joe Leo given an award through Jeffco Foundation Hero Awards

2016 Audit – No substantial issues

2017 Board retreat and retreat with Planning Commission

Two great festivals – Alley Fest and Ciderfest

Three successful Special Events – Denver Century Ride, Red Rocks Challenge, and Revel Marathon

Two successful Veterans memorials – Veteran's Day and Memorial Day

Successful "Turn on the Water Party" – For Red Rocks Amphitheatre

Town of Morrison Utility Department was awarded the Water System of the Year (2016)

Rooney Valley Master Plan update – grant funds awarded - \$100,000

Completed residential trash services for the Town – Republic Services

Red Rocks Amphitheatre noise reduction

School traffic light adjustment and crosswalk

Highway 8 (downtown) crosswalk and additional parking spaces

Installation of new street post, sign mounts and street signs

New accounts receivable module implemented

Collection of \$291,191 debt payments

Welcomed new business Ascend Medicine with successful remodel

New code enforcement implemented and Town cleanup

Fred's Foot Bridge refurbished

Approval of a roof top patio – Morrison Holiday Bar

Town Hall now has wireless microphones

Purchase and installation of new lab equipment at the Wastewater Treatment Plant

Projects in Progress

In addition to these completed projects, there are many projects in progress including the Clearwell, Highway 8 trail and crosswalk, Museum improvements, Town Hall/Heritage Museum project, Red Rocks Amphitheatre wastewater collection and odor mitigation, Red Rocks Ranch rezoning and disconnection, Summer and 4th drainage, Undergrounding of utility poles, Old Town Overlay District Guideline and Standards Adoption for downtown, new water intake structure planning, tree maintenance and planting plan, Entryway beautification project, and replacement of all water meters to radio reads.

Finances

While the audited financials are not yet available, 2017 was another great year for Morrison. In addition to

providing residents with trash and recycling service and paying off almost \$250,000 in debt, the Town had record revenues and has continued to add to its reserves.

Brewster Caesar

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

It has been an abnormally warm winter thus far. With record breaking days of heat for this time of year and below average snow totals, it would seem we might be heading for a moderate drought this summer. Luckily for Morrison, based on a study completed by Alan Leak from Respect Water Rights Engineers on climate change, our two reservoirs totaling over 1400 AF, will be able to provide enough water to the town during dryer times.

Low snow and warm temperatures in many parts of the west

By January 1st there were much-above average temperatures throughout the Southwest, including Colorado. The precipitation levels are noted as much below average for Colorado. According to NOAA data, the December snow cover extent was 120,000 square miles below the 1981-2010 average and the 20th smallest in the 52-year period of record. The dry December led to expansion or introduction of abnormally dry, moderate drought, or severe drought categories in all of the Four Corners states. According to the Colorado Water Supply Report (NRCS, January 2018), as of January 5th, the statewide snow water equivalent (SWE) was the second lowest on record. There is a wide range of snowpack levels across the state, from a low of 23 percent of normal in the combined San Miguel, Dolores, Animas, and San Juan basins to a high of 87 percent in the North and South Platte basins, with the statewide SWE being 54 percent of normal. On January 1st, 34 of the 104 SNOTEL sites with at least 10 years of data collection had record low snow water equivalent (SWE) amounts. Currently all streamflow forecasts in the state of Colorado are for below average spring and summer volumes. The South Platte and North Platte, the northernmost basins east of the Continental Divide, contain the best snowpack, with respect to normal, and are both at 87 percent of the median. Colorado's mountains have a lot of catching up to do to bring the statewide precipitation to near normal levels. **BCWA News Letter**

Fritz Fouts
Public Works Director
Town of Morrison
Phone: 303-697-8749



Small Museum BIG Discoveries



South Of Morrison  Find us on Facebook

Gifts & Membership - Consider the gift of a membership for family and friends this holiday season. Stop by the Museum gift shop to enroll. The gift shop is also fully stocked with unique items for the fossil lover in your family.

Want to dig dinosaurs with us? The 2018 dig schedule is available on www.mnhm.org. Contact Matthew Mossbrucker at director@mnhm.org for details or to enroll. This experience makes a great gift!

Keep in touch with Morrison Natural History Museum on Facebook: www.facebook.com/MorrisonMuseum, and Twitter **@MorrisonMuseum**, for special events and general updates

Matthew T. Mossbrucker
Director and Chief Curator

Greetings from the Morrison Police Department



Despite the fact that the newness of the New Year has worn off, I'm wanting to reflect on my holidays with time spent in Sweet Home Chicago, where I grew up having spent the first 25 years of my life there.

Colorado has been my home for a long time now. But, as such I cannot help but compare and contrast the two major cities and lifestyles. Chicago is massive: difficult to navigate, it spans 234 dense square miles, seamlessly bleeding over into its many suburbs, making it feel even bigger. However, there is much pride in owning a true Chicago address ratified by zip code and subject of much debate. While many claim to live in Chicago, your zip code settles the conversation quickly. My zip code was 60617, so there!

Pizza is another topic of heated debate. Chicago Deep Dish or neighborhood thin, we all have our favorites. Often people have strong allegiance to an old pizza joint, even traveling a great distance to what's familiar and savored when the craving strikes. But there's something to be

said for a true Chicago Deep Dish Pizza served in a blackened pan that has seen tens of thousands of pizzas before yours, so thick and hearty it's eaten with a knife and a fork.

The weather. We all hear about the windy city and its cold winter climate. But, unless you've been there in the depths of it, you don't know what cold is, and how cold, cold can get. And I mean cold, bitter cold, bone chilling cold. Three layer cold. Cold that can kill you. Subzero temperatures that make ordinary things fail to function when temperatures drop to 60 below with the wind chill factor. There are common terms not heard in Denver like, "you'll need your heavy coat", and "my new heavy jacket". The word "heavy" is key in those statements and needs no explanation to those who live there.

Pothole season. Yes, that's a season. It's driven by humidity and the freeze thaw conditions that cycle it. Fed by winter, potholes emerge from deep underground waiting to swallow all things automotive, especially your car's front end, wreaking havoc on even the sturdiest of suspensions let alone mighty steel wheels. Alignment and tire shops do nicely because of this. I've actually seen full size garbage cans setting in them, if not city street crowd-control barricades placed in front of them in the attempt to warn the unsuspecting motorist.

Except for E-470 and the by choice HOV lanes here, Chicago and its neighboring areas are inundated with Toll Roads. It's hard to not encounter them, where they eagerly consume any spare change you happen to have with you. Even trying to access unpaid routes, you're forced to pony up at the Toll Booths even if done electronically, as they like to make it convenient to give them monies for simply driving for that pizza from the old neighborhood.

Parking or the lack of it. Virtually every piece of available possible parking real estate is posted for No Parking, and they mean it. And if you don't think they mean it, go ahead and park there if you never want to see your car again. The inverse of that is Paid Parking. And they mean that too. That is if you're lucky enough to find a metered space. Other than that it's parking lots starting at twenty five plus or a street valet; which is parking on the public street facilitated by a valet for sixteen dollars plus tip. So this is how it works: I first drive someplace paying a bunch of tolls. When I get to where I'm going, everything is posted No Parking. I circle the blocks for 15 minutes learning there's no hope for a metered spot. I pull up to the valet, and hand him \$16.00 as explained by the nice city street sign. He moves my car over one spot, yes ONE spot, gives me my keys back and says "Enjoy lunch! Just leave when you're done." So the Deep Dish pizza just cost me only \$16.00 more, cuz there was no way I was gonna tip him for that too!

The speed limit. It doesn't matter what the posted speed limit is, most traffic exceeds it seemly without fear. And that's what the right lane is for. If you want to drive in the lawless left lanes, well, 20 over is only enough to still be tailgated. In order to keep others from showing up in your rear view mirror angry, you need to do much better than that not to impede the flow of traffic over there. Another common driving strategy is passing on the right, even if only on a two lane street. Apparently, that's what the parking lane is for, right?

And then there's crime! The city and local papers and nightly news are riddled with the violence that permeants every square inch of all of it. Despite the fact that murder was down for 2016, 2017 still recorded 650 deaths with the bulk of them being directly contributed to gang violence. Of special note is that the gangs have now adopted the use of long guns, specifically AR-15's, engaging in street warfare from a distance with each other. So not to worry, if the carjacking doesn't ruin your day, the stray bullets will.

So what does all of this have to do with Morrison? Nothing, absolutely nothing! And be glad for it, all of it. Well, maybe except for the pizza!

Sergeant Joe Leo



The Bulletin Board



Govotecolorado.com

**MAKE SURE YOU CAN
VOTE IN THE
MORRISON
APRIL ELECTION**

March 12, 2018 is the last day
to register to vote .

TOWN OF MORRISON INFORMATION

To report non-emergent items or
general town concerns

www.town.morrison.co.us/requesttrack.aspx



ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATION

If unable to cast in person ballot on
April 3, 2018 stop by Town Office to
pick up an Absentee Ballot
Application.

Deadline is March 30, 2018 to file
application.

If any questions call Town Office,
speak with Lyndsey

Progressive Dinner 2018

Saturday, April 7th - 7th Annual Progressive Dinner for the Town of Morrison

"If there is to be peace in the world, there must be peace between neighbors. If there is peace between neighbors, there must be peace in your heart." (Taoist proverb)

All residents of the town of Morrison are invited!

A Progressive Dinner is an evening where you go to 3 homes. One home for appetizers, another one for dinner (smaller group) and another one for dessert.

This is to get to know your neighbors better and connect with each other in a more intimate setting.

A dinner party is a great way to enjoy each others company

- * 6 pm to 7:15 pm - Appetizers (the whole group - if the weather is nice, we can even have it outside)
- * 7:30 pm to 9 pm - Dinner (8 people per house or less)
- * 9:15 pm to 11:30 pm - Dessert (entire group)

Invite your neighbors! We hope you can join us on the **7th of April 2018**- mark your calendar!

Every person participating will have to bring a dish or beverage to the Progressive Dinner.

It'll be a fun way to feed neighborly connections in our quirky little town!

The journey (walk) from house to house is part of the evening's fun.

A great way to meet your neighbors and make new friends.

If you are new to the neighborhood it is a good way to introduce yourself!

You can RSVP by calling **Petra @ [303.748.2817](tel:303.748.2817)** or email: **petralikesyoga@gmail.com**



RED ROCKS
INSURANCE AGENCY

Red Rocks Insurance Agency, LLC

202 Spring Street

Morrison, CO 80465

303-456-8586

www.redrocksins.com

maja@redrocksins.com

soley@redrocksins.com

Need Insurance or want to save money on your current coverage? Give us a call or stop by. We're right in town and we'd love to review your current policies. We work with many different insurance companies and might be able to save you hundreds of dollars on your premiums.

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Motorcycle

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