

JANUARY 2024 TOWN OF LA JARA NEWSLETTER

Happy New Year

New Year's

We would like to wish everyone a safe and Happy New Years! We are grateful for all of the community members that are with us. We cannot wait for all of the 2024 events that we have planned for our community.

Online Bill Pay Solution

The town is planning that within first week of January online bill pay will hopefully be made available to all customers. The link to sign up will be on the town's website. If you are in need of assistance to set up your online account please come in and ask either of the clerks for assistance. The system will allow customers to check account information and pay utility bills. The online bill payment solution provides another option for citizens to pay their bills, however we will continue to except walk in payments of checks, cash, credit or debit card at the Town Hall.

Water Rates

Starting January 1, 2024 water and sewer rates will increase. The bill you receive at the beginning of February will reflect the increase. Water will go up by 1% and Sewer will go up by 5%.

Water Rates	Residential In Town	Residential Out of Town	Commercial in Town	Commercial Out of Town
Base Rate Per EQR	\$19.44	\$29.16	\$24.30	\$29.16
Sewer Rates	\$44.10	\$66.15	\$55.12	\$66.15

Calling for Nominations

The Town of La Jara will hold its regular municipal election on April 2, 2024. There is one (1) Mayor seat and four (4) trustee seats up for election. The mayor will serve a four-year term. Three trustees will serve a four-year term and one will serve a two-year term.

Nomination petitions to serve as a trustee are available at Town Hall (221 Broadway). Petitions can be circulated beginning Tuesday, January 2, 2024 and must be returned to Town Hall no later than 5 pm on Monday, January 22, 2024. Every registered elector 18 years or older who has resided within the city limits of the Town of La Jara for 12 consecutive months immediately prior to the election is eligible to be a candidate. Each candidate must have a minimum of 10 registered voters' signatures on the petition.

FYI From Chief Lujan

Have you heard of warm-up thefts? During the cold winter months, drivers may be tempted to warm up their cars while they stay warm inside.

Think twice before leaving your car running unattended. Car thieves are on the lookout for these vehicles warming up in driveways.


221 Broadway | P.O Box 273 | La Jara, CO 81140 | Phone: 719.274.5363 | Fax: 719.274.5986

NEWS, UPDATES, ETC


2024


 Court January 8th @6:30pm

 Council Meeting January 9th @6pm

 Office will be closed January 1st and 15th.

 Dog License renewals due for the year of 2024

 Business license renewals due for the year of 2024

 Reminder Snow removal is the property owner/ business owners responsibility.

HAPPY
New Year

Water Rates vs. Broken Pipe

With the last couple of months it has been colder than usual. With the nights and mornings being colder, more issues with water systems may rise. We understand that letting your faucets trickle may cause an increase on your water bill, but the little extra you may have to pay for letting your water trickle may save you a lot more than a busted pipe. A typical repair for broken pipes can range any where from \$150 to \$500. A base rate water bill is \$61.25 plus additional usage. (Example: A household that uses 19 (19,000 gallons) units of water will have a bill of \$87.55 that is including both water and sewer.)

Prevent Frozen Household Pipes

- WRAP EXPOSED PIPES WITH INSULATION AND ELIMINATE SOURCES OF COLD AIR NEAR ANY WATERLINES
- ALLOW A SMALL TRICKLE OF WATER TO RUN OVERNIGHT TO KEEP PIPES FROM FREEZING. THE COST OF THE WATER IS MINIMAL COMPARED TO REPAIRING THE DAMAGE FROM BURSTING PIPES.
- KNOW THE LOCATION OF YOUR MAIN WATER SHUT-OFF VALVE. IF A PIPE FREEZES OR BURSTS, SHUT THE WATER OFF IMMEDIATELY.
- DO NOT ATTEMPT TO THAW FROZEN PIPES UNLESS THE WATER IS SHUT OFF. TO THAW PIPES, APPLY HEAT FROM A HAIR DRYER, SPACE HEATER, OR HOT WATER.

NEW YEAR'S EVE SAFETY TIPS

Don't Drink and Drive

42% of traffic fatalities during the New Year's period are due to drinking and driving. If you plan on drinking, designate a driver. Keep contact info for local cab companies on hand. If someone is too impaired to drive, take their keys to prevent them from getting behind the wheel.



Keep Pets Safe



Pets can get spooked from all the holiday excitement. In case they get loose, make sure your pet is wearing an ID tag before the night begins, and keep them in a secure location in your home.

Be a Responsible Host

If you're part of the 23% of the U.S. population that plans on entertaining at home, have non-alcoholic drinks available for your guests. Stop serving alcohol hours before the party ends.



Stay Alert



Before the night begins, charge your phone. Be aware of your surroundings. If you see suspicious activity, call the police. Remain social media smart and don't post your whereabouts, which could invite burglars to see you aren't home.

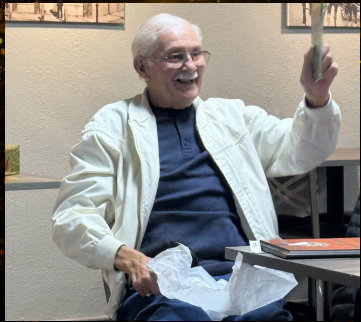
Use Fireworks Safely

Purchase fireworks from a reliable source. When using them, observe local laws. Find an open area clear of power lines and homes. Also, make sure a responsible adult is supervising children and pets.



Citizen of The Year

Mr. Arnold Rendon is a very valued member of the La Jara family/community. Arnold is best known for always volunteering and taking care of his community. Arnold was and is still a hard-working man, Arnold use to work for BLM, the Forest Service, the county, semi driver and was in the fire department for 15 years. Even at the age of 80 years old nothing will slow him down as he continues to show his love and appreciation for his town. When Arnold is not somewhere volunteering, he enjoys spending his time with his 5 kids and 14 grandkids. For the last four years he has been an amputee, even though he may be an amputee he does not let that stop him from doing what he enjoys the most. Arnold is thankful for his best friend Zarear (bozo) his black lab that is 8 years old. Over the time of having Zarear Arnold has taught him many things to help him around his house, like fetch the remote or even getting him a bottle of water. Some of the things that Arnold enjoys doing when he is not volunteering is hunting, fishing, and play bingo at the senior center on Wednesday's. The Town of La Jara could not have chosen anyone better to be the citizen of the year. We are thankful for Mr. Rendon and everything he does for his community and cannot express our gratitude in any other way then to give him an award for all of his hard work.



HAPPY NEW YEAR'S FROM THE TOWN OF LA JARA STAFF

