



Town Record

July 2020

Town of Gardnerville's Community Newsletter

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Town Manager's Message

The Town of Gardnerville is excited to announce we are planning for the full range of events and activities for the upcoming fiscal year. COVID-19 restrictions including social distancing and limitations on crowd sizes have been lifted which makes Town events possible. We invite you to visit the Town of Gardnerville's and Main Street Gardnerville's website for information on upcoming events. You may plan on Movies in the Park on June 25th, July 16th, July 30th and August 13th. The annual Freedom Festival 5k and Concert will take place on July 4th. There will be Wine Walks on the third Thursday of every month through October. You can also go to the Heritage Park Gardens Sip and Stroll on August 21st and, of course, Main Street Gardnerville's Farmers Market presented by Sierra Chef every Wednesday from 8:00 – 1:00 through September 15th at Heritage Park. It may have been a year since you have interacted with your neighbors and friends, so please come support the various events within the Town.

Since the last Town Manager's Message, the Town has completed the reconstruction of Cemetery Lane. This is only the second road reconstruction the Town has completed in ten years. The project removed depreciated metal pipe storm drain (replaced with concrete pipe), replaced damaged curb, gutter, and sidewalk, installed new sidewalk ramps which are compliant with the current Americans With Disability Act (ADA). All the old pavement was removed and new pavement provided. On the five-year Capital Improvement Plan the Town has scheduled for reconstruction; Bell Street, Industrial Way, Service Drive, Pep Circle, Venture Drive, El Dorado Drive, and Village Way. These replacements are of course dependent on the budget.

One item of concern that has come up since the previous Town Newsletter is the potential delay in the reconstruction of US Highway 395 through the Town by the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT). The reconstruction of US Highway 395 from Waterloo Lane north to Zerolene Road was scheduled to take place in Spring of 2022. Due to problems with the right-of-way acquisition, NDOT has delayed the project up to twenty-four months. This project will provide a much-needed facelift to Main Street by replacing damaged curb, gutter, and sidewalk as well as ADA ramps and complete pavement replacement. The Town looks forward to this project but it appears it will take a little longer than expected.

While preparing the budget this year it became apparent the Solid Waste Fund was going to have more expenditures than the current fee collection would cover. At today's rate the Town's Solid Waste Fund could be bankrupt by 2024. There are two ways to increase the solid waste budget; first, by adding customers. Second, by increasing rates. As costs to provide the service always increase and there has not been a significant number of new customers over the last three years rates must be increased. Please see the additional information provided in this newsletter.

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Ron Grove

Todd Kubicka

Eric Matus

Seasonal Parks Staff

Tommy Lancaster

Town Sanitation Staff

Jody Martin

Jacob Williams

Nicholas Artum

Winter King

How is the Town Spending Your Money?

Cemetery Lane



The Cemetery Lane Reconstruction project was completed by West Coast Paving on May 21st. Please take a moment on one of your drives through Town to pass by Cemetery Lane and check out the completed project. Total cost \$261,054.

Slurry Seal

The Town is completing a slurry seal in the Carson Valley Estates area and on Toler Lane at the end of June 2021. This work adds a

fine layer of aggregate and new oil to the roadway. The fine layer of aggregate adds a new “wearing course” and the oil rejuvenates the pavement. This project does not reconstruct the pavement, but rather extends its life. The cost of the project was approximately \$90,000.

Kingslane Sidewalk

Bids were received for the Kingslane Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) Crosswalks and Lighting Project on December 18, 2020. Unfortunately, the low bid was by Sierra Nevada Construction for \$836,007. The estimate for the project was \$625,923. Every project has unknowns for which the Town sets aside 10% for potential change orders meaning most likely the project would have cost approximately \$920,000. The total cost was too much for the Town’s budget to fix deficiencies on a State-owned roadway. The Town was forced to reject all bids and cancel the project. The Nevada Department of Transportation is hopeful to complete portions of this project when they reconstruct Highway 395 through Town.

Bell Street Reconstruction

The same deteriorated metal pipe that was removed from under Cemetery Lane is also under Bell Street. This project will remove the deteriorated pipe, install ADA compliant sidewalk ramps, extend the sidewalk along the south side of the street, and repair damaged curb, gutter, and sidewalk as well as remove all existing pavement and replace with new pavement. This project is currently under design and is anticipated to start construction in Spring 2022. Estimated cost \$240,000.

Gardnerville Station

The Town must install a storm drain system from the underground detention reservoir constructed in February of 2020 at the Gardnerville Station to the Martin Slough. The project is currently going through the permitting process. This project must be complete prior to NDOT reconstructing US 395 through Town as NDOT will connect to the reservoir to remove floodwaters from the “S-Curve.” Delays in NDOT’s project may delay the Town’s Project. This is the last project which must be completed prior to

finishing the site improvements and landscaping at Gardnerville Station which is scheduled for Fiscal Year 23/24. Estimated cost \$250,000.

Heritage Park Pavilion Reroof and Ladder

The Pavilion at Heritage Park is approaching 20 years old. The shingles which were installed on the Pavilion are nearing the end of their design life. The Town wishes to replace the shingles as well as have a ladder mounted to the side of the pavilion. Currently the only way to access the roof of the pavilion is either by extension ladder or bucket truck, both of which have a set of safety concerns. The design consultant will also verify the fall arrest system on the pavilion meets current OSHA Standards to protect Town Employees as they access the roof. The project is under design and the Town hopes to have it complete to be used for the installation of the Christmas Decorations prior to the end of the year. Estimated cost \$30,000.

Health & Sanitation

There are no changes to either the commercial or residential trash schedule for the winter holiday season this year. Christmas & Near Year’s fall on a Saturday.



Trash Rate Increase

At the May 2021 Gardnerville Town Board Meeting a rate increase to the solid waste fee was discussed. In June the attorney was instructed to prepare a business impact statement as required by Nevada Law to initiate a fee increase.

The Town of Gardnerville’s Solid Waste Fund is classified as an “enterprise fund.” An enterprise fund is a “self-supporting government fund that sells goods and services to the public for a fee.” The money the Town receives for solid waste collection can only be used to pay for the effort in collecting the solid waste. It cannot be used to maintain roads, parks, or any other item unrelated to the collection of solid waste.

Every year the costs to the Town to provide solid waste collection increase. Half of all the funds collected for solid waste are used to pay for the employees that work in the Town’s Health and Sanitation Division. Salaries increase every year as does the cost to provide health insurance; the cost to fund the Nevada State Retirement System also increases. Other costs such as landfill fees, new equipment, insurance, and totes increase. The only way to balance the increase in costs is to increase the number of users or to increase the costs to the current users.

Last year (July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021) the solid waste account was projected to break even. This year costs to collect and dispose of solid waste is projected to be \$50,000 greater than fees collected. The Town is covering the difference by using money which had been set aside for the purchase of a new solid waste truck. This leaves the Town with a total of

\$250,000 in reserves. Without an increase to the solid waste fund or additional Town growth, the solid waste fund is projected to be bankrupt by 2024.

Another issue the Town has which is putting pressure on our solid waste fund is the age of our solid waste trucks. The average age of our trucks is 15 years. The industry standard for solid waste trucks is seven years. The Town operates between two and four solid waste trucks on a given day and owns seven total. As the average age of our fleet has increased over the years the cost to repair the Town's trucks has increased from \$39,000 in 2013 to \$110,000 this year. Not only is the cost of the trucks a problem, but many of the trucks are unreliable or spend significant time out of service which has led to the Town of Gardnerville needing to borrow trucks from Minden to keep the solid waste collected. There needs to be an increased frequency of new truck purchases to replace a depreciated fleet.

After analyzing various rate options, at the May 4, 2021 Gardnerville Town Board Meeting, Staff was directed to begin the process of increasing rates. The first step is to complete a business impact statement (BIS). After the BIS is complete there must be two public hearings prior to the adoption of the new rates. If you are interested in attending the most likely dates of the public hearings will be the July and August Town Board Meetings. However, please check the Town Website for the Board Agenda (<https://www.townofgardnerville.com/government/town-board/archive-center/>) to verify when the rate increase will be heard publicly. The proposed increase is a two stage increase with the first increase taking affect on Jan 1, 2022 and the second taking affect on July 1, 2023 with no additional increases until at least July 1, 2025.

The projections used to base the proposed increases on are a worst-case scenario. For instance, the Town budgets to have five employees in the Health and Sanitation Division, however it is rare to have all positions filled. The projections do not include any money which can be salvaged from selling old trash trucks (generally between \$20k and \$80k). The Town also budgets for salary increases for employees. However, as seasoned employees leave and new employees are hired, they are brought in closer to the beginning of the salary range and savings occur.

The Town has concerns with the current inflationary state of the nation's economy. The Town has had significant difficulty hiring employees with commercial driver's licenses (CDL) to fill vacancies. The Town starts these employees at approximately \$19 per hour. This entry level salary is probably 20% too low for market conditions. The Town has had an open vacancy from Oct 2020 until today. The Town has hired and trained many employees only to see them leave once they obtain their CDL. Currently only two of the Town's five solid waste positions are filled. The Town also spends approximately \$300,000 (25% of total budget) on landfill fees, so any increase to these charges in the future would significantly impact the Towns Solid Waste Fund

The proposed rate increase is as follows:

90 Gallon Residential Tote:

Monthly
Current Fee ~ \$20.11
January 1, 2022 ~ \$22.52
July 1, 2023 ~ \$24.32

Extra Tote:

Monthly
Current Fee ~ \$5.00
January 1, 2022 ~ \$5.60
July 1, 2023 ~ \$6.05

Green Waste Tote:

Monthly
Current Fee ~ \$0.00
January 1, 2022 ~ \$0.00
July 1, 2023 ~ \$0.00

Two Yard Residential Clean-Up Bin:

Each Use
Current Fee ~ \$26.00
January 1, 2022 ~ \$29.12
July 1, 2023 ~ \$31.45

Two Yard Commercial Bin:

Each Use
Current Fee ~ \$24.61
January 1, 2022 ~ \$27.56
July 1, 2023 ~ \$29.77

For reference, residential customers in the Town of Gardnerville, rates are 5.77% lower than the Town of Minden's and 33.27% lower than Douglas Disposal's. For commercial customers the Town of Gardnerville's rates are 7.68% lower than the Town of Minden's and 22.06% lower than Douglas Disposal's. The Town of Minden last raised rates in 2017. The Town of Gardnerville last raised rates in 2019, which was 4% for residential users and 7% for commercial users. Prior to these increases the Town of Gardnerville's rates were 9.77% lower for residential customers and 14.68% lower for commercial customers than the Town of Minden's.



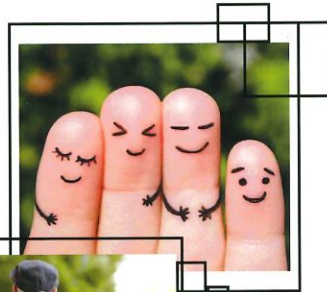
Tree Tip

Healing Power in Trees

Early philosophers sensed what science is now proving - study after study is showing the beneficial effects of trees on mental and physical health.

Of course, shady trees draw people outdoors, where exercise and fresh air do a lot of good and where social interaction helps build positive relationships. But the effects go deeper. The key seems to be that trees help us relax and reduce the stresses of our daily lives. Here are just a few of the results:

- * Improved mood states
- * Better attention to work or studies
- * Calming of anger and anxiety
- * Reduced mental fatigue
- * Faster hospital recovery
- * Improved problem solving
- * Increased feelings of empowerment
- * Encouragement of nurturing characteristics
- * Decreased risk of seasonal affective disorder
- * Greater workplace satisfaction



Town/Main Street Events Update

Freedom 5K Fun Run July 4, 2021 in Heritage Park



Freedom 5K Fun Run 2019

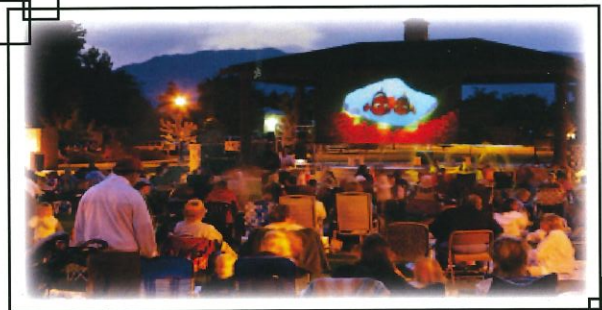
For more information please visit
www.MainStreetGardnerville.org

Run/Walk starts at 8:00 a.m. at Heritage Park Registration is from 7:00 to 7:45 a.m. if you have not already registered online.

Register Online at www.tinyurl.com/Freedom5KFunRun

Movies in the Park

*Welcome back to Gardnerville's
Movies in the Park.*



Movies in the Park 2010 - Finding Nemo

Movies in the Park started on June 25th with the movie Frozen 2. July 16th will be Tom & Jerry, July 30, The Lion King Live Action Version and August 13 is Thor: The Dark World (Edited Version.) Please join us and enjoy being back in the outdoors. Our sponsors for this year's Movies in the Park are: Lisa M. Koch Agency, LLC-American Family Insurance, Valley Pediatric Dentistry, and Northwest Martial Arts



Movies in the Park

Movies begin at sundown at Heritage Park

Featuring:

6/25



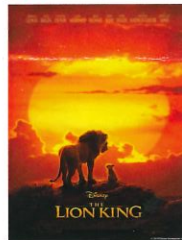
Frozen 2

7/16



Tom & Jerry

7/30



Lion King

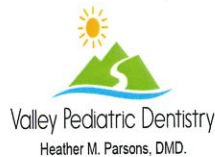
8/13



Thor: The Dark World

Movies are subject to change

Thank you to our sponsors!





**4TH
OF
JULY**



The
**Carson Valley Pops
Orchestra**

With
Voices of the Sierra

**At Heritage Park
in Gardnerville**

**A Concert of
Patriotic Songs**

**July 4, 2021
11:30 am**

Sponsored by
the Town of Gardnerville



The poster features a dark background with a central image of fireworks exploding. The scene is framed by a border of blue and silver Christmas ornaments hanging from the top. The text is centered and uses a mix of serif and sans-serif fonts.

Fifteenth Annual
Christmas Kickoff

Thursday December 2, 2021

5:30 p.m.

Heritage Park Pavilion

Come early and enjoy

Horse Drawn Wagon rides around the park
beginning at 4:00 p.m.

Santa will arrive at 4:30 p.m.

Entertainment & treats begin at 5:30 p.m.

Lighting of the Town Christmas Tree

Lighting of the Heritage Park Pavilion

All About Dance Kids

Dance Workshop Kids

Sierra Lutheran High School Choir

Musical Light Show!

Fireworks by PyroGuys (weather permitting)

Dutch oven cobblers, hotcocoa &

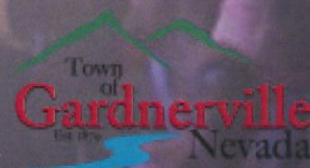
spiced cider provided by the

Town of Gardnerville

& popcorn provided by

the Gardnerville Water Co.

*For additional information contact
the Town of Gardnerville (775) 782-7134
or visit TownofGardnerville.com*





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July- December 2021 Dates to Remember



July 6, 2021 Town Board Meeting, Town Hall
4:30 p.m.

July 16 Movies in the Park - Tom & Jerry
Heritage Park

July 30 Movies in the Park - The Lion King
Live action, version, Heritage Park

August 3 Town Board Meeting, Town Hall
4:30 p.m.

August 13 Movies in the Park, - Thor, The Dark
World - Heritage Park

Sept 7 Town Board Meeting, Town Hall
4:30 p.m.

Oct 5 Town Board Meeting, Town Hall
4:30 p.m.

Extra Greenwaste Days

- Tuesday, October 5, 2020
- Tuesday, October 19, 2020
- Tuesday, November 2, 2020
- Tuesday, November 16, 2020

October 27/28 Fall Cleanup

For Residential customers extra trash may be put out on your regular trash day. Keep extra bags or boxes at least three feet from trash cans. No more than 6 bags/boxes or cans

November 3/4 Limb Pickup

limbs (3' X 2') secured with rope. Keep bundles at least three feet away from trash cans.

Nov 2 Town Board Meeting, Town Hall
4:30 p.m.

Dec 7 Town Board Meeting, Town Hall
4:30 p.m.

Dec 2 Gardnerville Christmas Kickoff
5:30 p.m. Heritage Park

Jan 4, 2022 Town Board Meeting, Town Hall
4:30 pm.

Jan 4 Last greenwaste pickup

Jan 5/6 Christmas tree pickup on your regular trash day. (No tinsel, lights, ornaments or stands.)