



LARKSPUR NEWS

Town of Larkspur PO Box 310 Larkspur Colorado 80118 <http://www.townoflarkspur.org> phone: 303-681-2324 fax: 303-681-2325

FROM MAYOR GERRY BEEN

Thank you all for a well-planned and well-attended Arts & Craft Festival. It was a resounding success, and well received by the surrounding communities!

COUNCIL MEETING DATES IN OCTOBER

Regular Council Meeting, October 4, 2018, 6:00 pm @ Town Hall
Planning Commission Meeting, October 8, 2018, 6:00 pm @ Town Hall
Parks & Recreation Board Meeting, October 9, 2018, 4:30 pm at Town Hall
Regular Council Meeting, October 18, 2018, 6:00 pm @ Town Hall
Planning Commission Meeting, October 22, 2018, 6:00 pm @ Town Hall

There is a small flyer included in this month's issue of the Larkspur News. It contains information on "What you need to know before voting on **Amendment #74**". If you require more information, we have a more detailed document in Town Hall. Please feel free to stop by and pick one up.

To help DC families that need back-to-school help.

https://www.douglas.co.us/back-school-supplies-douglas-county-families-need/?utm_source=Douglas+County+Government+-+Colorado&utm_campaign=2cfce981e4-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2018_07_16_02_35&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_4eb7e5e3bd-2cfce981e4-69726977

Council Public Hearing and Council Meeting Motions & Votes, September 6, 2018

Present: Mayor Pro-Tem Jeremiah Holmes, Heather Sanchez, Tabitha Parks, Paul Bowers, Isaac Levy and Jennell Waggle

Council Public Hearing:

- Motion to approve Resolution 18-13, A RESOLUTION APPROVING BUSS SUBDIVISION MINOR AMENDMENT NO. 5. Passed 6-0-0.
- Motion to adjourn the Council public hearing. Passed 6-0-0.

Council Meeting:

- Motion to approve Regular Council Meeting minutes for August 16, 2018. Passed 5-0-1.
- Motion to re-establish a Town of Larkspur Water and Sewer (W&S) Board and appoint Tricia Bernhard and Eric Waggle as regular W&S Board Members each serving a three (3) year term; Ruth Ann Arfsten, Richard Cargill, and Lynn Pfaff as Regular W&S Board Members each serving a two (2) year term effective 7 September 2018 and appoint Brian Cook as an Alternate Member serving a one (1) year term effective 7 September 2018. Passed 6-0-0.
- Motion to appoint Vickie Harris to the Town Planning Commission as an Alternate Member for a two (2) year term effective 7 September 2018. Passed 6-0-0.
- Motion to enter into an "Executive Session" to discuss legal matters with the Town Attorney regarding Town Board Member actions. Passed 6-0-0.
- Motion to send a letter to a member of the Town's Planning Commission reprimanding him for his inappropriate behavior toward a Town Staff Member and requesting he provide a written apology to the Staff Member and written assurance to the Town Council that he will refrain from any further inappropriate communications or actions with Town Staff Members. Passed 6-0-0.
- Motion to adjourn the Council Meeting. Passed 6-0-0.

Council Meeting Motions & Votes, September 20, 2018

Present: Mayor Gerry Been, Jeremiah Holmes, Tabitha Parks, Paul Bowers, and Isaac Levy

Council Meeting:

- Motion to approve Resolution 18-14, A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL AUDIT REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017. Passed 5-0-0.
- Motion to approve payment of General Fund bills in the amount of \$44,683.30. Passed 5-0-0.
- Motion to approve payment of bills for Water & Sewer expenditures totaling \$17,062.41. Passed 5-0-0.
- Motion to suspend Water and Sewer Board meetings until all members receive Board Member Orientation from Town Attorney on how to conduct meetings, roles and responsibilities, and other pertinent components related to Board functions. The motion also requires that all future appointees to Town Boards and Commissions will have to be interviewed by the Town Council before appointment and required to attend Board Membership Orientation from the Town Attorney after appointment and before being seated on the Board/Commission. Passed 4-0-1.
- Motion to approve Council Public Hearing minutes for September 6, 2018. Passed 5-0-0.
- Motion to approve Regular Council Meeting minutes for September 6, 2018. Passed 4-0-1.
- Motion to approve Ordinance 4.28, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 7 ARTICLE 3 OF THE LARKSPUR TOWN CODE TO LIMIT AND REGULATE DUMPSTER SIZE WITHIN THE TOWN OF LARKSPUR. Passed 4-1-0.

VISION STATEMENT

Larkspur, a small, friendly town. A town that works together by:

Fostering a

Government of

Integrity that

Responds to its

People,

Directing

Future Growth

within

Larkspur's

small Town

Values,

Providing

Community

Facilities and

Activities for all

ages and,

Preserving the

Natural

Environment

that is unique to

the Larkspur

area.

Council Meeting Motions & Votes, September 26, 2018 (Continued)

- Motion to match the \$1000 reward offered by the Town Manager with an additional \$1000 for the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for shooting the electronic message sign in front of Town Hall, bringing the total reward to \$2000. Passed 5-0-0.
- Motion to approve use of the Town truck by the Mayor or a Town employee as a “stage” this Saturday, September 22nd, at the Wildlander 5k Run being held at Sandstone Ranch in support of area first responders. Passed 5-0-0.
- Motion to adjourn the Council Meeting. Passed 5-0-0.

IMPORTANT EMERGENCY NUMBERS

The Douglas County Sheriff’s office uses Twitter to send out emergency messages. If you want to receive this information from the sheriff’s office, you will need to set up a Twitter account.

Since a fire has already hit close to the Town limits, this website might be of use for planning in the event of evacuation.

If you want to listen to the scanner for Douglas County fire calls, you can set up this link as a favorite. It times out, so you have to keep hitting play.

<https://www.broadcastify.com/listen/feed/7356/web>

Here is information to sign up for Douglas County Sherriff emergency notification via reverse calls by CodeRed: <https://public.coderedweb.com/cne/en-US/84B13CCD6B41>

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EXPLANATION OF BALLOT MEASURE 68 FOR LARKSPUR FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Ballot Measure 68, is not like a mill levy increase. Ballot measures do not arbitrarily increase the overall taxes paid on residential properties above current levels. Instead, it permits a means to stabilize the tax revenue funding at current levels for Larkspur Fire Protection District (LFPD) due to the dilemma created by the required statewide decrease in the residential assessment rate (RAR) mandated by the Gallagher Amendment. Overall, fire district revenues from property taxes will remain essentially unchanged from what they are today if Ballot Measure 68 is approved. This would allow maintaining the current levels of staffing, upkeep of apparatus/equipment, and continuation of excellent rural ISO ratings. Without a means to stabilize funding for the district, it could result in a major decline in fire and emergency medical services and the possibility of increased insurance premiums.

In 2015 we approved a mill levy measure for our fire district. Now, Ballot Measure 68 would allow adjustments of the mill levy to compensate for the decreased RAR to maintain current LFPD residential tax revenue at present levels. I want to reiterate, the residential taxes paid with passage of 68 would fundamentally remain identical to the current amount being paid. In 2017 the Colorado Legislature lowered the RAR from 7.96% to 7.22%. Already this has started to erode improvements in the fire district that the 2015 mill levy provided. Without passage of 68, future anticipated decreases in the RAR required by the Gallagher Amendment, the situation will worsen. To learn more about the Gallagher Amendment and its effect on fire districts throughout Colorado, visit <https://www.larkspurfire.org/> and click on the Gallagher Video Link button.

Please attend one of the Public Meetings sponsored by Citizens for Larkspur Fire Protection District: October 17, 2018, 6:30 p.m. at Bear Dance Country Club and October 18, 2018, 6:30 p.m. at Perry Park Country Club. These meetings are a public forum allowing clarification of this specific Ballot Measure 68, primarily in an interactive question/answer manner.

Larkspur Elementary Fall Festival

Address: Colorado Renaissance Festival Grounds, 650 W. Perry
Park Ave., Larkspur

Hours: 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Oct. 28

Contact: 303-688-6010

Cost: Children 4-years-old and under can purchase a wristband for \$10, children 5-years-old and older can purchase a wristband for \$15 in advance or \$20 at the gate

The scoop: The 21st annual Larkspur Elementary Fall Festival's schedule of events starts with the adult scavenger hunt and chili cook off and tasting in the morning. There will also be a costume contest, fall flavors bake-off and and Trick-or-Treat Street.

October 2018 Newsletter Accounting Question

We thought it might be helpful to offer a Q&A on accounting questions that we hear from residents.

One question heard in September:

“Why are we considering building a wastewater treatment plant now?”

Answer:

The Town was given the wastewater lagoons in January 1988, from the State, for \$1. The Town of Larkspur had been using the lagoons since October 1980. They are nearly 40 years old.

With the current administration in Washington, DC, money is available for aging infrastructure replacement. It is a high priority. These federal awards change with each administration and may not be available in the future. Typically, federal and state funding is much less expensive than through private sources.

The Town is growing. Our much needed development will help pay for the needs of Town residents and their facilities. If funding is available at this time and we can tackle two birds with one stone - replacing aging infrastructure and providing improved facilities for development - then it is prudent to look at the option of constructing sooner than later.

The mistake of not looking into the infrastructure needs for the future, could devastate the Town. If we had to absorb greater interest rates, along with generating lower revenue, during a difficult economy, we may have trouble securing financing for an old system. If the system were to fail, without the Town having researched replacements and funding, we would incur great expense to haul away waste for the Town.

Finally, any debt for future construction must be approved by the voters.

Thanks for the question.