



City Line

www.ci.longmont.co.us

September 2009
Vol. 20 No. 9

City Council Members

MAYOR

Roger Lange
303-772-0065

MAYOR PRO TEM WARD 2

Karen Benker
303-774-7745

WARD I

Brian Hansen
303-847-7186

WARD 3

Sean McCoy
303-847-6076

AT-LARGE

Mary Blue
303-772-3890

AT-LARGE

Sarah Levison
303-847-1647

AT-LARGE

Gabe Santos
303-775-4005

City Council Agendas
are printed each
Monday in the
Times-Call

CITY MANAGER
Gordon Pedrow
303-651-8601

CITY LINE EDITOR
Rigo Leal
303-651-8840

Longmont Election to be Conducted by Mail

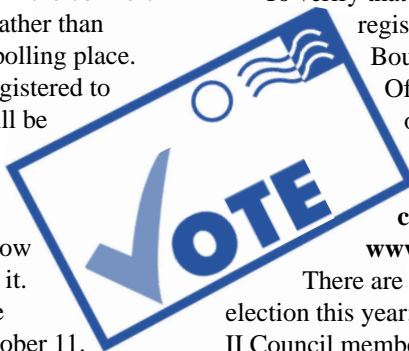
The City of Longmont's regular municipal election on November 3 will be conducted by mail this year.

Most residents of Longmont will be able to vote for Mayor and City Council members from the comfort of their own homes rather than making the trip to a polling place. Residents who are registered to vote by October 5 will be mailed an election ballot packet that includes the ballot and instructions on how to prepare and return it. Packets will be in the mail the week of October 11.

You can register in Longmont to vote in the November election at the Longmont City Clerk's Office at 350 Kimbark St. or at the

Boulder County Clerk's Office at 529 Coffman St. If you have moved since the last election, you must complete a change of address form by the October 5 registration deadline.

To verify that you currently are registered to vote, call the Boulder County Election Office at 303-413-7740 or the Longmont City Clerk's Office at 303-651-8649, or **check online at www.voteboulder.org**.



There are four seats up for election this year: mayor, one Ward II Council member and two at-large Council members. In addition, to the candidate races, ballots also may include municipal (see below), county, state and school district issues.

Other Local Election Issues

In addition to Council seats, there are three issues that voters may be asked to vote on in the November election. Look for more detailed information on these items, as well as pro and con discussions of each, that will be mailed to all registered voters.

1. Street Fund Sales Tax Extension

In 1986 voters approved a 3/4 cent sales and use tax dedicated to maintaining and improving Longmont's streets and transportation system. This tax has a sunset provision by which voters must approve continuation of the tax every five years. Because this is an extension of an existing tax, approval will not change the rate of sales and use tax currently paid in Longmont.

2. Telecommunications Ballot Question

In 1997, the City of Longmont installed a fiber optic network in order to provide advanced telecommunications services to our community. In 2005 the Colorado General Assembly passed legislation that prohibits municipalities from providing such services.

However, if approved by voters, the City potentially could provide fiber bandwidth leases and advanced data, voice and video services, including Internet access and wireless services, directly to end users.

3. Wastewater Treatment Plant Bond Issue

Longmont's wastewater treatment plant and its effluent currently meet

continued on back page



A message from

Mayor Roger Lange



Economy Makes for Challenging Budget Process

When the Longmont City Council approves the City's 2010 operating budget in October, it will be the result of months of research and analysis conducted by City staff and hours of debate by City Council members. The public also has had opportunities to comment at various times throughout the process.

Ultimately, it's our job as elected officials to balance the needs and desires of the community with the dollars available to provide services.

It's a particularly challenging job because the local and national economies have caused a steep decline in tax revenues over the past 12 months, and it has been especially painful in 2009. The Council has made a number of reductions in the 2009 budget, including an unpaid furlough day for all employees before the end of the year, to help offset 2009 revenue shortfalls.

These have been difficult decisions for us, and we hope that we've made enough reductions to keep a balanced budget through the rest of the year.

For 2010, the City is facing an approximate \$4 million funding gap in the General Fund if we keep the same service levels for the same programs we budgeted for in 2009. Early projections are that revenue will be more than \$3.2 million less than was budgeted for 2009 and that new ongoing expenses of over \$800,000 will be faced in 2010. These numbers are a starting point and will change as expenses are cut or revenues increase, but this gives you a general idea of the magnitude of the 2010 challenge.

You should feel secure in knowing that your elected representatives will make the best possible decisions for the good of the entire community. From September 1 through October, the 2010 budget will be a major part of the City Council's work. I invite you to participate in our deliberations by attending City Council meetings or contacting your Council representatives.

Roger Lange

Talk with Council Members



At Coffee with Council, Longmont residents can talk with Council members on any topic of their choice. Coffee with Council is hosted by two council members from 9 to 10 a.m. on the last Saturday of every month at a local coffeeshop.

No appointment is necessary. Just show up, and help yourself to a free cup of coffee.

This month, Coffee with Council will be on **September 26 at Caffe Luna, 800 Coffman St.**

Look also for information about the final Town Meeting of 2009, which will be held November 7 from 9 to 11 a.m. It will be hosted by Mayor Lange and Council members Karen Benker and Brian Hansen.

Call the City Manager's office at 303-651-8601 for more information.

Make Sure You Receive Longmont Life

In March of this year, the City of Longmont began production of *Longmont Life*, a bimonthly newspaper about issues and events of interest to Longmont residents.

Longmont Life is distributed through the mail to every household in Longmont, but some residents are not receiving their copies.

The most recent issue was mailed the first week in September. If you didn't receive your copy, please let us know. Call the City Manager's office at 303-651-8601 with your address, and we'll be sure you are on the mailing list.



Leaf Collection Begins in October

Autumn is almost here, and the leaves will soon begin to fall.

The City of Longmont helps residents dispose of their leaves by offering special collection of bagged leaves from October 12 through December 4. Residents can place bagged leaves at the curb according to the schedule below. The bags must be at curbside by 7 a.m. on the Monday of your collection week.

The leaves are ground to mulch, so it is important that no trash of any kind is in the bags.

The City also offers free compostable paper bags for this special collection. Residents can pick up bags beginning in early September at eight locations:

- Senior Center, 910 Longs Peak Ave.
- Memorial Building, 700 Longs Peak Ave.
- Civic Center information desk, 350 Kimbark St.
- Recreation Center, 310 Quail Rd.
- Museum & Cultural Center, 400 Quail Rd.
- Public Library, 409 4th Ave.
- Public Works Maintenance Facility, 375 Airport Rd.
- Eco-Cycle, 140 Martin St.

You also can dispose of your leaves and tree limbs year round at the Tree Limb Diversion Center at 140 Martin St. This facility is open seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please bring a current utility bill as this service is free only to Longmont waste management customers. Others can dispose of leaves for a minimal charge. Call Public Works Operations at 303-651-8416 for disposal rates and more information.



Last 2009 Stop-n-Drop on October 10



Public Works Operations will host this year's final Large Item Stop-n-Drop on Saturday, October 10, from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the Public Works Maintenance Facility at 375 Airport Rd.

Residents can bring large and bulky items and other debris for disposal. Please bring a current Longmont utility bill as this service is available only to City refuse customers. You also are asked to bring a nonperishable food item for donation to the OUR Center.

The following items are *not* accepted at Stop-n-Drop: household waste, dirt, rock, sod, concrete, roofing materials, chemicals, limbs, yard waste, tires, auto parts, hazardous waste and refrigerators. For recommendations on how to dispose of these items or for more information about Stop-n-Drop, call Public Works Operations at 303-651-8416.

If you would like to schedule a curbside collection of large or bulky items, call Public Works Operations for costs and scheduling.

Curbside Leaf Collection Dates

FIRST COLLECTION

If your trash pick-up day is: Place your leaves out:

Monday..... October 12
Tuesday October 19
Wednesday..... October 26
Thursday..... November 2

SECOND COLLECTION

If your trash pick-up day is: Place your leaves out:

Monday..... November 9
Tuesday November 16
Wednesday..... November 23
Thursday..... November 30

Pharmaceutical Drop-Off Day FREE to Colorado residents

Don't flush medication down the sink or toilet. Recent studies have shown that it can pass through the treatment plant and enter the river.

Bring your unused medication for proper disposal to Longmont United Hospital at 1950 Mountain View Ave. on **September 26 between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m.** More information is available at www.ci.longmont.co.us/pwww/enviro/rx.htm. Controlled substances are not accepted.

Upcoming Events

There are lots of fun activities and important events between now and the end of the year. Below are few of them you won't want to miss. Check the City's web site for more information.

September 1 - 30: Open enrollment to change the size or number of your trash containers. Your service will remain as it is currently unless you request otherwise. Call 303-651-8416.

September 19: Household Chemicals Drop Day, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Public Works Maintenance Facility, 375 Airport Rd. Call 303-651-8416 for information.

September 26: Hard to Recycle Roundup, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., 140 Martin St. Call 303-651-8416.

October 10: Taste of Therapy Wellness Fair, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Izaak Walton Clubhouse, 18 S. Sunset St. Sample a variety of wellness options for \$5 each. Call 303-774-4827 for information.

October 24: Pumpkin Dunk, 5 to 7 p.m., Centennial Pool, 1201 Alpine St. Activities, crafts, contests and costumes for all ages. \$3 per person or \$10 per family. Call 303-651-8406.

October 31: 32nd Annual Halloween Parade. Line up at 9:45 a.m.; parade begins at 10. Roosevelt Park, 700 Longs Peak Ave. Kids in their Halloween costumes parade downtown then visit merchants for Trick or Treat Street. Call 303-651-8404.

October 31: Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) Celebration, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Longmont Museum & Cultural Center, 400 Quail Rd. Free. Call 303-651-8374.

October 31: Safe Halloween Night, 6 to 8 p.m., Longmont Recreation Center, 310 Quail Rd. For ages 10 and under. Free. Call 303-651-8406.

Mid-November: Longmont Ice Pavilion opens. Roosevelt Park, 725 8th Ave. Call 303-774-4777.

November 14: Taste of Therapy Wellness Fair, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Izaak Walton Clubhouse, 18 S. Sunset St. Call 303-774-4827 for information.

December 4 - 12: Longmont Lights. Tree lighting, carriage rides, Santa's workshop, holiday parade, fireworks and more. Visit www.ci.longmont.co.us/rec/special/longmont_lights.htm.

Sign Up for Longmont's Emergency Notification System

Longmont has joined with other Boulder County cities in an emergency mass notification system. This system will be used to notify residents about imminent threats to health or safety such as wildfires and hazardous chemical spills and to alert residents about missing children or adults who need medical attention. The alerts will originate from 911alert@bouldercounty.org.



If you have landline (traditional) telephone service, that telephone is already registered and you do not need to sign up.

But, if you would like to receive notification on your cell phone, e-mail or VoIP service, you must register.

Go online to www.ci.longmont.co.us/police and follow the link to sign up for "9-1-1 Mass Notification in Longmont." The Library provides free Internet access to those who need it.

The emergency notification service is free, but residents are responsible for any costs to receive e-mail or text messages.

If you would like more information about this service, please call 303-651-8566 and leave a message if no one answers. Someone will return your call.

Other election issues, continued from page 1

or exceed all state and federal quality standards. However, those standards are expected to become much more stringent in the next five to eight years. Also, the plant was constructed in 1956. It has had several updates, but some portions of the plant are 30 to 50 years old and in need of repair.

The City may ask voters to approve issuance of a bond to fund improvements that will expand and update the plant so that it can meet future quality standards and protect St. Vrain Creek. There will be no rate increase associated with this bond.



City Line

City Line is a monthly informational newsletter published by the City of Longmont for its residents. For questions about this publication call 303-651-8840.



¿Le gustaría a usted recibir las noticias de Ciudad de Longmont *City Line* en español? Llame a la oficina del Administrador de la Ciudad al número 303-651-8601.