

Morrison Hogback

SEPTEMBER 2019

EAT · DRINK · PLAY · STAY

TOWN OF
MORRISON



THANKS YOU!

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Town of Morrison

Town Office
321 Hwy 8
303-697-8749

Town Hall—110 Stone Street
www.town.morrison.co.us

Board Meetings are the **first** and **third**
Tuesday at 6:00 p.m.

Planning Commission meetings are the
second Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor and Board of Trustees

Mayor: Sean Forey
Mayor
Pro-Tem: Chris Wolfe
Trustees: Earl Aukland
Debora Jerome
Katie Gill
Venessa Angell
Paul Sutton

Town Staff

Town Manager: Kara Winters
Town Clerk: Lyndsey Paavilainen
Deputy Town Clerk: Kristi Dixon
Court Clerk: Charla Bryant
Public Works Director: Fritz Fouts
Museum Curator: Matt Mossbrucker

Police Department

303-697-4810

Police Chief: George Mumma
Chief's Secretary: Jennifer Sponnick

i am healthy
& filled with
energy.





**FROM THE MAYOR
AND
BOARD OF
TRUSTEES**

Some thoughts and updates from the Board of Trustees for the month of September

Ciderfest: By the time you read this Ciderfest will likely already have happened (Saturday September 28th). We hope the weather is/was as warm and charming as our neighbors and guests this year. Kudos and many thanks to all volunteers and special thanks to organizers Jen Singer and Becci Siegel.

Morrison Community Survey: We recently completed the Morrison Resident and Business Owner Survey for which you can find a summary of the results on the town web site here: (<https://town.morrison.co.us/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/07302019-521>). The board is pleased to report that 97% of the residents feel that the quality of life in Morrison is “Excellent” or “Good”. We encourage you to peruse the results of this survey. This survey provides the board with invaluable information in representing the wishes our constituents as best we can. For example, this survey was instrumental in the board not pursuing further explorations of the development of a hotel across from the Phillips 66 station. One area of weakness on the part of the board was our failure to communicate ‘The Town’s Sustainability Efforts’. Only 34% of the survey respondents were ‘Greatly Satisfied’ or ‘Somewhat Satisfied’ with this. This issue of Hogback Notes will take a first stab at communicating our sustainability efforts and follow up with a more detailed report that will be posted to the town’s website in early 2020.

Sustainability Efforts in Morrison: Sustainability is a broad topic to address. Gro Harlem Brundtland (Former Prime Minister of Norway and Director General of the World Health Organization) coined the phrase ‘Sustainable Development’ in a United Nations document often referred to as the ‘Brundtland Report’. This defined ‘sustainable development’ as *‘meeting the needs of the current generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs’*. What does ‘sustainable’ mean in the context of our little town of Morrison? Here are some thoughts: 1) WATER - We want to have water today, tomorrow, and for the foreseeable future. We want it to be clean, tasty, and safe to drink. We have very senior water rights, an impressive water filtration plant, and talented and credentialed water treatment employees. I encourage anyone who is interested to read our water supply system master plan that is on the web site here (<https://town.morrison.co.us/DocumentCenter/View/458/Water-Supply-System-Master-Plan-Final?bidId=>). 2) AIR – We want to have clean healthy air. The town does not have much control over this and policy and monitoring of air quality are the responsibility of more regional entities such as the county (<https://www.jeffco.us/2331/Air-Quality>). 3) ENERGY – The town has signed on to have the municipal infrastructure use electricity provided by a solar energy garden (this includes the water treatment plant, sewage treatment plant, and town offices). We encourage residents to do the same because reducing our carbon footprint is how we can participate in combatting climate change which is already impacting everyone. 4) NOISE – The town has a well-publicized and well enforced noise ordinance aimed at minimizing the inevitable noise that results from our commercial district and Red Rocks Amphitheater. 5) NIGHT SKY – The town has a lighting ordinance aimed at minimizing the impact of artificial lights on our ability to see the stars at night. Many do not realize that low levels of artificial light do not increase crime rates or traffic accidents. Our lighting ordinance is about well designed lighting that is shielded and lights only those areas where light is needed. 6) SOLID WASTE – In the last few years the town absorbed trash and recycling pickup into town costs which greatly simplified trash collection in our town by reducing the number of trash pickup companies that drove through town every week. Paul Sutton is in contact with Lisa Cutter (State Rep HD 25) about zero waste programs that we may explore participation in. Watch this space.



Pollution of water, air, noise, light are often thought of when considering questions of environmental sustainability. Other elements of sustainability are financial and social. 'Social capital' is a current buzz phrase often associated with things like resilience, wellbeing, and community values. Social capital emanates from the residents of the town in myriad ways including but not limited to: Petra's yoga classes, the Ciderfest, the progressive dinner, informal meetings at the Holiday Bar, and the cabin fever dance. Our social capital is a one of the reasons we love our town. The town of Morrison also has a strong financial situation in which we have appropriate assets and a diverse source of revenue from sales taxes, traffic enforcement, property taxes, and water and sewer provision fees. The board is acutely aware that financial sustainability is a very important component of 'sustainability'. The town staff and the board are constantly seeking grants, win-win arrangements with neighbors, and sound strategies to support our local businesses to insure the sustainability of the financial realities of running our town. As a board we try to serve the interests of the town through collaboration with our staff, residents, and businesses in a holistic manner. An example of this is the new electric vehicle charging station that will soon be in place at the Mt. Vernon parking area. Kara Winters identified a program that provides significant subsidies to the costs of having this charging station installed. Having more electric vehicle charging stations will likely bring more electric vehicles (EVs) to town. EVs are quieter – reducing noise pollution. EVs have lower carbon dioxide emissions – reducing our carbon footprint and reducing air pollution. EVs parked in a charging station typically stay for two hours – time for a meal at a local restaurant which supports business without overusing a valuable parking spot. EVs are here to stay and will be the majority of vehicles on our roads sooner than most people realize. Having more EV charging stations in town is good sustainable change that the town of Morrison is happy to lead the way in supporting. We hope you agree.

Urban growth and financial sustainability: Historically many municipalities have entered into what many would regard as a Faustian bargain with respect to depending on growth to provide new revenue to support municipal funding. Some growth and development is inevitable, and some development is the prerogative of landowners and rights they have to develop their property. Someday growth has to end because of the laws of nature. Judging when that should be seems to be an ongoing political struggle. Exercising the little control we have over the growth in the number of residences and businesses in and around Morrison is probably one of the most important sustainability functions of the town board of trustees. Perhaps surprisingly there is a significant degree of consensus on these matters in the current board. Most of these kinds of decisions that present themselves to the board are voted on unanimously or near unanimously. I encourage all town residents to have discussions with all members of the board about your attitudes about urban growth and development in and around Morrison. This is a matter of constant vigilance. We will be working on a more complete report on the sustainability efforts of the Town to present to Town Staff and the board in the Winter of 2020.

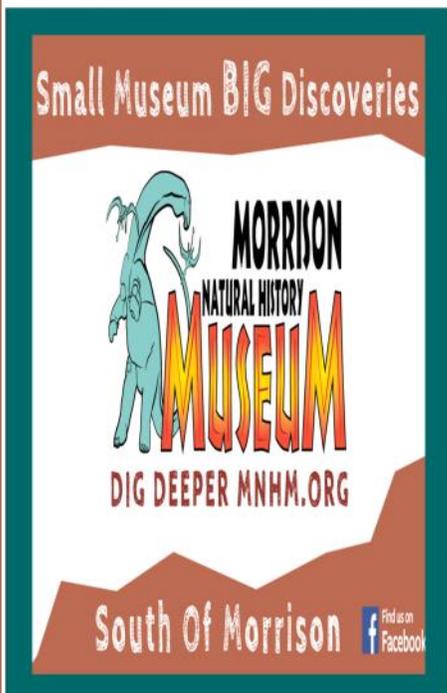
Trustee Paul Sutton

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Utility Department

Now that fall has arrived, the Town of Morrison's Utility Department would like its customers to be aware that it's time to winterize equipment such as sprinkler systems, evaporative coolers, and unoccupied houses. If these items are not winterized correctly/professionally, it can lead to excessive water use, frozen pipes and costly repairs. We would also like to ask of you to choose a Wastewater Treatment plant safe anti-freeze. These types of antifreezes are generally safe for RV, boats, swimming pools, travel trailers and vacation homes.

**Thank you,
Fritz Fouts
Public Works Director
Town of Morrison
Phone: 303-697-8749
Cell: 720-587-5801**



Pardon the Dust! If you haven't seen the mounted skeleton of the giant raptor yet, come check it out. Occupying the "Cretaceous Colorado" exhibit, this dinosaur highlights a piece of local Earth history not well understood in the Front Range. This exhibit was made possible by donations to the Morrison Museum Foundation. More exhibit renovations are currently underway throughout the museum.

Volunteer with Us: Learn to prepare fossils, lead programs, and more. Contact Matthew Mossbrucker at director@mnhm.org. Training is provided, no experience necessary. In support of volunteers, a series of free talks focused mostly on local geology and paleontology is scheduled to take place at the Town Hall in late October. Town residents are welcome to attend. Check our Facebook page for more information.

Follow Along: see regular updates on our social media accounts, both Facebook and Instagram (@morrisonmuseum).

Sincerely,

Matthew T. Mossbrucker
Director and Chief Curator

**MORRISON
MIX & MEET MONDAYS
6-10 P.M.**

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