

In This Edition...

Rebranding Brush!
pg 2

Trash Talk
pg 2 & 3

Council Update
pg 3

Building Permits
pg 4

Upcoming Events
pg 4



600 Edison St. Brush, CO 80723 PO Box 363 www.brushcolo.com
brush@brushcolo.com p. 970.842.5001 f. 970.842.5909

From Our New Mayor

It has been two months since I became mayor, and I am very fortunate to take the reins when I feel everything is functioning very well due to wise decisions from previous Mayor, Dan Scalise; City Administrator, Monty Torres; and previous Councils. Yet I am very aware of the fact that challenges await with keeping the City moving forward.



I want to help Brush continue to be a great place to live. In this letter, I would like to focus on projects that will make Brush more livable and enjoyable. The City is continuing work on several improvements that have been a few years in the making.

We are going to install a skate park this summer in Pioneer Park, right by Hospital Road and Mill Street. We are also going to build a dog park by Doty pond across from the campground. These are both ideas that started several years ago, and it reminds us that it takes a while for things to move, that nothing happens overnight in government.

We are going to make the railroad intersection on Clayton Street a quiet zone this year. We also hope to do the railroad intersection on Hospital Road by Eben Ezer in a year or two.

It is going to be a busy summer, because we are also planning on finishing the fourth and last phase of the downtown project. This will complete the process of installing the stormwater lines and taking the stormwater away from downtown, out to the retention pond. A two block section of Edmond Street will be renovated in the midst of the work.

Looking forward, I am hoping to work with the Council, the City and the County on making more hiking and biking trails. Even a trail between Brush and Fort Morgan is contemplated. Talks have started again discussing a county-wide rec center.

We continue to look into solving our floodplain issues. It is a huge dilemma; this affects so much in Brush relative to getting loans, and in being able to build anywhere near downtown or the east side of town. I'm not sure what will happen, but we need to start a discussion.

We all want to keep Brush thriving and continue to gear us toward long-term prosperity. I hope you share in some, or most of these ideas and plans. Please let me know what I can do to help in your visions of moving Brush forward, and together we can help Brush to flourish.

Chuck Schonberger
Mayor



Brush! Has Been Rebranded!

Here it is our new look! Brush! Colorado, Homegrown Happiness! Last year, discussions began about giving our dear community an updated look. With all of the progress that been made over the past few years, we decided a revived and updated brand was needed. With the revitalization project of downtown completed, increasing economic development activity around town, a new interstate, and a commitment by City Council to push Brush! forward, we have a lot going for us.

Our campaign to rebrand our City wasn't about changing who we are, but utilizing who we are and capitalizing on that. Through research on previous surveys done within the community as to why people live here and what they think of when it comes to Brush!, we began to develop ideas on how we should be presenting ourselves to the world. We carry virtues and sentiments that many people value, and we built on that. Through gathering additional ideas and feedback from the community, we came up with ideas for logos and a tagline to further exclaim what we are. Finally, after much consideration and collective thinking, we came up with the new image that declares what our community is, followed by the expression: Homegrown Happiness! Our simpler atmosphere of life has had a tremendous track record through the decades of not relying on what the culture around us can offer to find satisfaction, but cultivating a true gratification in the unwavering principles of simply living, and doing it well. The explanation point is something we knew we wanted to keep. It was a wonderful touch that was added in the late 70's that captivates the attention of outsiders and sets us apart.

We knew tying into the social media world was overdue for the City and needed to change that as well. So many people utilize it, and it's a wonderful way to stay connected to more people. In addition to everything else, including a new website, we now have a Facebook and Twitter page as another valuable tool to update our citizens with. We thank everyone for their contribution to the rebranding project and look forward to showing the new look of Brush!

Trash Talk From the Director

No Foolin'! Starting April 1st, 2014, Wednesday's trash route is being changed to Tuesday. This change is to align the City's recycling schedule with the County's. The City will be reminding residents on Wednesday's route throughout the rest of March. Of course, the City also expects some residents will be caught off guard and the City will try to accommodate everyone until it becomes a routine.



Did you know the City has a recycling program? Over the last year, the City has been implementing recycling for City residents. The City currently accepts two types of waste for recycling – cardboard and “single stream”, meaning you don't have to sort it. There are restrictions on what can be recycled in the single stream. Please refer to the insert provided with this newsletter for more information. The recycling bins are located south of the Post Office in the City's parking lot. Hours are 7:00 to 4:00, Monday through Friday, except holidays.

Electronics are now banned from disposal in landfills. This was an effort by the Colorado Legislature to create jobs in the recycling industry and to keep precious and heavy metals out of Colorado landfills. The City of Brush, being a solid waste hauler is responsible for keeping electronics out of the waste stream. Whenever our crews discover electronics in the trash, they are required to remove and tag them. So now what do I do with that old TV? The City is working on trying to set up an electronics recycling day soon, and for the long term, establish a collection point for electronics recycling. We'll keep you posted. (continued on pg 3...)



City Council Priorities 2013-2014 Update

Each year City Council evaluates the needs in Brush! and prioritizes what they feel needs to be addressed. Some are ongoing, and some are a project they would like to see accomplished. Here is an update on what was on our to-do list a year ago, and what we have accomplished and working toward. The priorities to be established over the next year will be determined this month by Council. That list will be available to the public at City Hall, as well as on the City website. As always, feel free to contact your Council Representative with any of your thoughts and concerns.



Brush! City Council earlier this year at their first meeting with the new members

1. Continue improving water resources, water conservation efforts and upgrading of the water distribution system.
2. Ensure economic development activities continue and improvements made as necessary with a heavy focus on pursuing a large business within 3 years. Pursue development of Hospital Road.
3. Storm water improvements with DOLA, CDOT or USDA funds for a drainage pond in 2014.
4. Quiet Zone evaluation 2013; possible construction of Clayton Street in 2014; planning with Eben Ezer, other property owners and public input.
5. Floodplain (on hold until other priorities are completed)

Administrative Priorities

- A. Trees – removal of dead tree and shrubs blocking sidewalks or overhanging on streets and alley ways.
- B. Recycling, currently under development with Morgan County.
- C. School safety – continue to identify areas and partner with schools.
- D. Recreation
 - Recreation Center participate with discussion.
 - Disc golf – continue park and program development.
 - Dog park(s) dog run(s) development.
 - Bike trail development, bike racks installed throughout town.
 - Development of a focus group.
 - Ball fields – develop more fields, Rockies or other grants.
- E. Railroad, address or eliminate trains blocking streets.
- F. Brush! TV channel evaluation/development.
- G. Solar upgrades to reduce/eliminate electric bill.
- H. Feasibility assessment for Munn's Addition Water District.
- I. Public Safety joint table top exercise 2013; 2014 disaster exercise.
- J. Investigate property for public safety training center.
- K. National Incident Management System (NIMS) training compliance.
- L. Completion of the Airport Master Plan.
- M. Central School (continue attending meeting/identify potential uses/seek grant opportunities)

The Administrative Priorities are secondary needs and areas of focus that follow the five listed above which take precedence and much more planning and expenditure. City Staff will address these Administrative Priorities at an ongoing level through the course of their City duties and bring them before Council for updates and needed action in their due course of time.

(...continued from pg 2) Finally, spring is here soon to be followed by summer! One of the favorite places to relax is the backyard. We tend to enjoy the privacy our backyards provide, especially from the alleyway. Often we use trees and shrubs to provide us with that shade and privacy. One of the problems this presents is the overgrowth into the alley. This overgrowth causes damage to the City's trash trucks and other equipment when driving in the alleys. Please check to make sure your trees and shrubs are not encroaching into the alleyways. Also make sure the space behind your house in the alley is free from debris such as concrete chunks, firewood, old tree branches, etc. Failure to trim your alley shrubs and trees, or allow clutter to build up can result in issuing you a citation. Call for a special pickup and we'll be glad to help. The end result is you will have to do it anyway, just less hassle along the way.

by DALE COLERICK

director of utilities & public works



Building Permits

Looking to do some big work around the house this year? Maybe it's time to put up that new fence or finish the basement; perhaps knock out a wall or two since the kids have moved out. If so, just a reminder to come by City Hall and get a building permit before the work begins. Cosmetic improvements like repainting, hanging wallpaper, and new carpets or tile don't require a permit, but anything more than that will likely require a permit.

Permit fees largely depend on the total value of the project (labor and materials), but some smaller projects are charged just a flat fee of \$25 plus tax. You can stop in City Hall, or jump onto our website under the Community Development page to see the entire fee structure.

The time necessary to process and issue a permit will vary, depending on the project; some can be issued on a walk-in basis, while others that are more complex will require additional time. In preparation for a permit, identify the entire scope of work to be done and estimate the cost of the materials you will need. More complex projects will also need construction drawings and a site plan. While you are planning your project feel free to call Karen at City Hall with any questions you may have; she is a great resource to provide the guidance you may need to get your project started!

Upcoming Events

With the warm weather on the horizon, it's about time for many people to come out of hibernation. As you are putting the sweaters away, be thinking about being a part of the great events that will be happening here in the upcoming sunshine...

May 3: Our downtown Spring Clean-up

May 18: 2nd community Volksmarch

May 26: The pool will be opening up

June 14: Antique Tractor and Power Show

June 14-16: Summer Sizzler Baseball Tournament

June 21&22: Brad Amack Mens Softball Tournament

June 28: The 32nd Annual Brush! Rush!

July 2-4: 60th Annual Brush! Rodeo



Don't forget about the wonderful summer reading program put on at the library, as well as the Sack Lunch Program on the first Friday of each month.



City Council Members

Mayor Chuck Schonberger 842-2673

Councilors Ward I

Rick Bain 842-2496

Mark Smith 768-5856

Councilors Ward II

Kimberly Dykes 380-0593

Vicky Quinlin 380-2279

Councilors Ward III

Heath Becker 467-0028

Jeanine Santistevan 842-9907

City Staff 842-5001

Monty Torres	City Administrator
Karen Schminke	Assistant Administrator
Andrea Strand	City Clerk
Joanne Gosselink	Director of Finance
Lance Schwindt	Director of Parks & Rec
Dale Colerick	Director of Utilities & Public Works
Mark Thomas	Police Chief
Tyler Purvis	Marketing Specialist
Loranda Packard	Human Resources
Melissa White	Court Clerk
Deanna Schwindt	Deputy City Clerk/ Utilities
Jennifer Vondy	Utility Billing
Tadd Anderson	Fire Chief