

TO: Mayor Rogin and Members of the Board of Trustees
FROM: Victoria Simonsen, Town Administrator
DATE: June 27, 2024
ITEM: Administrator's Report

_____ ORDINANCE
_____ MOTION / RESOLUTION
 X INFORMATION

Tubing Ban on the North St. Vrain Creek and St. Vrain River: On June 21st, The Boulder County Sheriff's Office, in consultation with the Lyons Fire Protection District and the Town of Lyons, rescinded the tubing ban. Unfortunately, there were still several water rescues and other stranded individuals over the weekend who needed assistance. The water continues to fluctuate, and extreme caution is needed when tubing.

Depot Landscaping: Powell Restoration has started scraping, grading, and removing tree stumps on the Depot property. The work is to be completed before the installation of the LaVern Johnson sculpture and its dedication on July 24th.

The Bohn Park Sport Court Resurfacing Project is tentatively scheduled to begin this weekend, June 22nd. It will be closed to the public while being painted. The staff has been communicating regularly with the pickleball group.

Wildfire Partners Mitigation Rebate Program:

A new wildfire mitigation rebate program is now available to all Boulder County residents. The program supports residents protecting their homes from wildfires with a rebate of up to \$500. Learn more and apply at wildfirepartners.org/rebate. The new rebate program encourages residents to actively take steps to protect their homes and communities from wildfire. The rebate program is open to all county residents who are actively improving home hardening and defensible space on their properties to reduce the potential for wildfire to spread.

This program provides a rebate of up to \$500 to county residents who are eligible and complete one or more of the following wildfire mitigation actions:

- [Junk Your Junipers](#) - Removing highly flammable juniper vegetation.
- [The First Five Feet](#) - Replacing the first five feet around the perimeters of a home with noncombustible landscaping material.
- [Fences are Fuses](#) - Replacing the five feet of fencing attached to a home with noncombustible material.
- [Screen or Replace Your Vents](#) - Screening vents on a home with 1/8-inch mesh or replacing with flame-resistant vents.

Boulder County Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP): Attached is the link to the website with the timeline, purpose and a copy of the draft plan for Boulder County. <https://boulder-county-cwpp-bouldercounty.hub.arcgis.com/>

CDOT Hwy 36 Striping: CDOT crews came through town this week and restriped the Hwy 36 corridor, providing a much-needed refresh of the lane lines. They also painted a solid white line along the double-turning lane from 5th Avenue onto Broadway Avenue to provide more direction and guidance to turning traffic.

Three-Phase Power to Downtown: Staff have been looking for grants that might assist with providing three-phase electricity to the Lyons Commercial-Downtown district. During a recent visit from our wholesale energy providers' services division, we found out that they are working with some new software to help determine the cost of new electric projects. We were able to walk the 300 and 400 blocks of High St. and Broadway Ave. which provide the electricity to the North and South sides of Main St. as well as High St. and Broadway. As part of the services the Municipal Energy Agency of Nebraska provides, they will map out what is needed to provide 3-phase power underground in this area and give a cost estimate. This can then be used to determine the feasibility of a project to provide 3 phase to the Commercial Downtown.

Apple Valley Water Treatment Plant Property Update: Discussions with Boulder County Planning determined the buildability of the former Apple Valley Water Treatment Plant property. After surveying the property, it showed the lot included portions of the North Bank of the North St. Vrain Creek. The Board of Trustees reviewed options to subdivide the property to create a "river parcel" and a to-be-sold "buildable lot parcel." This would create a new Town-owned Park on the so-called river parcel. This would allow river users to access the river without trespassing on private property to the immediate east of Apple Valley Road.

This option had some drawbacks, such as a lengthy subdivision process with staff time and unknown expenses and would then create another property for the Town to maintain. Staff were requested to find out if the North Bank of the property could be added to the existing easement that the county already has on the Western portion of the property for recreational access. Staff meetings have been challenging to organize, but we are trying to do so in July.

Summit Housing Construction Costs: In the Development Agreement with Summit Housing, the town agreed to contribute up to \$150,000 in Town funds to offset increases in utility-related costs. Summit received the first \$50,000 when the first building permit was issued. A second \$50,000 was to be provided when the public improvements were finished. These are still not quite finished. The third \$50,000 was to be provided when the final Certificate of occupancy was issued, and Summit provided information from the ENR Construction Cost Index that showed construction costs had risen from when they first started the project in Quarter 2 of 2021 until the issuance of the final Certificate of Occupancy, which was at the end of Q4 2023. The ENR Construction Cost Index, as provided by Summit Housing, was 11,849 at the start of the 2nd quarter of 2021, and at the end of Q4 2023, when the last Certificate of Occupancy was issued, it was 13,514, showing the index went up almost 17%. The ENR Construction Cost Index information is attached.

Curbside Limb Pick-up is scheduled for the week of July 15th. It will include residential properties within the town limits that are less than one acre in size. The town and vendor (Baer Forestry) will not pick up piles that do not follow the following guidelines. Baer does not clean

the immediate area after the chipping is complete. Property owners are responsible for cleaning the area.

Acceptable Materials Include:

- Branches and Limbs Only. No Grass, weeds, loose yard waste, or compost.
- Only piles of wood limbs and branches up to 6" in diameter are accepted.
- No construction debris or treated lumber. No nails or wires in limbs or branches.
- No construction or building materials
- No trash, weeds, etc.
- No root wads, dirt, or rocks
- No grass clippings
- No bags of leaves or pine needles
- No nails and wire
- No thorny materials (rose bushes, etc.)
- Do NOT tie or band piles

Pile Guidelines:

- Piles must be stacked curbside by **7 am** on the START DATE OF THE EVENT
- Any branch piles put out after the collection day will not be collected by the Town/vendor and will be the responsibility of the homeowner.
- Piles should not be made far in advance of the scheduled start date
- Piles must be neatly stacked with cut ends facing the road. Please ensure limbs are cut as straight as possible.
- Max pile size is 5x5x5 and is limited to **one per household**. PILES THAT ARE LARGER WILL BE SKIPPED!
- Please work to ensure that no obstacles interfere with the pickup of the limb pile by the loader and chipper.
- Do not park in front of your limb pile.
- Piles must be within 5' of the roadway (do not place piles on the sidewalk!)
- Municipal code prohibits placing items in the street.
- Limbs will not be collected in alleys. Even if your trash/recycling collection occurs in an alley, you must place limbs curbside in front of your property for pick-up.
- Residential properties only that are less than one acre. NO Commercial Piles.
- Do not combine piles with neighbors or haul material in from other neighborhoods
- Do NOT tie or band piles