

July 7, 2022
Mayor's Corner

Hope you all had an enjoyable July 4th weekend – it's hard to believe that we're this far into summer already. Before I talk about some of what the city has been involved in lately, I want to give a big, if late, "Thank You" to all of the volunteers who organized our Carlton Fun Days event. Not only were they having to recreate an event that hasn't been seen in two years, but the majority of the organizing committee were "newbies," although given the event results you'd never know it!

Courtesy of chief organizer, Sara Meyer, these are folks who worked to bring the party back: Brian Rake-all things city/government-wise, Kara Jamieson-the parade, Doug & Laura Fugure, Suzanne McLaughlin-Shanny's Run, Tara and Ellie Mitchell, Max Holmes, & Henry Meyer-kids games, Mike Larson, Colleen Rockwell-beer garden & entertainment, David Blanchard-parade announcements, Karen Lind-social media campaign & organizing vendors, Carlton Fire Department organized the Pancake feed, TJ Wilson & Jami Fluke were in charge of the car show, Jeff Casebier (Carlton Dental)-food vendors. There were a number of community volunteers who helped out where needed, including Lawson Corp – parade assistance, and John Schmidt, Grant Erickson & Chris Frugia-our Main Street crossing guards. Thanks also to Carlton Police Chief Kevin Martinez, Senior Officer Jake Blair, and Officers Tim Jordan and Micah Steeves, who kept things safe; Public works and city staff who helped ensure all details were handled. And of course thanks to all of the vendors and event participants. This was one of those times when we needed the entire village!

Now on to less fun, but equally important city activity: Hopefully you've all received your notice cards in the mail from Recology with instructions for signing up for glass and/or yard debris collection services. These services are optional; **you need to contact Recology** to get signed up for either or both. Cost of services are: \$5.95/month for glass and \$6.95/month for yard debris. Call: 503-437-0082 or email: rwoinfo@recology.com to sign up.

Heads' up folks: It's been recommended to the city council that the city look seriously at curtailing residential yard burning; the extreme temperature fluctuations and drought dangers are motivating more and more concern over wildfire dangers and while our area has been very lucky this year, last year was pretty "iffy" and we need to do all that we can to mitigate the danger.

ODOT/Hwy 47 update: Conversations continue with ODOT regarding how we in Carlton would like to see the Highway 47 realignment look. ODOT currently has a survey posted for residents and we need as many folks as possible to fill it out!! This [survey](#) will provide critical information for ODOT as they plan the re-routing of the highway along Monroe and Pine streets. **Remember: ODOT's designers don't live here** – they don't know how we use our streets and what effects their plans will have on our lives. We need to ensure they hear our voices on this project!!! We need ALL of you to respond to the survey.. It's really important that ODOT hear from each of us to help them understand the importance of making this realignment an asset for the city and not just another big truck drive-through.

Carlton Civic Building: Unfortunately an old picture was posted on social media of the work we have been doing on the Carlton Civic Building that combines administration and public safety functions into one building designed to support staffing needs for our community 30 years into the future. The current City Hall was built in 1974 and has had little renovating over the last 47 years and requires significant maintenance updates. The City Council and community have been discussing the needs of a municipal building to provide civic services since 2003. In February 2021 the City Council established

the goal of completing and implementing a plan, including incorporating previous efforts, for a safe City administrative and public safety facility. The Carlton Civic building will include public restrooms, an interactive history of Carlton, and over 1900 sq. feet of flexible community space that will house a variety of functions including public and private events and support the space being created by YCTC for the community center. As always, we are seeking grant and other funding to help fund construction.

Water: Currently our water supply is still coming from Mac water – until the reservoir dredging is done, hopefully by the end of this fall. You may have wondered why we’re encouraging water conservation efforts, given the wet spring/early summer we’ve experienced along with our current water source. If there’s one lesson we’ve learned from the past two years, it’s that we can’t make any assumptions or take anything for granted when it comes to our water supply. We need to get into the habit now of conserving water – because these days we can assume it’s more likely going to be a matter of “when” not “if” we’re facing another dry year. The city’s priorities over the next couple of years will be to get many of our old, deteriorating water lines replaced which will help conserve water as well as increase lines’ capacity to desired “fire flow,” -- the amount of water the line can carry to support fire suppression equipment – especially for the elementary school. Water and sewer line replacement is costly and the city has been working with our state, local, and federal representatives to find funding sources. In the last few years, between state and county grants from programs such as Lottery grants and the ARPA funds, Carlton has received approximately \$13 million which funded last year’s replacement of the water main line from Panther Creek, dredging project, and is helping cover the costs of replacing the Hawn Creek pump station, among other projects. We still have a ways to go, but while there may be some days when you wonder, please keep in mind that finding outside funding sources is always one of the top priorities for me, your city council and your city staff.