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TOWN SCOOP

THE OFFICIAL TOWN OF SEVERANCE NEWSLETTER

October 2023

SEVERANCE TOWN COUNCIL



Mayor
Matthew Fries



Mayor Pro
Tem
Dennis Kane



Council Member
Stephen Gagliardi



Council
Member
Frank Baszler



Council
Member
Michelle Duda



Council
Member
Dave Bruen



Council
Member
Dan Meyers

COUNCIL CORNER

A Message from Council Member Meyers

Now that the election for Mayor and Council is over...wait...huh? How could the election be over before even one ballot has been cast? I would like to explain.

The privilege of being on the Severance Town Council was originally bestowed upon me about 15 months ago upon the retirement of Trustee Bruce Florquist. Previously, I was a member of the Planning Commission here in Severance. My time spent thus far has had many highs and lows that come with what is now known as a Severance Town Council position.

I started my thought process with respect to running for Council back in February with small incidental discussions even before that. Gauging my effectiveness and drive to want to commit four years to a difficult "volunteer" position was a concern. I tried looking at some metrics that might help to guide my direction in leading the Town of Severance. I spoke to my family. My wife, my sons, my brothers, sister and whoever else in the family that had an opinion.

I can tell you some were negative and changed as I discussed the position and what it entailed (mixed in with a little enthusiasm.) I then reached out to most of the present Council. I wanted to solicit their thoughts on my continued participation on the Council. I specifically asked the mayor for his endorsement and felt that he thought I was doing my job and should continue. I believe he was enthusiastic about continuing our efforts going forward. I did not feel any negative reasons from my colleagues not to run again. I reached out to friends who have supported me in conversation, with a positive attitude on the realities of government and occasional support for social media miscues. They were from various part of the town and felt they represented the community. I had them sign my petition and gave my thoughts on our town moving forward. I valued and continue to value their opinion and all opinions of the Severance community.

I then searched "Severance elections" and was directed to all the information that one would need to pursue a position as a Council member in Severance, Colorado...

(Continue on next page)



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COUNCIL CORNER CONTINUED

A Message from Council Member Meyers

I picked up the packet of information and was guided as to the process that I should do to complete my petition for nomination on the Severance Town Council. I then found a manager (my wife Lynn who graciously volunteered) and started on the paperwork which included an affidavit for nomination and signatures on a petition. The requirement is ten that are residents, 18 years of age or older and registered to vote in Colorado. There is room for 20 signatures (in case of some invalidation of signatures), so I took advantage of getting 20 of my friends to sign (sorry for the many I missed). I then promptly submitted the petition and I was validated by our Town Clerk for a petition on the ballot. I waited to see if others would apply and submit nomination petitions and two others had (Brittney Vandermark, and Craig Joseph). No others applied by the deadline. I had to wait an additional week to see if anyone submitted an affidavit for "write in candidate" and that also expired. The same process repeated itself for Mayor and Mayor Matt Fries will continue to represent the Town of Severance. The board was chosen and no election would be needed.

An election where the candidates are 'elected by acclamation' is defined as an uncontested election where the number of candidates equals (or is less than) the number of seats that are vacant.

As a result, the outcome of the balloting process is totally predictable, thereby eliminating the need to go through the process of mailing and counting votes. (<https://electionbuddy.com/blog/2022/10/05/what-does-elected-by-acclamation-mean>)

I personally am proud of my work on the Severance Planning Commission and the Town Council. Please remember, all the members of this Council, including the mayor, are beholden to you, our constituents.

I have read the Constitution, it says "We the People." We ask that you participate in the process that will guide this town forward with the needs and wants of our residents as we move forward.

Congratulations to Mayor Fries on his re-election and to both Councilpersons Vandermark and Joseph on their Council assignments.

Councilperson Dan Meyers



Ribbon cutting for CR23 & 392

Community Snapshot

- **Population: 10,602**
- **Number of Households: 3,435**
- **Median Household Income: \$108,208**
- **Per Capita Income: \$41,146**
- **Median Home Value: \$456,009**
- **Diversity Index: 46.1**
- **Median Age: 35.5**
- **Unemployment Rate: 4%**
- **Labor Force: 5,222**
- **HS+ Graduate Rate: 95.5%**
- **Sales Tax Rate: 3.0%**
- **Town Mill Levy Rate: 12.635**

2023 PHOTO CONTEST

The Town of Severance needs YOUR help to capture, in photo, the very best Severance, Colorado has to offer! Submit your photos that represent one of Severance's T.O.W.N P.R.I.D.E values to the 2023-2024 Photo Contest. Town staff will pick the top entries, residents will then have the opportunity to vote for the winners on the Town of Severance's Facebook page. To submit photos and review the photo contest rules, visit our website at www.townofseverance.org/about-us/webforms/20232024-photo-contest



Building Department Closed Building Permits Jan-Sept of 2023

Row Labels	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Grand Total
BELMONT FARMS	1						1			2
GOLDEN EAGLE ACRES		1			1					2
HIDDEN VALLEY FARM	7	19	3	1	1	2	15	41	32	121
HUNTERS CROSSING	1	3	7	2	3	3	6			25
SADDLER PUD	2	2	2	3	3	2	2	2		18
SEVERANCE SHORES						1				1
TAILHOLT	2	10	11	6		3	7	4	4	47
(blank)										
Grand Total	13	35	23	12	8	11	31	47	36	216

The Great Western Trail

The construction on the Great Western Trail is **NOW OPEN** and has over 10 miles that can be used for recreational use!



For more information, please visit <http://www.gwtrail.com/>

For more information on local school events, click the school logo!

SEVERANCE HIGH SCHOOL



SEVERANCE MIDDLE SCHOOL



RANGEVIEW ELEMENTARY





Stay updated on the construction progress of the Clearview Library District library Branch in Severance.

Learn more about our Facilities Plans for the Library Branch in Severance on our website, and stay informed about the construction progress! Visit bit.ly/CLDLibBranchSeverance.

Bookmobile Hours & Locations

Tuesdays - 9:30am-11:30am
Blue Spruce Park, 103 Blue Spruce Dr.

Thursdays- 3:00pm-4:00pm
Overlook Park, 10007 County Rd. 72

Fridays- 3:00pm-3:30pm
Range View Elementary (school days only),
700 Ponderosa Dr.

Fridays- 4:00pm-5:00pm
Severance Shores Park, Shoreview Pkwy



To see our full Bookmobile schedule and stay informed of any changes, visit bit.ly/CLDBOMOSchedule.

October Events

EVERY TUESDAY

- Storytime and a Craft in Severance
- Read, Rhyme, and Romp in Servance

EVERY THURSDAY

- Severance Family STEAM Hour



Tuesday, October 3rd
Cemetery Tour for Adults
6:00pm, Lakeview Cemetery



Thursday, October 5th
Pawsome Bears
5:00pm, Windsor-Severance Library



Saturday, October 14th
Solar Eclipse Viewing Party
9:30am, Windsor-Severance Library









Tuesday, October 17th
Pawsome Bears
5:00pm, Windsor-Severance Library



Thursday, October 19th
Social Security - Financial Class
5:30pm, Windsor-Severance Library

Visit our website at clearviewlibrary.org/events to explore all the thrilling events we have lined up for October!

OCTOBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4 	5	6	7
8	9	10 	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 	19	20	21 
22	23 	24 	25	26	27 	28
29	30	31 				

Calendar of Events

Wednesday, October 4th
7am - 9am| Coffee with a Cop
Overlook Park

Saturday, October 21st
8am - 1pm| Severance
Chamber Howloween 5k

Wednesday, October 4th
12:30pm- 3pm| Municipal Court

Monday, October 23rd
6pm - 8pm| Town Tree Board
Meeting

Wednesday October 4th
6pm - 7pm| Citizen Advisory
Board Meeting

Tuesday, October 24th
6pm - 10pm| Town Council
Meeting/Work Session

Tuesday October 10th
6pm - 9pm| Town Council
Meeting/Work Session

Tuesday, October 27th
3pm - 5pm| Trick or Treat
Parade

Wednesday, October 18th
6pm - 9pm| Planning
Commission Meeting

Tuesday, October 31st
Halloween

COMMUNITY EVENTS

TRICK OR TREAT PARADE



Join us on October 27th from 3PM-5PM for the Trick or Treat Parade! Please bring a canned or non-perishable food item for entrance to the trick-or-treat event. All donations will go to the Weld County Food Bank and will contribute to our Annual Food Drive.

6TH ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE

Save the date for our annual turkey and food drive November 4th! We will be accepting food donations as early as October 20th. There will be many drop off locations throughout town! If you cannot drop off any food items, scan the QR code or follow the link at <https://weldfoodbank.org/virtual-food-drives/severance/> to participate in the online food drive!

A poster for the 6th Annual Turkey and Food Drive. The background is yellow with autumn leaves. At the top right, there is an illustration of a grocery bag filled with various food items. The main text reads "6TH ANNUAL TURKEY AND FOOD DRIVE" in large, bold letters. Below that, it says "SATURDAY NOVEMBER 4TH, 2023 10AM-1PM". The location is "SEVERANCE TOWN HALL 3 S TIMBER RIDGE PARKWAY". On the left, there is a QR code with the text "SCAN QR CODE TO DONATE ONLINE". On the right, it says "ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE" followed by the Weld Food Bank logo and the text "Weld Food Bank". Below that, it says "ACCEPTING TURKEYS, CANNED FOOD, & NON-PERISHABLE ITEMS". At the bottom, there are several logos: the Town of Severance logo, the WSFR logo (Weld County Sheriff's Office, Est. 1902), and three other circular logos.

WARNING: Fire Blight

Fireblight is a destructive, highly infectious, and widespread disease caused by the bacterium *Erwinia amylovora*. Fireblight can be a problem in Colorado and is particularly prevalent in some counties. Fire blight attacks blossoms, leaves, shoots, branches, fruits, and roots.



As soon as fire blight is discovered, prune off infected branches 1 foot below the diseased sections and burn them to prevent further infection. Dip pruning shears into a 10% alcohol or bleach solution between each cut to avoid transmitting the disease from one branch to another.

HOW DO YOU LIKE RECEIVING TOWN NEWS?

We want YOU to take our survey to see how you like to receive town news! Scan the QR code or click [HERE](#) to take our survey!





SEVERANCE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Your Severance Chamber of Commerce is a great way to get involved in your community, promote your business and support other local businesses!

- ✓ [Click here to view our Newsletter and check out upcoming events](#)
- ✓ [Click here to visit our website](#)
- ✓ [Click here to see how you can get involved with the Chamber and the community by becoming an Ambassador](#)

TBK BANK



LIVE LOCAL

SUPPORT SMALL BUSINESS + SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY

Bringing Community Together

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

YOUTH OF THE YEAR



NOMINATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED UNTIL OCTOBER 30TH, 2023



The Town of Severance is now taking nominations for Business, Citizen and Youth of the Year! Nominations will be collected, and winners that meet the criteria will then go to the Selection Committee for them to choose the winners. For details of criteria and submission information, please go to:

<https://www.townofseverance.org/home/news/business-citizen-and-youth-year>

YOUR BUSINESS HERE

CONTACT THE TOWN OF SEVERANCE IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PROMOTING YOUR BUSINESS IN THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER AT 970-686-1218



Sec. 7-1-200. - Snow removal.

It shall be unlawful and constitute a nuisance for any person to allow snow or ice to remain on any sidewalk open to the public and abutting or adjoining the property controlled, owned or occupied by such person after twenty-four (24) hours of the last measurable snowfall or snowdrift. A notice shall state that, if the offending snow or ice is not removed from such property as prescribed by this Article on or before one (1) day from the date of such notice, the removal may be done by the Town and all costs of abatement, including the cost of inspection and all other incidental costs in connection therewith, including administrative costs, will be charged against the property, in addition to any other penalty and costs or orders that may be imposed.

TO REPORT OR LEAVE A COMMENT GO TO OUR WEBSITE AT:
<https://www.townofseverance.org/home/webforms/comments>.



POLICE DEPARTMENT CALLS FOR SERVICE

PLEASE NOTE THAT MONTHLY STATS MAY VARY DUE TO WHEN INFORMATION IS PROCESSED

September 2023

It is the mission of the Severance Police Department to serve our community through collaboration with our citizens to maximize public safety while providing ethical and equitable services.

IF YOU HAVE AN EMERGENCY OR NEED TO SPEAK WITH A SEVERANCE POLICE OFFICER, PLEASE CALL 911.

If you do not wish to call 911 and still need to speak with a Severance Police Officer, please call the Weld County Dispatch 970-350-9600 (option 4).



Town of Severance Police Dept.
3 Timber Ridge Pkwy
Severance, CO 80550

970 -686-1218

[townofseverance.org/police-department](https://www.townofseverance.org/police-department)

	Alarm Burglar	5		Domestic Violence	2
	Trespass	0		Family Problems/Child	2
	Assault	4		Fraud	0
	Assist Fire /Medical	1		Harassment	6
	Drug Activity	3		Hit and Run	1
	Civil Issue /Standby	0		Suicide/Mental Health	19
	Criminal Mischief	6		Suspicious Circumstances	25
	Custodial Arrest	2		Traffic Stops	154
	Disturbance	11		Traffic Accidents	3

TOTAL CITATIONS

129

TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE

519

CODE COMPLIANCE AT-A-GLANCE

Report Online: www.townofseverance.org/home/webforms/comments

EIGHT INCHES MAX ON WEEDS AND GRASSES

Grasses and weeds must be kept at a height of 8" or less in yards and alleys and 9" or less in fields and undeveloped lots. In Town of Severance



NO NOXIOUS WEEDS

A noxious weed is a plant whose growth is restricted by law due to its destructive qualities, aggressive growth, and difficulty to eradicate. You can search for images of noxious weeds by using an internet search engine or contact us for a brochure. For more information about removing noxious weeds, please contact the Weld County Weed Management at 970-400-3770 or Weld.org/weeds or visit the Colorado Weed Management Association at cwma.org.

RUBBISH & OUTDOOR STORAGE

Properties must be maintained in a neat, tidy, and methodical manner. The accumulation of rubbish is not permitted. Rubbish includes but is not limited to items discarded or unusable or susceptible to weather as well as branches, yard waste, tires and appliances. Outdoor storage includes items not normally stored outdoors in a residential area.

TRASH SHOULD BE SECURELY STORED

Unless it's your pick-up day, your trash must be securely stored behind the front plane of the building in plastic/metal cans with tight fitting lids or tightly secured plastic bags. Take your trash to the curb no sooner than 12 hours before your scheduled pick-up day.

INOPERABLE MOTOR VEHICLES

An inoperable motor vehicle is any vehicle not displaying a current license plate and validation sticker, or is not operational due to flat tires, missing parts or damage. Inoperable vehicles may be stored on your property as long as they are screened from view. Car covers are not sufficient for screening.day.



DO NOT PARK ON YARDS

You can only park on improved areas, meaning the ground must have asphalt, concrete, rock, gravel, or other similar inorganic material with a border. Parking on all other surfaces (like grass, dirt, or bark mulch) is in violation of our local code.

SNOW REMOVAL - YOU'VE GOT 24 HOURS

Residents are required to remove snow and ice from their property's sidewalks within 24 hours after the accumulation. Remember, no letter is issued for violations, it's up to you!



THE WRONG WAY TO USE THE RIGHT-OF-WAY AND ANY EASEMENTS

Generally, a right-of-way (ROW) or easement is an area for public access (usually along roads) to host sidewalks, lightpoles, road signs, utility boxes and more. The ROW is reserved for the safe passage of motorists, bicycles, pedestrians, and stormwater. The most common items found illegally in the ROW or easement include, dumpsters, fencing, landscape materials, storage containers, basketball hoops, and any personal or commercial signage. Weeds and litter in the ROW or easement is the responsibility of the owner, agent owner, occupant or lessee of the property adjacent to the ROW or easement.

WHAT IS CODE ENFORCEMENT?

Code Enforcement is town staff, who enforce the Town's codes and ordinances. We focus on voluntary compliance and want all citizens to be able to live happily in their homes, whether a tenant or owner. Please take time to understand any violations found at your property and the necessary steps for compliance. Please visit townofseverance.org/municipal-code for code information.



To report a violation, call 970-673-2470, or submit online at www.townofseverance.org/home/webforms/comments

HOW WE ENFORCE CODES

If an officer finds a violation or finds a complaint valid, a letter is sent to the property owner. If it's a rental property, a copy is also sent to the tenant and the property management company, if known. The letter identifies the specific violation and sets a final date to correct the problem. Remember there is no letter for snow removal violations. After the final date, an officer will re-inspect the property. If the problem still exists, the officer may issue a civil citation and/or hire a contractor to do the work. The contractor's costs along with a municipal fee are billed to the property owner.

WHERE DO I GET MORE INFORMATION?

Please call 970-673-2470 or visit townofseverance.org/community-services.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

OCTOBER IS FIRE PREVENTION MONTH

As Fire Prevention Month approaches, Windsor Severance Fire Department reminds residents:
“Cooking safety starts with YOU. Pay attention to fire prevention.”



Windsor Severance Fire Rescue is teaming up with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) – the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week for more than 100 years – to promote this year’s FPW campaign, “Cooking safety starts with YOU. Pay attention to fire prevention.” The campaign works to educate everyone about simple but important actions they can take when cooking to keep themselves and those around them safe. According to NFPA, cooking is the leading cause of home fires and home fire injuries in the United States. Unattended cooking is the leading cause of cooking fires and deaths. “Year after year, cooking remains the leading cause of home fires by far, accounting for nearly half of all U.S. home fires,” said Lorraine Carli, vice president of outreach and advocacy at NFPA. “These numbers tell us that there is still much work to do when it comes to better educating the public about ways to stay safe when cooking.”

The WSFR encourages all residents to embrace the 2023 Fire Prevention Week theme, “Cooking safety start with YOU,” said Hayley Carson, Community Risk Reduction Manager. Windsor Severance Fire Rescue offers these key safety tips to help reduce the risk of a cooking fire.

1. Watch what you heat. Always keep a close eye on what you are cooking. Set a timer to remind you that you are cooking.
2. Turn pot handles toward the back of the stove. Always keep a lid nearby when cooking. If a small grease fire starts, slide the lid over the pan and turn off the burner.
3. Have a “kid- and pet-free zone” of at least 3 feet around the stove or grill and anywhere else hot food or drink is prepared or carried.

WSFR is hosting a series of events in support of this year’s FPW campaign, including visiting local elementary school classrooms during the month of October. For more general information about Fire Prevention Week and cooking safety, visit www.fpw.org. For fire safety fun for kids, visit sparky.org.