

CITY OF BURLINGTON  
KIT CARSON COUNTY  
CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
AGENDA

2-2021

January 25, 2021

6:30 p.m.

Live Public Streaming – use link below to join  
<https://www.burlingtoncolo.com/virtualcouncilmeeting>

**Due to COVID-19 restrictions, this council meeting will be held remotely**

**1. Call to Order**

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

**3. Consent Agenda Items**

*Any consent agenda item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed under Business if discussion is desired. Otherwise, one motion will pass all items.*

A. Approval of January 11 meeting minutes

**4. Public comment**

**5. Public hearings – none**

**6. Unfinished business**

**7. New business**

A. Approval to provide utility services of water, sewer and electricity to property outside, but adjacent to, city limits, and to include a water service allowance of a 1½” tap.

**8. Reports from city departments**

Administrator – Jim Keehne

Clerk – Georgia Gilley

Treasurer – Becky Castillo

Activities – Tyson Weisshaar

Airport – Daniel Melia

Economic Development – Rol Hudler

Library – Nick McCarty-Daniels

Old Town – Nikki Wall

Police – Nate Hill

**9. Council comments**

A. Mayor Greg Swiatkowski

B. Kamron Weisshaar, mayor pro tem

C. Mark Burghart

D. Brent Carter

E. Melvin Gilley

F. Adrian Hernandez

G. Troy Schultz

**10. Adjournment**

*Emergency matters that may come before Council may be discussed with decisions to be ratified at a subsequent council meeting.*

**BURLINGTON CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**County of Kit Carson  
State of Colorado  
January 11, 2021  
6:30 p.m.**

**1. Call to order**

Mayor Greg Swiatkowski called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.  
The meeting was held remotely, and members of the public could access the meeting streamed at [www.burlingtoncolo.com/virtualcouncilmeeting](http://www.burlingtoncolo.com/virtualcouncilmeeting).

Council members present:

Mark Burghart, Brent Carter, Melvin Gilley, Troy Schultz and Kamron Weisshaar

Council members absent:

Adrian Hernandez

Staff/Officials present

Greg Swiatkowski, Mayor  
Jim Keehne, Administrator  
Georgia Gilley, Clerk

Daniel Melia, Airport  
Mike Grinnan, City attorney  
Nate Hill, police dept.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

**3. Consent Agenda**

**A. Approval of the December 14, 2020 meeting minutes**

Motion by Burghart and second from Carter to approve the December 14, 2020 meeting minutes.  
Motion passed unanimously.

**4. Public comment – none**

**5. Public hearing – none**

**6. Unfinished Business – none**

**7. New Business**

**A. Approval of mayor's signature on Dispatch Service Agreement**

Kit Carson County and the City of Burlington will extend their annual agreement wherein Kit Carson County Sheriff's Office will provide emergency and non-emergency dispatch services for the City of Burlington from January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021, for the consideration of \$100,000, apportioned equally and payable by the city to the county in monthly installments.

Motion by Schultz and second from Burghart to approve mayor's signature on the Dispatch Service Agreement with Kit Carson County. Motion passed unanimously.

**B. Approval of mayor's signature on Kit Carson County and City of Burlington Intergovernmental Agreement to Merge Public Health Agencies**

With this agreement, Kit Carson County Department of Health and Environment will continue to provide for essential public health services to all areas in the incorporated limits of the City of Burlington, including environmental health services, health inspections and investigations of public and private establishments and other environmental situations to ensure compliance with local and state health and safety codes. Cost to the city annually is \$1.50 per capita in addition to associated costs, which would not exceed \$750 per quarter.

Motion by Burghart and second from Carter to approve mayor's signature on the Kit Carson County and City of Burlington Intergovernmental Agreement to Merge Public Health Agencies.

Motion passed unanimously.

**C. Approval of mayor's signature on Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Kit Carson County and the City of Burlington, NAVAID agreement**

This MOU is between the City of Burlington and Kit Carson County for the purpose of maintenance, repair and upgrades of the navigation system (NAVAID) and providing further maintenance, repairs or upgrades of airport-related systems at Burlington-Kit Carson County Airport. City and County would split the current monthly maintenance fee of \$2,122.92 plus repairs and upgrades for the NAVAID system up to the amount of \$6,000 per year, at which time the parties would negotiate the amount paid by each.

Motion by Carter and second by Burghart to approve mayor's signature on the Memorandum of Understanding between Kit Carson County and the City of Burlington for the NAVAID system.

Motion passed unanimously.

**D. Approval of mayor's signature on Memorandum of Understanding between Kit Carson County and the City of Burlington, VA Clinic agreement**

In this agreement, City of Burlington and Kit Carson County would enter into an MOU for the purpose of procurement of insurance and basic maintenance provisions for the VA Clinic. The county would pay the city for costs associated with procurement of building insurance and basic maintenance costs, which total \$5,000 annually. City will secure insurance and provide payment of all maintenance concerns.

Motion by Gilley and second from Schultz to approve the mayor's signature on the Memorandum of Understanding between Kit Carson County and the City of Burlington regarding the VA Clinic.

Motion passed unanimously.

**E. Approval of temporary permit for liquor license for CF Altitude LLC, DBA ALTA #6142**

Motion by Burghart and a second from Carter to approve a temporary permit for a liquor license for CF Altitude LLC, DBA ALTA #6142.

Motion passed unanimously.

**F. Appointment of Nathaniel Hill as Chief of Police**

Keehne reviewed his report in the council packet regarding the appointment of Nathaniel Hill as Chief of Police.

Motion by Weisshaar and second from Burghart to appoint Nathaniel Hill as Chief of Police. There was no discussion.

Voting yay: Weisshaar, Burghart, Schultz and Carter

Voting nay: Gilley

Motion passed 4-1.

City attorney Michael Grinnan swore in Nathaniel Hill as Chief of Police.

**8. Reports from city departments**

Administrator and clerk reports were in the council packet. Keehne briefly reviewed his report, indicating he sent the 2021 approved budget to DOLA, as required, and it has been accepted and is on file with the state.

There were no questions from council members.

**9. Council comments**

Council members requested Microsoft Teams invites for the department head meeting Jan. 13.

**10. Adjournment**

With a motion by Burghart and second from Carter, the meeting adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

Motion passed.

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Greg Swiatkowski, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Georgia Gilley, City Clerk

City Council,

On January 13, 2021, Bruce Corman approached the City to determine the process for approval of City utilities to be provided to a new construction building, property known as 112 Webster Avenue, and owned by Mr. Corman. Where the building is being constructed is sited directly behind this 112 Webster Avenue, known as 5.97 acre tract, South of Railroad in NW4 and improvements on Railroad Section: 31 Township: 8 Range: 43. Although this parcel is adjacent to and shares a boundary with the City, the parcel is not within the limits of the City of Burlington. As no building permit is required for building construction, Mr. Corman is in need of utilities (water, electric, wastewater) which he has requested the City to provide as there are no other services available to this parcel except for electric which could be provided by KC Electric. Currently, services to 112 Webster are in place and provided by the City for water, sewer, and electric utilities.

As this property is located outside the boundaries of the City, there are several routes available to allow for service provisions:

1. Annex property into City whereby City would have to provide services. Mr. Corman is amenable to this route though it may slow the project down. From the City's perspective, there is no upside to annex the property without annexing adjacent lands which may be problematic and pose a hardship to adjacent property owners.
2. Provide services to Mr. Corman's property, whereby electric would be trenched from existing transformer to new building, water would be accessed through line that terminates at corner of property. Sewer would be run from new building and tie into sewer line from existing building.
  - a. The water line that terminates at corner of property is a 2" galvanized line that services businesses and residences outside the City limits to the East. This line is in need of replacement and we propose to upgrade to an 8" PVC line that will come from well on 1<sup>st</sup> Street. A fire hydrant will be placed at point of termination. Existing manholes are already in place with no additional needs necessary.
  - b. Although the electric transformer resides in the City boundaries, the building that it will service is outside the City limits, thereby it being outside our service area. We will work with KC Electric to engage in an agreement to allow for this to take place.
  - c. There is no real effect on the existing sewer system, though a line and tap will have to be implemented with the proper cleanouts and traps in place at the building site, to be provided by Mr. Corman.

Mr. Corman discussed his needs and has requested a 1.5" water line, 240 Amp 3 Phase Electric transformer, and a standard sewer tap. A look at the property has revealed an existing 120 Amp 3 phase Transformer in place that will provide adequate power for new construction. Transformer has to be re-energized but is fully operational.

City of Burlington Municipal Code Section 13.04 Water Use Regulations, Section 13.04.040 Size of service tap. No service tap shall be more than three-fourths inches in diameter; provided, that the city council may grant special permission for larger taps where the water supply and service facilities are sufficient to permit such taps. Where a larger tap is permitted, the city council shall fix the tapping charge therefor.

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In early 2020, council established a tapping fee for 1.5" taps at \$15,000.00 or 4 times the EQR set at \$3,750.00.

City of Burlington Municipal Code, Section 13.08 Sewer Service Regulations, Section 13.08.040 Tap Fee. At the time of filing a commercial application, the applicant shall pay a tapping fee of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) per EQR unit.

In early 2000, council established a tapping fee for sewer of \$1,500 per EQR + \$50.00 inspection fee. Sewer service for this building is 1 EQR.

To provide for Electrical service as previously noted, there is an existing transformer with adequate power to meet the needs of new construction. This transformer will have to be energized with new service drop installed. Additionally, new meter will have to be in place. Costs associated with this if able to enter into agreement with KC Electric will be \$1,750.00.

The City desires to provide for utility services to property whose legal description is: 5.97 acre tract, South of Railroad in NW4 and improvements on Railroad Section: 31 Township: 8 Range: 43, a tract of land that is adjacent to and sharing a boundary with the City of Burlington.

Parcel: 00553310843049



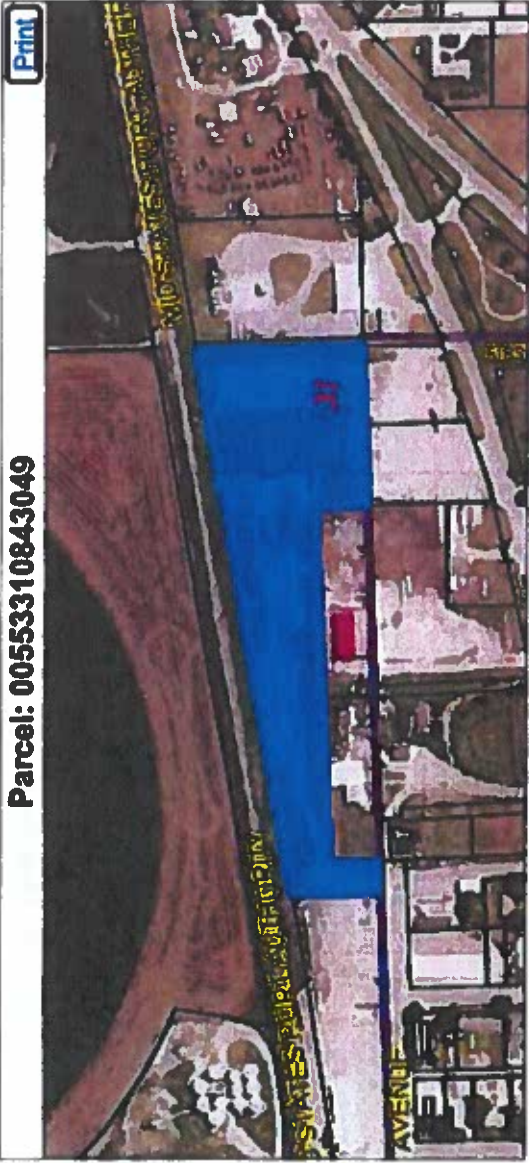
Primary Owner	L & L RANCHES INC
Care Of	
Address Line 1	PO BOX 519
Address Line 2	
City	BURLINGTON
State	CO
Business Name	
Zipcode	80807-0519
Note: if there are multiple owners they will not all be displayed here.	

Location Number	
Location Street	
Designation	
Location City	
Location Zip	0
Classification	WAREHOUSE/STORAGE- LAND
Acres	5.97
Land Sqft	0
Tax Area	610
Total Value	8955
Assessed Value	2597
Mill Levy	71.52
Taxes	For current tax amounts contact the treasurer's office.
Legal	Tract: 5.97AC TR S OF RR IN NW4 & IMP ON RR

No photo available for this property.



Parcel: 00553310843049



Primary Owner	L & L RANCHES INC
Care Of	
Address Line 1	PO BOX 519
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No photo available for this property.



**CITY OF BURLINGTON  
BUILDING PERMIT FEES**

**UTILITY TAP FEE SCHEDULE**

<b>ELECTRIC</b>	<b>RESIDENTIAL (per 200 amp service)</b>	<b>COMMERCIAL (based on service required + installation costs)</b>
Overhead	\$ 1,750.00	\$ 1,750.00
Underground	\$ 2,500.00	

<b>WATER</b>	<b>RESIDENTIAL 3/4" Tap = 1 EQR</b>	<b>COMMERCIAL 3/4" Tap = 1 EQR</b>
3/4" = 1 EQR	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 3,750.00
1" = 1.78		\$ 6,675.00
1.5" = 4		\$ 15,000.00
2" = 7.12		\$ 26,700.00
3" = 16.01		\$ 60,037.50
4" = 28.47		\$ 106,762.50
8" = 113.88		\$ 427,050.00

<b>SEWER</b>	<b>RESIDENTIAL</b>	<b>COMMERCIAL</b>
1 EQR	\$1,500 + \$50 Inspection	\$1,500 + \$50 Inspection - Standard
		\$1,500 x EQR



January 25, 2021

## City Administrator's Summary Report

January 11 - 25, 2021

### Administration

- The 2021 adopted budget along with Budget Letter, and accompanying ordinances and documents was filed with Colorado Department of Local Affairs as statutorily required. Budget was accepted and approved on January 24, 2021.
- Currently, we are over 11 months into the COVID-19 pandemic. I have attached at the end of this report a weekly media release from our Health Department on where Kit Carson County stands with our addressing of the pandemic and the distribution of the new vaccines that have been rolling out since we last met. Note that the positivity rate over the last two weeks is at 15.6%, up from the 14% of a couple of weeks ago. January positivity rate is at 16.6% and we are trending down at this time. Remember, we are shooting for a 10% positivity rate. Once we get to 10% positivity, and can maintain for a couple of weeks, our dial will be turned to yellow, allowing for more openings, larger gatherings, and the ability to not meet virtually. Our 10% rate can be achieved through social distancing, washing hands, sanitizing work-space, and mask wearing. We are still operating under these parameters and complying with orders issued by both the Governor's Office, Colorado State Department of Public Health and Environment, and Kit Carson County Public Health Directives.

Worldwide there have been over 98 million persons infected by the virus, with over 2 million reported deaths attributed to the infection. 25.5% (25 million) of all reported cases have occurred in the U.S. which has also reported over 415,000 attributable deaths. Colorado has experienced over 385,000 confirmed cases. As of January 22, Kit Carson County has reported 483 positive cases, up 38 cases in the last two weeks, and mortality of ten persons.

- The Burlington Housing Authority met virtually January 12, 2021, where financial reporting and bill payment occurred. Additionally, policies for Senior/Disabled Unit Leases, Write Off Policies, Sustainability Plan, Pet Policies, No-Smoking Policies, Violence Against Women Policies, and Grievance Procedures were reviewed and approved. A Special Meeting will be held this week (TBD) to review Inventory Control Policy, Individual Relief of Utility Allowance Policy, and updated ACOP.

- Over the last two weeks, we have been developing our goals for 2021. This has entailed creating milestones for achieving goals, documenting action steps that must be achieved, and developing Gantt Charts for each goal that places on time-line. This tool will ensure that we are continuously making effort to achieve goals and doing it in the most expedient manner. A copy of the Gantt charts will be sent separately to you for your review. Please note that several of the are not fully completed as we know that additional milestones must be developed and documented as we move toward goal achievement.

## Operations/Public Works

- **Water/Wastewater**

Water department received word that by the end of March, 2021, all chlorine gas injected wells must be converted to in line injection. Currently looking at the cost to convert the remaining 5 gas wells to solution injections. Will be working with HOA to do this. Estimates at this time indicate it will take approximately \$1500 per well to convert. This will be taken from operating expenses in the 2021 budget. The conversion of each well must documentation for the State that contains engineering reports from qualified water quality engineers. We will be contracting with Merrick and Company of Denver to create these reports as they are very familiar with our system.

  - Well Maintenance
  - WWTF Maintenance
  - Sewer Flushing
  - Sanitary Survey preparation underway
- **Parks**
  - Cleaning and servicing bathrooms in parks
  - Servicing of equipment underway
- **Streets**
  - Street sweeping underway.
  - Pothole repair and maintenance in process.
  - Grading and cleaning of alleys underway.
  - Equipment maintenance
  - Sign maintenance and repair
  - Repair of Swimming Pool Fence
- **Electric**

Moved advertising strategies for apprentice/lineman positions to different platforms. Over the last two weeks, have received 40 applications, many not qualified. Last week we conducted virtual interviews of which all have been scored. We are looking to bring on two apprentice linemen to assist with the maintenance and development of our utility system. All applicants interviewed

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have experience and are involved in the Merchant Program, a program we have utilized in Burlington, whereby the bookwork is self-paced and done on site. Each level is accompanied by on-the-job training and experience as they progress through the different levels of the apprentice program (4 levels). Our intent is to hire two persons this week and have them on-site in the next 30 days.

- Main Electric has been supplied with the staking sheets to install switches and are currently working with the City Crew to get the lines installed and powered, providing the department to isolate issues and problems with the West Loop. As of today, Main Electric has indicated they will be here on the first week of February to perform the wiring and then return approximately 1 month later to install switches (once they arrive). We are working with Atwell to get work scheduled sooner if possible.
  - During the month of January, four outages occurred:
    - 1/5 – High winds and inclement weather caused outage on East Circuit where recloser had tripped. Recloser was closed in and power restored. Outage lasted 30 minutes.
    - 1/6 - High winds and inclement weather caused outage on East Circuit where reclosure had tripped. Recloser was closed in and power restored. Outage lasted 30 minutes.
    - 1/15 – High winds caused outage on East Circuit where recloser had tripped. Recloser was closed in and power restored. Outage lasted 10 minutes.
    - 1/20 – Bird in transformer, caused power blink in West Circuit, and power outage in 300 block between 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> street. Fuse was replaced and power restored. Outage was 28 minutes in duration.
  - Started installing LED lights on Lincoln and Rose. LED lights require less energy, are longer lasting, and brighter. Installation will result in reduction to energy loss and savings to the City.
  - Continuing work with Damien Berger, Electrical Engineer from Atwell on design needed to take load off West Loop.

## **Public Safety**

Report to be provided by Chief of Police

## **Intergovernmental/Upcoming Events**

- Budget approval from DOLA, January 21, 2021
- BHA Meeting – Thursday January 29, 2021, 4:00 P.M., Virtual
- Management Team Meeting – Virtual – Wednesdays 2:00 P.M.
- Health Department Meetings – Virtual – Thursdays 8:30 A.M.



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To: City council members  
From: Georgia Gilley, Clerk  
Date: Jan. 25, 2021  
Subject: Clerk's report

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### **General office**

January has been busy with general office duties. I've set up a new employee for the police department, monitored resumes for the electric department opening, worked with DACT for new employee and first-quarter drug screens, answered information requests, filed a claim with CIRSA for roof damage at Old Town, process work comp files, and take care of other regular daily business matters.

When the Xerox copier lease was due to run out in December, we negotiated a new five-year lease through Lewan, as you know. The city will realize a savings of approximately \$348 per month. The monthly lease payment was reduced by \$100 per month, and the monthly service fee was dropped altogether. Additionally, we now pay per copy printed, rather than by a copy count package. At the beginning of January, three new large copiers were delivered to city hall, police department and activities department. Five desktop copiers were installed January 15 at Old Town, library, airport, water department and light plant.

### **COVID-19**

Our doors have been open since the first of the month, and things are about back to normal. People prefer to pay at the counter, rather than using the drop box. We continue to mask up, wash our hands, stay distanced and sanitize.

At the time of this report, there are no city employees out due to COVID-19 isolation or quarantine.

### **Liquor licenses**

There have been no new liquor licenses applications or renewals turned in.



[www.burlington.com](http://www.burlington.com)

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415 15<sup>th</sup> Street Burlington, CO 80807 Phone 719-346-8652 Fax 719-346-8397

To: City Council  
From: Becky Castillo, City Treasurer  
Date: 1/22/2021  
Re: Treasurer's Report

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- Currently, we are still not adding any penalties to anyone's utility bill due to paying after the due date and we are NOT shutting off properties due to nonpayment on the account.
- COVID-19 precautions have been established at City Hall trying to limit the contact we have with the public. All utility payments can be made online through Xpress bill pay or by dropping off payments in the night drop at City Hall to still help with slowing down the spread of the virus. We encourage connects and disconnects to still be done through email or mail to avoid as much public contact as possible but if able to come into office we just ask they mask up.
- Process payroll on a bi-weekly basis, payroll taxes, Old Town Sales Tax and Utility and Airport Sales tax.
- Process accounts payable weekly.
- Preparing W2's in hopes to have them distributed to employees by the 25<sup>th</sup> or 26<sup>th</sup>.
- The audit for 2020 is scheduled from May 3<sup>rd</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>. I will be getting documents to the auditors as they request them to make the process go as smooth and quickly as possible.
- I have enrolled in my next college course. It is starting January 25<sup>th</sup>. I am going to be taking a payroll class. This class will help confirm that the proper procedures are being followed and will help with more taxable payroll knowledge.
- The Outback Bus currently has 2 new part time drivers. We are hoping to have a 3<sup>rd</sup> part time driver (returning from injury) by mid-February so we will be able to evaluate the possibility of extending the hours of the bus. We are requesting all riders to wear a mask and driver(s) are sanitizing the bus daily to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.



340 S. 14<sup>th</sup> St Burlington, CO 80807 Tel:(719) 346-8918 Fax:(719) 346-8982 tyson.weisshaar@burlingtoncolo.com

## Burlington Activities Department

### January 20, 2021

→ We continue to offer rentals for events and meetings. Currently we are seeing a few smaller rentals come back on a regular basis. On the orange level, we can accommodate up to 50 in the big room, 20 in the rec room, 8 in room B, and 6 in room A. We did have the 2021 Winter Conference for Precision Planting on January 19, with nearly 50 people in attendance. We set up 2 chairs per 8' table and had all the tables spaced out at least 6' from each other as well. Overall, things went very well, and it was nice to have people back in the facility.

→ Programs continue, as we have martial arts & dance on their monthly basis. They are both meeting in person and following all capacity restrictions. The instructors are doing a great job making sure to disinfect & clean between classes.

→ The annual Breakfast with Santa event was modified to a drive thru event we called Cookies with Santa. We decorated the garage doors to look like giant snowmen, decorated the south lawn and parts of the west lawn, and ended up having about 217 kids come through the line. Frosty and Rudolph were here to accept letters for the North Pole mailbox, and many of Santa's elves were here to hand out homemade sugar cookies, goody bags, and books. Santa and Mrs. Claus were both here as well waving and visiting with the kids from the south steps.

→ We are working with the No Till conference coordinator and board of directors in preparation for the upcoming No Till conference. The decision was made to postpone from the original dates in February to August 24 & 25. The plan is to have the conference in person, following any guidelines and restrictions that are in place at that time. Hopefully things will be better as we move through 2021 and with vaccinations. Just excited to keep them coming here for the conference.

→ Other Activities in the works: Rentals of Community Center, winter programs, CIP





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14111 US Highway 385 - Burlington CO 80807 - 719.346.5352

## Council Report 1.26.2021

- Continuing work on the Master Plan project for 2019
  - The Master plan has been completed and we are now in the process of closing out the grant.
  - If you are interested in a copy of the final Master Plan, let me know and I can email you a link to view it digitally.
- Runway Fog seal and repaint project for 2021
  - Submitted grant application to CDOT and we should get approval sometime in February

### December 2019 Fuel

Total- 2,606.41 Gallons

Avgas- 672.82 gallons

Jet fuel- 1,933.59 Gallons

Gross sales- \$ 9,440.83

### December 2020 Fuel

Total- 3,074.50 Gallons

Avgas- 793.54 gallons

Jet fuel- 2,280.96 Gallons

Gross sales- \$ 8,492.20



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14111 US Highway 385 - Burlington CO 80807 - 719.346.5352

**2020 total fuel sales**

Total Gallons 2020- **56,090.18**    Gross Revenue 2020- **167,860.56**

**2019 total fuel sales**

Total Gallons 2019- **73,235.95**    Gross Revenue 2019- **\$248,557.27**

**“Eastern Colorado’s Premier Aviation Experience”**

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## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT FROM ROL

As we begin the New Year, I think it is prudent to provide you with an update on private and state- owned prisons status.

Colorado has significantly lowered its prison population at the conclusion of 2020. However, state analysts expect it will start trending upward again soon.

After peaking at 23,000 inmates in 2009, the state prison population has held steady at around 20,000 in recent years. The state reports that the population has declined 16.4 percent since February, down to approximately 16,000, and the vacancy rate in state prisons has gone from 1 percent in February to 25 percent in November.

This is a massive shift from the previous trajectory. Just two years ago, that state expected the population to reach a record 25,000 in 2025. So urgent was state government's perceived need to prepare for growing numbers that lawmakers in 2019 passed a bill to allow for the reopening of Centennial South, the decommissioned Canon City prison that was built for solitary confinement. The state put more than \$1 million toward renovating the prison in anticipation of population growth.

The state now projects the inmate population to bottom out at 15,767 in 2021, then rise to close to 17,000 by 2023.

Several reasons the population has fallen this past year are the release of prisoners deemed to be low-risk and a 2019 bill to reduce penalties on drug possession charges. The state reports that district court drug felony filings are down 61.7 percent in 11 months.

The population was trending downward before the pandemic.

Discretionary parole releases climbed 54 percent in the first six months of Gov. Jared Polis term in 2019 compared to the same period in 2018.

Gov. Polis also appointed Dean Williams as the director of the Colorado Department of Corrections. Williams has said many times he hopes to see the prison population decline.

The reason the state expects the population to tick back upward after 2021 is that there will be fewer prisoners deemed low-risk to release in the near future since the Colorado Department of Corrections has released many who might have qualified for release in 2021 or 2022 this past year in an effort to contain the pandemic.

It now appears that Bent and Crowley private prisons will both be in operation in 2021.

I can relate to you that the commissioners of both counties made an excellent pitch to the Colorado Department of Corrections and to Gov. Polis.

Apparently, it was successful.

This is excellent for both counties as closure of either one would be economically devastating.

If the state is correct on their new forecasting, I will be quite surprised if both facilities will remain operational with in-state prisoners. I certainly hope I am incorrect in making that statement

In my conversations with Core Civic, they continue to remain optimistic about getting the Kit Carson Correctional Center re-opened.

Greg Brophy will continue to monitor the Colorado Department of Corrections, along with special legislative committees and the governor's office to keep us up to date on what may happen to the private prison industry in Colorado.

After you have read this report, you are now up to date on the progress of getting the Kit Carson Correctional open once again.

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## The Library

1/25/21

- Library Board is starting process to create a Friends of the Library group
  - More access to grant funding
  - More opportunity for fundraisers
  - Help library afford bigger events (book signings, summer programs)
- Spending CARES grant
  - Items for at-home programming
- Planning summer reading program
- 2021 is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Burlington Library
  - Planning small events throughout year to celebrate
    - Dependent on COVID restrictions
- February 25th, the library will host a Genealogy specialist
  - Virtual program, open to all interested
  - People can participate from home
  - Split the cost with Wray Library

**Checkouts:** 603

**Visits:** 405

**Programs:** 2 for 11 people

Nick McCarty-Daniels

## January City Council Report—Old Town Museum

- November and December proved to be great months for retail sales and visits for Old Town. December closed out \$10k above 2019, thanks in part to our very successful Winter Wonderlights event that welcomed over 1,000 people in 7 days. Overall, our year end revenue was up over 2019 as well. We are thankful that people chose to shop locally this year and not travel to the cities as much.
- We are now of course hard at work in getting all the lights down and Christmas trees undecorated and put away for the year. With both Michelle and James out due to surgery and illness, it has taken much longer than normal. I am most thankful for the volunteers that we have had come down to help us—Angela & Olivia Berry, Rol Hudler, Jerry Wolf, Riley Barnes, Cory Wall and Kendra Rhoades have all taken turns in helping us out.
- Inventory is underway, along with planning for capital improvement projects.
- January is traditionally a slow month for retail sales, but we are booking rentals for the remainder of 2021 and beyond.

