



## The Mavor's Corner



Fellow Lochbuians-

So much to say this month and so little space, so I'll jump right in!

First, the town board will be hosting ice cream socials in various town parks on Saturday, July 27, and Saturday, August 10. Please stop by to grab a free ice cream treat and to chat with the members of the town board. For details as to the exact times and locations, please see the calendar included in this newsletter or the town's website. Please do not feel restricted to the social in your neighborhood; all of the socials are open to everyone. The various locations are simply meant to facilitate access and accommodate various schedules.

Second, the town is in the process of finalizing a Lochbuie night at the Brighton Oasis Waterpark. This will be an evening where the park is open ONLY to Lochbuie residents. We will share details as soon as they're available.

Third, the events agreement reached with Brighton several weeks ago is now in effect. Please watch the town's website, newsletter, and social media pages for details about the events co-sponsored by the town, including the upcoming Campout at the Brighton Recreation Center on the night of August 3. And please actively participate in these events.

Fourth, the board approved an ordinance permitting the use of fire pits within town limits subject to certain safety regulations. As one board member described it, "fire pits are as American as apple pie." The board was excited to make this positive change that stemmed from citizen concerns.

Fifth, the board recently heard a presentation about potential solutions to some of the speeding and traffic problems in our growing town. At the conclusion of that presentation, the board directed staff to create a new program where town residents can report problem areas and take the steps necessary to request a review of those areas for potential solutions. Please contact town hall for more details if you interested in this program.

Sixth, the board approved an ordinance placing the creation of a Home Rule Charter Commission on the November 2019 ballot. For more details about Home Rule, please review the information on page 4 of this newsletter. If you're interested in potentially serving as a commissioner, please watch future newsletters for details.

Finally, I wanted to include a quick note about recycling in town: This service is included in your trash fee. A couple of months ago, Waste Management did a presentation to the town board. It shocked several of us to learn that less than half of town residents are currently using the recycling services. I urge everyone in town to consider getting a recycling bin if you do not already have one. I'd also urge all town residents to spend a few minutes on Waste Management's website refreshing your memory about what items can be recycled and the requirements to recycle them.

That summarizes some of the most important recent happenings. As always, do not hesitate to contact me or any of the members of the board with your questions, comments, or concerns.

Thank you,  
Jacob R. Lofgren, Mayor  
[jlofgren@lochbuie.org](mailto:jlofgren@lochbuie.org)



## Mayor & Board of Trustees

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**Town Hall Phone: 303-655-9308**

**Police Department: 303-659-1395**

**[www.lochbuie.org](http://www.lochbuie.org)**

Follow us on Facebook!



## Citizens' Police Academy - July 24 - October 2, 2019

This hands-on training will give participants a behind-the-scenes look at the many functions of law enforcement. The course will cover patrol functions, code enforcement, firearms (some hands-on if desired), and tours of the Weld County Jail and Dispatch Center. This 11-week course consists of one evening per week, with occasional Saturdays for special sessions. Applicants must be 18 years of age and have a clear driving record.

A criminal background check is required. Fill out the application form (available on our website) and bring to our offices at Town Hall, 703 WCR 37, or email to: **Sergeant Stephanie Southard at [ssouthard@lochbuie.org](mailto:ssouthard@lochbuie.org)**

You DO NOT need to be a Lochbuie resident. All are welcome.

**JUST A REMINDER ....**

It is illegal to shoot fireworks anywhere in the Town of Lochbuie. The Fire Department is urging all residents to please enjoy fireworks at one of the surrounding town/city displays ONLY! Per the Town Municipal Code (Article XII, section 10-12-2), anyone **possessing, storing or exploding** any fireworks within Town limits will be subject to fines and penalties.

*“Except as provided herein, it is unlawful for any person to possess, store, to offer for sale, expose for sale, sell at retail or use or explode any fireworks within the Town limits. Any person convicted of violating this Section shall be subject to the penalties set forth in Subsection (Chapter 10, Article 1, section 10-1-70(d)).”*

For more information regarding regulations, fines and penalties, and to see the complete Town of Lochbuie Municipal Code, visit our website at: [www.lochbuie.org](http://www.lochbuie.org) **Have a HAPPY AND SAFE 4th of July!**



**WELD COUNTY ROAD 2**

As construction continues on WCR 2, please exercise extra caution when traveling through the area.

**REMINDER: FINES ARE DOUBLED FOR SPEEDING IN CONSTRUCTION ZONES!**



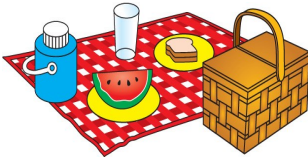
**SAVE THE DATE!**

**LOCHBUIE PUBLIC SAFETY DAY AND BIKE RODEO**

**AUGUST 17TH 9:00 AM-3:00 PM**

Meet your first responders, learn about bike safety and rules. Enjoy refreshments, giveaways, raffle, bike rodeo and obstacle course.

**Fun for the whole family!**



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
EVEN	ODD	EVEN	ODD	EVEN	<b>NO WATER DAY</b>	ODD
	1 Emergency siren testing at 12:00 	2	3	4 Independence Day Town Offices Closed	5	6
7	8	9	10 Delinquent accounts	11	12	13
14	15	16 Town Board Meeting 6:30 PM	17	18	19 Court 8:30 AM Water Meter Reads	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 *Town Board Ice Cream Socials 
28	29	30	31		*July 27th: 1:00-3:00 Berkshire Park 4:00-6:00 Silver Peaks August 10: 1:00-3:00 Lochwood Park 4:00-6:00 Bella Vista	

**FREE  
SPRINKLER  
CHECK-UP!**

# Slow the Flow

Stay Green, Save Blue.

Maintain a beautiful landscape while saving water with a FREE sprinkler consultation!



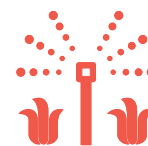
### SAVE WATER EASILY

Trained technicians will test your system and recommend a customized watering schedule that could save 5,000 gallons of water per year.



### LOWER YOUR WATER BILL

Ensure your sprinklers are running efficiently and aren't putting a big dent in your water bill. Brought to you at no cost by your water provider!



### KNOW YOUR SPRINKLERS

Gain practical, do-it-yourself sprinkler maintenance skills during your consultation to keep your lawn and water savings looking good for the long term.

\*90 minute consultations are scheduled on a first come, first serve basis.

Sign up for your sprinkler consultation today!  
[ResourceCentral.org/sprinklers](https://ResourceCentral.org/sprinklers)  
(303) 999-3824



CONSERVATION MADE EASY



# **HOME RULE INFORMATION**

## **TOWN BOARD VOTES TO MOVE THE HOME RULE PROCESS FORWARD**

### **WHAT IS A HOME RULE TOWN?**

Currently, Lochbuie is a statutory town. Statutory municipalities are only allowed to exercise the powers expressly granted to them by the Colorado Constitution and statutes. Home rule is the term used for the status of a town which has adopted a Town Charter as its governing document. A home rule charter is like a “constitution” on a local level. State statutes are for the most part “one size fits all” but different communities have different needs and home rule status allows towns to more closely customize what they do to redress issues in that community.

Home rule status is authorized by the Colorado Constitution and allows towns and cities which choose such status (through an election process) to legislate and govern on matters of local concern in accordance with the charter rather than by relying on state statutes. As with any form of government, the effectiveness depends on the quality, dedication and integrity of those public officials and employees in office and on the expectations and participation of local citizens. There is still the same accountability of elected officials to the voters when a Town operates under a home rule charter – both through the election process and, if necessary, the recall rights of the voters. In addition, all other provisions of the US and Colorado constitutions remain in full effect. As an example, voting for home rule does not authorize higher taxes. The TABOR and Gallagher amendments, which limit new taxes and tax rate increases unless approved by the voters, and set tax assessment rates, will still be in effect, and are unaffected by a change to home rule status.

### **IS THIS A GOOD THING?**

When the Town Board decided to ask the voters whether to change the Town status to home rule, it adopted an ordinance that can be found on the Town’s web site at: [www.lochbuie.org/publicnotice](http://www.lochbuie.org/publicnotice) The Town Board recognizes in that ordinance that the best government is the one closest to the people, and home rule status, through adoption of a charter: (1) provides the vision and mission statement framework of the Town which serves as the guide for future actions and decisions affecting the Town and its inhabitants; (2) permits the registered voters of the Town to direct the structure and organization of governance of the Town and procedures for adopting legislation by the governing body; and (3) provides increased flexibility in assessing and collecting revenue sources and in seeking solutions to local problems without undesired statewide statutory restrictions.

### **HOW DO WE GET THERE?**

The process for becoming home rule in Lochbuie has been initiated by the Town Board of Trustees, which has called for an election on the questions of whether a charter commission should be formed to draft a charter and, if so, who should be elected to serve on the commission. This process is established by the Colorado Constitution and state statutes. In accordance with state law, the ordinance initiating the home rule process provided that there must be the minimum of 9 charter commission members. A majority vote is required to pass the ballot measure to form the commission. If the measure passes, the top 9 candidates receiving the most votes are elected to the commissioner slots. If the measure fails, the issue of adopting a charter cannot be placed on the ballot for at least one year.

If the measure passes, the Town Board has called for the first charter commission meeting to be held on November 19, 2019 at 4:30 p.m. and then on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. The commission has 180 days from the election to draft and submit a proposed charter. Commissioners are not paid but the Town is responsible for any reasonable costs incurred by the commission during the process. The Town attorney will be working with the commission to guide them in drafting the charter, but the policy-making is left to the commission.

Meetings of the commission are open to the public. After the completion of the draft charter, the commission submits its proposal to the Town Board of Trustees. The Town Board of Trustees then has 30 days to publish a notice of an election on the charter. The notice must contain the full text of the draft charter. The election itself must be held not less than 30, nor more than 185 days from the date of the published notice. The Town anticipates an election on the Charter in November, 2020.

If a majority of the registered electors vote to adopt the charter, the charter takes effect on a date specified in the charter. If the voters reject the charter, the charter commission must reconvene and propose a new charter, following the same procedure they did for the original draft. The revised charter is then submitted for public acceptance in a new election. If that charter is defeated, the process ends, and the charter process cannot be revisited again for at least a year.

### **HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?**

All registered electors of the Town are encouraged to consider participating in framing this important document. If you are interested in working on this important step for the Town, you must pick up a nomination petition from the Town Clerk’s office. Petitions and all necessary forms will be available on August 6, 2019, and can be circulated for signatures. You need signatures of 25 registered electors of the Town. By August 27, 2019, you must file the signed petitions and an acceptance of nomination and qualification affidavit with the Town Clerk. If less than 9 people file complete petitions, the election will be cancelled. The Town will hold an interested persons forum at Town Hall on August 6, 2019, at 5:30 p.m. to answer any questions that you may have about home rule or serving as an elected charter commissioner.

Once you have filed these properly completed documents, and if enough people file, the election will be held November 5<sup>th</sup>. After that, plan to attend an initial meeting on November 19<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m. where the whole process and plan for drafting will be discussed.