



Mayor & Board of Trustees

Mayor Jacob Lofgren

303-835-2862

jlofgren@lochbuie.org

Mayor Pro-Tem David Ott

303-655-1210

dott@lochbuie.org

Trustee Michael Morris

720-666-3474

mmorris@lochbuie.org

Trustee Larry Strock

303-596-4265

lstrock@lochbuie.org

Trustee Jamie Jeffery

jjeffery@lochbuie.org

Trustee May Wescott

mwescott@lochbuie.org

Town Hall Phone: 303-655-9308

Police Department: 303-659-1395

After hours Public Works:

303-990-5327

www.lochbuie.org

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We're Going Back To School



The 2020-2021 school year begins **August 18th**. Please watch out for children and exercise extra caution when driving in school areas!

Fellow Lochbuians-

Wow! We're already approaching the end of summer and a return to school.



As you're all now aware, the Governor issued an executive order requiring that masks be worn in public places. The Town urges everyone to comply with that order to the fullest extent possible. A true and full return to "normal" requires that we all do our part to continue slowing the spread of COVID-19.

Given the recent uptick in COVID cases in Colorado, the Town Board recently decided to continue meeting virtually via Zoom for the remainder of 2020 absent a significant change in circumstances. Those meetings are accessible to the public just as an in-person meeting would be. If you're interested in attending, please see the board packets on the Town's website for more details.

The Town Board has been busy the past few weeks. Here are some of the recent activities:

First, on August 4, the Town Board will consider approving a shift to a 4-10 schedule for town administration. If adopted, the town's hours of operation at town hall beginning on Monday, September 14, 2020, will be:

Mondays – 7am to 6pm

Tuesdays – 7am to 6pm

Wednesdays – 7am to 6pm

Thursdays – 7am to 6pm

Fridays - Closed

This new policy would not impact police services, and the police department will continue to operate as it has in the past.

Second, the new round-a-bout at CR2 and the frontage road, as well as the Town's portion of the CR2 widening project, are nearing completion. Absent something unexpected, the construction on CR2 should be finished by Labor Day.

Third, the Town has received several questions about the anticipated open date for the 7-11. We've been told to expect a grand opening in late-September or early-October 2020.

Fourth, after some hiccups at this year's event, the Town is considering options for the future of the "Spring Clean-up" event. Those conversations are ongoing, and a variety of options are being considered. If you have ideas, please share them with any of the board members.

Fifth, the Town Board recently adopted an ordinance placing certain requirements on any future development of gas stations or truck stops within town limits. If you have any questions or concerns related to that ordinance, please feel free to reach out to town hall.

Sixth, the Town has begun the process of preparing the budget for 2021. The first discussion related to budget preparation will occur at the August 18, 2020 regular meeting to be held via Zoom. As always, the public is invited to attend, if interested.

Seventh, at the second July board meeting, Trustee Grant Doherty announced that he would be resigning from the Town Board effective July 28, 2020. The Board recently solicited applicants to fill that vacancy for the next few months until a special election is held alongside the regular election in November.

Eighth, the Town Board agreed to place the creation of a Home Rule Charter Commission on the November ballot. More information on Home Rule is included with this newsletter. For more information or if you are interested in serving on that commission, please contact town hall.

Finally, we all know that this is a presidential election year. What people often forget, however, is that it is also a local election year. There will be several positions up for election in November – Mayor, four Trustee positions (three for full, four-year terms and one to fill a term expiring in November 2022), and nine Home Rule Charter Commission seats. If you are interested in any of those positions, please contact town hall for details concerning the nomination petition process.

Please continue to stay happy, healthy, and safe. And, as always, do not hesitate to contact me or any of the members of the Town Board with your questions, comments, or concerns.

Thank you,
Jacob R. Lofgren, Mayor



RESIDENT CONTACT INFORMATION

Name:

Address:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

If we do not have your current email/phone number, or you have not updated your information recently, please fill out this form and return it with your utility payment or drop it off at the Town Hall. The town is requesting this information so we may contact you if a water leak occurs, your dog is impounded, or for other town related reasons.

ATTENTION NEW RESIDENTS..... Welcome!

If you recently purchased a home in the area, be sure to check your automatic sprinkler settings. They may be set to run several times daily for extended periods of time. This volume of watering can result in an extremely high water bill in a very short time. The recommended watering schedule is 10 minutes in the early AM and 10 minutes in the late evening 3 days per week only.



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

EVEN

ODD

EVEN

ODD

EVEN

NO WATER DAY

ODD

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4 Town Board Meeting 6:30 PM	5 	6	7	8
9	10 	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 Utility Bills Due	18 Town Board Meeting 6:30 PM	19	20 Water Meter Reads	21 Court 8:30 AM	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 					

Home Rule?

One Size Does Not Fit All

Who Determines Lochbuie's Future?

Facts

Fact #1:

Lochbuie is a “statutory” Town, meaning its authority to act comes from statewide statutes written by state legislators.

- Currently, Lochbuie is limited to looking to statewide statutes for authority to deal with local matters.
- If no statute exists regarding a certain problem or issue, the Town's hands are tied.
- As Lochbuie has evolved, trying to find statutes that cover every local situation is becoming more difficult.

Fact #2:

Home rule towns operate under a charter written by local citizens elected to a charter commission.

- Home rule is about local control.
- A home rule charter is drafted by a group of electors from the Town who form a home rule charter commission.
- A proposed home rule charter must be approved by registered voters before it will take effect.
- Although rare in Colorado, the charter may be amended by voters at a later date.
- A home rule charter is akin to a constitution for a state.
- Home rule charters refer only to local matters. Home rule towns must still abide by federal and state laws that apply to statewide matters.
- Existing ordinances not modified by the charter will remain in effect.
- Adopting home rule would not require a change in Lochbuie's form of government.

Fact #3:

Home rule allows for greater local control.

- On matters of local concern, home rule towns do not have to rely on what state statutes mandate.
- Local citizens create and approve their own Town's charter.
- Home rule towns have broad authority to regulate the powers, duties and terms of municipal officers, agents and employees.

HOME RULE FACTS CONTINUED

Fact #4:

A vote for home rule is NOT a vote for higher taxes.

- Home rule in no way overrides the provisions of TABOR, which requires that new taxes, as well as taxes resulting in an increase in revenue above defined limits, are subject to a vote of the people.
- Home rule towns can also save significant dollars by handling Town sales-tax collection themselves, an option not available to statutory towns.

Fact #5:

Lochbuie is the surrounded to the southeast and northwest by home rule municipalities

- Brighton and Hudson are both home rule.
- Colorado has 100 home rule towns and cities and about 90% of the state population lives in a home rule municipality).
- No home rule town or city in Colorado has decided to revert back to be a statutory municipality.

Fact #6:

The Lochbuie Town Board has called for an election to decide whether to pursue status as a home rule Town.

- On November 3, 2020, registered voters will decide for or against forming a charter commission as long as enough people seek to serve on the charter commission (9 are needed).
- This first vote only initiates the process – it does not guarantee approval of a home rule charter.
- A vote against a charter commission means Lochbuie will remain a statutory town.
- On the same day, voters will elect members to the charter commission who will serve only if the voters approve the formation of the commission.
- If voters choose to form a charter commission, the commission will draft and submit a proposed charter to Town Board within 180 days of the November 3rd election.
- After the proposed charter is submitted, registered voters will be asked in a special election decide whether or not to adopt the submitted charter.
- The Town will pay the costs related to the home rule elections as part of the coordinated elections with the County.