



# CITY OF SILVERTON

SUMMER 2019

## Mayor's Corner

Hello, and welcome to summer in Silverton! While summer may not be my favorite season (I've always been a fan of the fall), it IS my favorite time to watch our community thrive in so many ways.

From a municipal operations standpoint, this is the time when our staff is running in every direction, "making hay while the sun shines," so to speak. While some of that work is visible, such as the constant care given to keep our parks and public spaces at their best for you, much



Mayor Kyle Palmer  
503-932-8550  
kpalmer@silverton.or.us

of it is done quietly and with little fanfare. What you won't see this year is another chapter of our slurry seal road preservation partnership with Marion County. We're taking a break in that area in order to prepare financially for the complete rebuilding of McClaine Street, which will require the diversion of much of our available street funds. Whether you see our staff at work or not, just know that they are spending every day working to make this the community we all value so much.

Speaking of projects, the July work session focuses on advancing the concept(s) for the Eugene Field site. If you are reading this on Monday the 15th, please come join at 6 pm. To address some questions on social media – it won't be a Walmart, or a Costco, or a housing development, or one huge parking lot (though we do hope to provide some much needed parking). What it will be, as we've announced several times, is a Police Department that will fulfill government mandates to have a seismically stable facility, as well as a City Hall either at the same time or in the future. Those were the principal reasons we bought the property, and they are the components we are designing around. Based on a tremendous amount of terrific public feedback, there will also likely be a multitude of various park and public use space amenities. We are singularly focused on creating a historically compatible facility that balances the needs of our staff for years to come with the fiscal prudence that citizens expect and deserve. The window for public input on this project continues, as we will pivot from the site plan to specific design elements in the coming months – thank you for your help in making this a project that we hope will reflect the community's values!

Above all, summer brings our community outside to enjoy the many gifts we have. We are fortunate to be the Gateway to Silver Falls AND Oregon's Garden City, reminding us that both the Falls and the Oregon Garden are scenic places to celebrate the outdoors. It's also a great time to be thankful that Silverton has a very extensive network of sidewalk connectivity that affords our residents the ability to stroll around

*Continued on page 4*



*The blue line symbolizes Silver Creek running through the middle of town and is in the shape of an "S" for Silverton.*

*The blue is the same color as Oregon's State Flag to represent unity with the State.*

*The green background represents Silverton being Oregon's Garden City.*

*The oak leaves connect to the city's heritage, because Oregon was built on a white oak grove and there was once a large white oak tree in the center of town known as the Old Oak.*

## Contest yields collaborative design

On June 3, 2019 Silverton City Council selected Silverton's first City flag. The flag was designed by Benjamin Blair, Eliah Blair, Connor Hill, and Dmitry White. The chosen flag adheres to the basic principles of flag design: keep it simple, use meaningful symbolism, no lettering or seals, and use two or three basic colors.

The flag selection culminates a City-wide creative process which began over a year ago, when brothers Benjamin and Eliah Blair presented to City Council their idea to create a City flag. Council directed staff to organize a flag design contest, which involved outreach through the Silver Falls School District, Facebook, *Our Town*, the City newsletter, and the City website.

A Flag Review Committee narrowed the field of 41 submissions down to three. When presented with the three finalist designs at February's

City Council Meeting, Councilors Plummer and Freilinger shared the Committee's recommendation to have the artist's work together on a final design. Council requested the finalists collaborate in designing a final flag.

On June 3 the designers presented the symbolism of two collaborative designs for Council to consider. Regarding the final flag design, Councilor Carter stated "the white oak connects us to our history and heritage and it stands for wisdom, strength, and longevity which is everything that we would want to convey that Silverton stands for."

City staff members are consulting with vendors for flag production and other memorabilia. Stay tuned to the City website and Facebook for the latest news on how to get your own piece of Silverton pride, and watch for the flag at City Hall in the near future.

## Recent retirements and welcomes

### Happy trails

Kathy Franz served the City as the Administrative Assistant II for Public Works for over 15 years, during which time she worked with several Public Works Directors. Silverton residents likely recognize Kathy as the face of the Department to assist with utility services and public improvements. Behind the scenes, Kathy provided indispensable service in contract administration, project tracking, purchasing, inventory, and also assisted Silver Trolley customers.

City staff – including former co-workers already

retired – celebrated Kathy and her years of service on May 15. Thank you, Kathy!

### Welcome to Silverton – or welcome back!

Josiah Hill returns to the Public Works Maintenance Division for a second summer as the Parks Seasonal Maintenance Worker.

Jeff Charpilloz (June 12) and Peter Finnegan (July 1) joined the Police Department as lateral recruits. Both having completed their DPSST police training, they will complete Silverton's field training program before beginning patrol duties.

# Avoid code enforcement ‘summer bummers’

Every year the city of Silverton Code Enforcement Division investigates hundreds of complaints and code violations. Due to increased vegetation and fire hazard, the highest volume of complaints and violations occur in the summer months. To contribute to the safety, health and livability of our community, please consider these common violations of Silverton Municipal Code (SMC). Please contact 503-874-2214 with questions,



© AMANDA MCCOY / 123RF.COM

## NOXIOUS VEGETATION

SMC 8.04.050 prohibits any vegetation that is or is likely to become a health hazard, fire hazard or traffic hazard. Examples:

- Grass or weeds more than ten inches high.
- Poison Oak, Poison Ivy, Scotch Broom.
- Blackberry bushes that cross a property line.
- Dead or decaying trees and tree limbs.

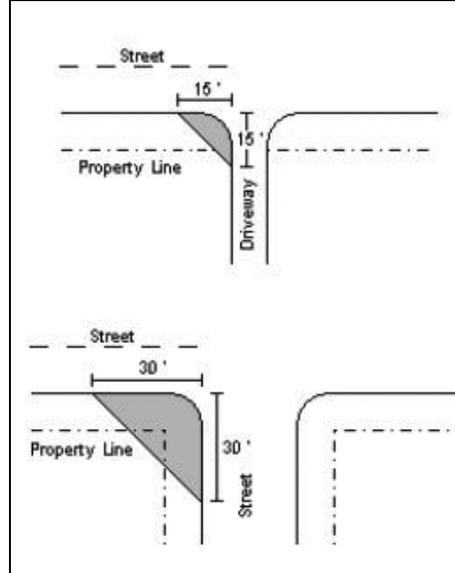


© SELPHOTO1 / 123RF.COM

## BACKYARD CHICKENS

In a Residential Zone chickens are allowed under the following conditions (Development Code: 2.2.200):

- No more than three chickens allowed per address.
- No roosters.
- Chicken coops must be located in the back of your property, 10 ft. away from property lines and 20 ft. away from adjacent dwellings
- Chickens and coops must be kept in sanitary conditions.



## VISION CLEARANCE

SMC 3.2.100 prohibits visual obstructions near intersections. Keep these areas clear of tall vegetation or low-hanging branches to improve visibility for drivers and pedestrians.

- Bushes & hedges must be trimmed down to 2 ft. or less.
- Tree branches that hang lower than 8 ft. must be trimmed.



© COROILU OCTAVIAN / 123RF.COM

## ACCUMULATION OF JUNK

Municipal code prohibits storage of junk on private property. This means any solid waste, debris, rubbish, discarded appliances, cars and car parts, containers, garbage, rotting wood, yard waste, etc. Storage of waste detracts from the cleanliness of a property, causes offensive odors and attracts rodents. All waste must be properly disposed of in a timely manner. (SMC 8.04)



SEDUISANT CC BY 3.0

## PARKING/PLANTER STRIP MOWING

A parking strip or planter strip is the public right-of-way located between the street and the sidewalk. Mowing and maintenance of the parking strip is the responsibility of the adjacent homeowner.

(SMC 12.16.50)



© CAR MONKEYBL 123RF.COM

## DISCARDED & ABANDONED VEHICLES

Discarded vehicles may not be stored on private property unless they are located behind a sight obscuring fence. A vehicle is considered discarded if it meets at least two of the following criteria:

1. Appears inoperative, wrecked or in obvious disrepair;
2. Has no current vehicle registration plates displayed; or
3. Is totally or partially dismantled.

On street parking is allowed for 72 hours. Vehicles that are abandoned on public streets will be tagged and towed. (SMC 8.04 and 10.24)

## OCCUPIED RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

It is unlawful to reside and live in a recreational vehicle on private property for more than 15 days in any particular 30-day period without having a permit issued by the city. Recreational vehicles may not be parked on a public street for more than three days. (SMC 10.26)



## GARAGE SALES & GARAGE SALE SIGNS

- A maximum of three garage sales are allowed per individual address in a calendar year, each sale lasting no more than three days.
- Hours of operation should only be between 7:00 am and 5:00 pm.
- Garage sale signs are limited to one per property and a maximum of three offsite signs placed on private property (with permission from the owner).
- Signs may NOT be placed on public property, utility poles or street trees
- Signs may be placed on the community sign board located in the Lewis Street parking lot. (Silverton Development Code 4.9) (SMC 15.16)

# 2018 drinking water quality report released

City residents enjoy high quality drinking water sourced from both Abiqua and Silver Creeks. As part of Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requirements, the City must provide an annual report with disclosures including sources, risk of contamination, hazards of contaminants found (not applicable here), required educational statements, and relevant contact information. You can find the full report at [www.silverton.or.us/ccr](http://www.silverton.or.us/ccr).

Highlights from this year's report include:

- The water received no drinking water quality violations, as certified by independent testing laboratories.
- In Oregon last summer, in response to the cyanotoxins in Detroit Lake and the Salem drinking water system, the Oregon Health Authority and the



Department of Environmental Quality mandated all water systems deemed to be at risk to begin regular (every other week) sampling and testing for the presence of cyanotoxin compounds. The Silverton water system

was monitored and all of the samples collected were below detectable limits (indicating cyanotoxins were not detected at a level associated with a potential health risk).

- Cross Connection control keeps the

water system safe by setting guidelines and test procedures to ensure that backflow is eliminated.

Thank you to everyone completing their annual backflow testing, and please contact Public Works at 503-873-8679 with any questions about water quality.



## City earns Earthwise Certification for City Hall

The City celebrated another step in sustainability this spring with City Hall and the Wastewater Treatment Plant being designated as EarthWISE certified properties by Marion County Environmental Services. The "WISE" in EarthWISE stands for Workplace Initiative for Sustainable Enterprise; the County offers a continuum of free services to businesses in Marion County (visit their website for more details on the helpline and getting your own business certified).

As part of the program, the City has convened a "Green Team" of staff members from Public Works and Administration. The Green Team will continue to work with other City facilities to earn this certification as well.



Many state offices have earned the certification, and Silverton is just the second local government agency to do so, following the City of Salem. In addition to the baseline requirements for EarthWISE certification, the City is creating green purchasing policies.



## New Plastic Bag and Polystyrene Regulations

As of July 1, 2019 all retail establishments are not allowed to provide or make available plastic carryout bags. Retail establishments can provide recyclable paper bags, but they are required to charge five cents for each paper bag received at the point of sale. If a retailer

accepts WIC, EBT and SNAP they can provide those customers with a reusable bag or recyclable paper bag at no cost.

This ordinance (SMC 5.45) applies to any person, corporation, partnership, business venture,

*continued on page 4*

### Silverton City Council



Mayor  
**Kyle Palmer**  
503-932-8550  
kpalmer@silverton.or.us



Councilor  
**Laurie Carter**  
503-580-5355  
lcarter@silverton.or.us



Councilor  
**Jason Freilinger**  
503-874-4430  
jfreilinger@silverton.or.us



Councilor  
**Crystal Neideigh**  
cneideigh@silverton.or.us



Councilor  
**Matt Plummer**  
mplummer@silverton.or.us



Councilor  
**Jim Sears**  
503-873-9357  
jsears@silverton.or.us



Councilor  
**Dana Smith**  
503-873-4921  
dsmith@silverton.or.us

### Silverton City Hall

306 S. Water St. • 503-873-5321  
**Finance Director Kathleen Zaragoza**  
 503-874-2203 • kzaragoza@silverton.or.us  
**Community Development Director Jason Gottgetreu**  
 503-874-2212  
 jgottgetreu@silverton.or.us  
**Public Works Director Petra Schuetz**  
 503-874-2210 • pschuetz@silverton.or.us  
**Police Chief Jeff Fossholm**  
 503-874-2228 • jfossholm@silverton.or.us



City Manager  
**Christy Wurster**  
503-874-2205  
cwurster@silverton.or.us

## City Calendar

### July

**July 15 – City Council Work Session** 6pm

**July 16 – Affordable Housing Taskforce** 8:30am

### August

**Aug. 5 – City Council** 7pm\*

**Aug. 13 – Planning Commission** 7pm\*

**Aug. 19 – City Council Work Session** 6pm

**Aug. 20 – Affordable Housing Task Force** 8:30am

**Aug. 20 – Environmental Management Committee** 3pm

### September

**Sept. 2 – City Hall Offices Closed for Labor Day**

**Sept. 9 – City Council Meeting** 7pm\*

**Sept. 10 – Planning Commission** 7pm\*

**Sept. 16 – City Council Work Session** 6pm

**Sept. 17 – Affordable Housing Task Force** 8:30am

**Sept. 17 – Environmental Management Committee** 3pm

### October

**Oct. 7 – City Council Meeting** 7pm\*

**Oct. 8 – Planning Commission** 7pm\*

*Silverton City Council Chambers  
421 S. Water St.*

*\* Denotes meetings on SCAN TV*

## Mayor *From page 1*

our amazing town. Our popular Farmer's Market on Saturday mornings is in full swing outdoors in Town Square Park and – as usual – it's a great reminder of the agriculture that we are surrounded by. As we move through the outdoor event season, we've already checked off the Pet Parade and the Silverton Hills Strawberry Festival for 2019, but we're right in the middle of the free Music Monday creekside concerts at Old Mill Park. Still ahead are Homer Days and the Fine Art Festival. Take the time to enjoy Silverton at these amazing events – you won't be sorry.

On the Council front, there are several processes going on that are directly related to life in Silverton. Our Affordable Housing Task Force meets monthly and is exploring the ways that our community can better allow our seniors to age in place here, and ways we can make it more likely that the 20-something generation can stay here if they wish. Both demographics are vitally important to our community and they're currently struggling to afford a life in Silverton – without them, we lose the wisdom of our greatest volunteer workforce, AND our future leaders.

The city's Homelessness Task Force, which has been on hiatus since Sheltering Silverton bloomed into a multifaceted non-profit that is leading in this area, will begin a new schedule of meetings to revisit the status of this part of our population and what progress has been made since last year.

Our Parks and Recreation Task Force has been working with a consultant on the concept of a Parks and/or Recreation District that would be separate from the City of Silverton. The size of the district would be larger than the current City, though specifically undetermined as of yet, and would be subject to voter approval, if the Council even determines to take that next step. One of many reasons to consider such a proposal is that currently only City residents pay for the creation and upkeep of these facilities, while they are used freely by those who may live on the other side of the city limits. We are happy that everyone enjoys these amenities in our community, but are simply exploring pathways that could establish a more equitable system. Again, this process is a long way from a reality, but is one of many things under consideration.

The Council and city staff are also exploring ways that we can offer nano radio frequency internet service, which would be an alternative to the more traditional services that are currently available in town. For some residents, this would solve the problem of getting current internet services to them.

As always, our meetings are open to the public and we are encouraged by your attendance and participation. I speak for all seven members of the council when I say that we want to hear from you when you have an idea, words of support, words of criticism, or any type of input in general. Our contact information is in this newsletter. Thanks for helping us make this the greatest community!

## Plastic *continued from page 3*

public sports or entertainment facilities, government agency, street vendor or vendor at public events or festivals or organizations that sell or provide merchandise, goods or materials directly to a customer. Examples include but are not limited to department stores, clothing stores, jewelry stores, grocery stores, pharmacies, home improvement stores, liquor stores, convenience stores, gas stations, restaurants (including fast food establishments), food vending trucks, farmers markets and temporary vendors.

Also beginning July 1, 2019, food service businesses are prohibited from selling or providing food, for consumption on or off the premises, in polystyrene food service

products. This regulation applies to all full-service restaurants, fast food restaurants, cafes, delicatessens, coffee shops, grocery stores, vending trucks or carts, business or institutional cafeterias, or other businesses, entities, or nonprofits, selling or providing food directly to customers. Examples of polystyrene products include food containers, plates, "clamshells," hot and cold beverage cups, meat and vegetable trays, and egg cartons.

Beginning Jan. 1, 2020, food service business will be prohibited from selling or providing raw meat or raw seafood in polystyrene food service products.

There are exceptions to these regulations, for a complete list of allowable plastic bags and polystyrene exemptions, please visit the City of Silverton's website: [www.silverton.or.us/407/Environmental-Management-Resources](http://www.silverton.or.us/407/Environmental-Management-Resources) and review Title 5, Chapters 5.45 and 5.50 of the Silverton Municipal Code. For questions please contact Angela Speier, Assistant to the City Manager/City Clerk at 503-874-2216 or [aspeier@silverton.or.us](mailto:aspeier@silverton.or.us).



## Volunteers help Silverton greet the spring

City park patrons can enjoy freshly spruced up parks and new plantings thanks to the work of the Maintenance Division and dozens of volunteers.

Over 125 Silverton High School seniors, along with several City staff members serving as team leaders, assisted in sprucing up City parks on April 25. These students participated in the City's Spring Clean-up Day as part of the High School's Senior Work Day. Fueled by donuts donated by Roth's Fresh Market, they weeded, planted, and laid bark dust at Coolidge-McClaine Park, Town Square Park, Lincoln Park, Old Mill Park, and Pioneer Park. The City finished off Arbor Week by planting shade trees in the small dog section of the Dog Park in cooperation with Dog Park volunteers.

As the picture shows, the weather cooperated beautifully during these projects. Thanks again to all who devoted their time to make Silverton shine.