



### 1% SALES TAX INCREASE EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2016

On November 3, 2015, Fraser voters approved an additional sales tax of 1% to provide revenues for public-transit, public multi-modal

transportation improvements, public trails and capital projects.

Sales tax is applicable to retail sales of tangible personal property and certain services. The current municipal sales tax amount is 4%; it will become 5% on January 1<sup>st</sup>. The total sales tax applicable to purchases in Fraser will be 8.9% (5% municipal, 1% county and 2.9% state). There is no increase in the use tax rate applicable to building materials or vehicle purchases, the use tax remains at 4%.

Transit service during the 2015-2016 ski season will be very similar to service levels provided during the prior season. However, we are working to extend service hours to as late as 2:00 AM. In 2016 we look forward to year round service! View current public transit routes and schedules – [www.winterparkguide.com/maps/bus-maps](http://www.winterparkguide.com/maps/bus-maps)

Voters also approved a ballot question which provides the opportunity for the Town to consider providing public broadband services. Evaluating these opportunities is part of our 2016 work plan.

### SOLID WASTE PLANNING INITIATIVE FUNDED BY GRANT

The Colorado Department of Health and Environment (CDPHE) approved our grant application for a municipal solid waste diversion planning initiative!

The grant award, \$31,815, will underwrite our efforts to facilitate a regional discussion regarding opportunities and strategies to reduce the volume of materials headed to landfills. The grant leverages the \$6,000 expended by Fraser in 2015 and staff hours that will be dedicated to the project. This work will commence early in 2016.



### Town Board

Mayor: Peggy Smith

Mayor Pro Tem:

Philip Vandernail

Trustees: Jane Mather

Andy Miller

Katie Soles

Cody Clayton Taylor

Eileen Waldow

Town Board meets 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>

Wednesdays

Workshop at 6 PM

Meeting at 7 PM\*

### Planning Commission

Chair: Jean Wolter

Commissioners:

Mayor Peggy Smith

Herb Meyring

Parnell Quinn

Steve Sumrall

Cody Clayton Taylor

Debbie Young

Planning Commission meets the 4<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesday at 6:30 PM\*

\*See meeting agendas at  
[www.frasercolorado.com](http://www.frasercolorado.com)

*When you see these folks,  
please tell them "THANK YOU!"  
for their service!*

Fraser Town Hall  
153 Fraser Avenue  
P. O. Box 370  
Fraser, CO 80442



HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!

## THE FRASER TOWN BOARD ELECTION IS APRIL 5, 2016

One way to serve your community is to enter the race for one of four Town Board positions this spring. Terms held by the Mayor and three Trustees will expire. Interested citizens are always encouraged to run.

As early as January 5, candidates can obtain nomination petitions from Town Clerk, Lu Berger at Fraser Town Hall.



## PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS UPDATE

Both the County Road 804 road construction project and the North Sewer System Rehabilitation and Replacement project have wrapped for the season. Grand County will be providing routine road maintenance for 804 during the winter months. As soon as weather allows, the contractors will return to complete these projects in the spring of 2016.

## SHOPPING IN FRASER HAS NEVER BEEN EASIER!

In addition to Murdoch's opening in early December, other business activity near Murdoch's includes **Julio's Mexican Grill** expansion. January will bring the opening of Dr. Carrie Nedele's **Grand Animal Hospital** veterinary clinic for small animals, specializing in internal medicine and surgery. She and technician Kim Huntington look forward to providing client education and answering questions about your pets!



The newly completed **Grand Valley Flooring** building on Hwy. 40 near Rocky Mountain Moonshine now houses Jeff Ehler's **Grand Fly Fishing**, and Aley Bair's **The Mattress Company**. Let's welcome these businesses to our community by shopping in Fraser!

## TRASH RECEPTICLES IN THE STREET ARE DANGEROUS

Trash cans or bins left in the street: 1) pose traffic hazards, 2) can cause delays in snow plowing, 3) are blown about by wind, and 4) encourage animals to forage for food. Fraser Municipal Code, Article 7, Wildlife Protection, speaks to minimizing dangerous interaction between humans and wildlife. Residents with curbside pickup shall place containers at the curb after 6 a.m. and after pickup, remove them from the curb by 8 p.m. on the same day. Residential containers are to be secured inside the home or garage. Those unable to do this must use wildlife-proof containers and obtain storage location approval from the Town Building Official.



❄️ **BRING FOOD BANK DONATIONS TO TOWN HALL** ❄️

## Town of Fraser EMPLOYEE CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone 970-726-5491

Fax 970-726-5518

www.frasercolorado.com

### Town Manager

Jeff Durbin x202  
jdurbin@town.fraser.co.us

### Assistant Town Manager

Bektur Sakiev x212  
bsakiev@town.fraser.co.us

### Town Clerk

Lu Berger x201  
lberger@town.fraser.co.us  
(general questions, liquor licenses, elections)

### Finance Manager

Nat Havens x206  
nhavens@town.fraser.co.us

### Town Planner:

Catherine Trotter x209  
ctrotter@town.fraser.co.us  
(zoning, planning, building)

### Public Works Director

Allen Nordin x205  
anordin@town.fraser.co.us  
(streets, water, wastewater)

### Public Works Administrator & Project Manager

Susan Stone x203  
sstone@town.fraser.co.us

### Utilities Administrator

Nancy Anderson x207  
nanderson@town.fraser.co.us  
(water & wastewater billing)

### Maintenance Facility x230

### Fraser-Winter Park Police

Chief Glen Trainor 722-7779  
Animal Control 722-7779



## WATER AND WASTEWATER RATES INCREASE 5% IN 2016



### Water

\$153.00 per quarter base rate\*, plus  
\$1.50 per thousand gallons water usage

\*per Single Family Equivalent

### Sewer

\$137.50 per quarter\*

These rates will be reflected in the first quarter billing mailed on March 31, 2016.

## EXCERPTS FROM THE 2016 OVERVIEW and BUDGET MESSAGE

The Town Board has expressed a strong commitment to ensuring the fiscal sustainability of the organization while providing the highest level of service within our available resources.

Throughout the budget process, the Town Board has identified challenges that threaten near term fiscal sustainability for the organization. Further, absent effective mitigating actions by the Town, the impact of these challenges may result in significant reductions to levels of service, changes to the Town's tax structure, and/or increases in service fees. These challenges are summarized as follows:

- Sales tax revenues provide approximately 75% of the revenue in the General Fund which provides for the general operations of the Town. The Fraser business community is relatively small, therefore otherwise minor changes can have a significant impact on revenues that are relied upon for general operations. For example, should the Town of Winter Park be successful in soliciting a grocery store, this would most certainly result in reductions in Fraser sales tax revenues.
- Our long range plans, policies and codes need review, especially in north Fraser, to confirm that they accurately reflect our community vision for the future.
- The desire to coordinate and improve solid waste management programs, energy efficiency, and best business sustainability practices.
- While the Town of Fraser has made great strides to improve its records management programs, this is a critical function for the organization and needs further resources to ensure effective and efficient management of our community's public records.
- Demands on the Public Works Department exceed current resources in the department, especially in terms of winter snow management, water and sewer operations, and open space and trails maintenance.
- Absent significant investment in water system infrastructure, the Town may not be able to meet its mission of providing a safe, reliable, and sustainable water supply into the future.
- Inflow and infiltration into the Town's wastewater collections system is resulting in operational challenges at the Upper Fraser Valley Wastewater Treatment Facility which will require multi-million dollar capital projects at the Facility to avoid violations of our permits, unless we act to reduce the collection system inflow and infiltration problems.

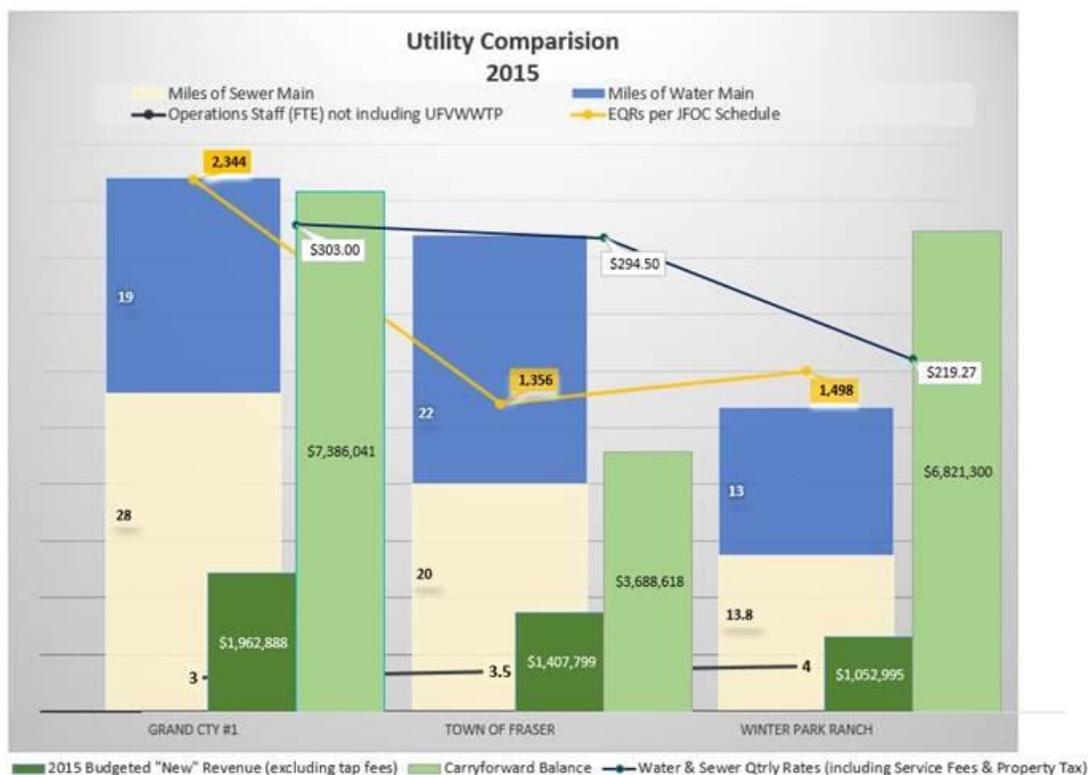
In addition to the baseline services, the Town Board included provisions in the 2016 Budget to mitigate the challenges facing the community as identified above. These include:

- \$50,000 for economic development programs. \$25,000 is allocated to the Business Enhancement Grant Program and \$25,000 for further consulting services toward development of comprehensive economic development policies.
- Fraser will provide a \$5,000 contribution to the Grand Enterprise Initiative. This countywide initiative is designed to provide business owners free confidential support and assistance, with the goal of growing local businesses.
- \$25,000 is appropriated for attainable housing consulting services. This has been identified as a significant community concern. In addition to these resources, the Fraser Town Board has committed to collaborate with the Town of Winter Park toward possible regional solutions.

- \$50,000 is appropriated for downtown planning initiatives. This work will involve a community conversation about our shared visions and expectations for the community, and help define strategies to implement this vision.
- \$35,000 is provided for Sustainability Efforts. These efforts will consider solid waste management and renewable energy opportunities. Over \$31,000 of this work is funded by a grant from the Colorado Department of Health and Environment to help us facilitate regional dialogue regarding opportunities for municipal solid waste diversion initiatives (trash, recycling, etc).
- The Water and Wastewater Funds include budget appropriations for significant capital projects as identified in the Capital Improvement Plans.
- An \$80,000 expenditure is budgeted for replacement of the Zerex Avenue streetlights with LED fixtures. This would be underwritten by a grant estimated at \$30,000.

In addition to the above, the following are noteworthy additions and funding changes from the 2015 Budget:

- On November 3<sup>rd</sup>, voters approved an increase in the municipal sales tax rate from 4% to 5% to fund transit, trails, and capital projects. A new fund has been established for the accounting of this revenue and related expenditures, the Restricted Revenue Fund. As we work to implement the transition from a resort shuttle to a public year-round transit system, these expenditures will be accounted for in this new fund. While this fund provides for trail expenditures, trail expenditures are also provided for in the General Fund to ensure adequate trail funding during the establishment of the transit system.
- Both the Water and Wastewater Funds include 5% increases to base service rates.



- Revenues and expenditures in the Debt Service Fund will decrease because we are paying off a portion of the street debt early. The property tax used for payment of this debt has been terminated by the Town Board resulting in a decrease of 2.53 mills.
- Legal and engineering fees in the General Fund, Water Fund and Wastewater Fund have been increased in anticipation of ongoing matters that require this support. These include

water diligence matters, protection of the Town's interests as Byers Peak Ranch pursues new water rights and county development approvals, and wastewater permitting matters.

- 117 Eisenhower (the Historic Church and Community Center) needs to be painted in 2016. The budget provides \$18,000 for this work.
- The Highway 40 paved pedestrian trail needs a slurry seal in 2016 at an estimated expense of \$20,000.
- The Capital Asset Fund includes revenues and expenditures for the Fraser Highway 40 Improvement Project (two traffic signals and highway widening at the south side of the community). This project was initiated in the 2014 Budget, however, the project will not be completed until 2016.

Additionally, the Board directed staff to include the following in the 2016 work plan, though funding has not been appropriated:

- Begin exploration and evaluation of opportunities to enhance broadband services.
- Seek grant funding for pedestrian enhancements around the Holiday Inn Express (intersection of Highway 40 and County Road 804).

To view this message in its entirety, visit

[www.frasercolorado.com/government/department/finance](http://www.frasercolorado.com/government/department/finance) and click on the Budget link.

### **A MESSAGE FROM MAYOR PEGGY SMITH**



This is the time of year when we reflect upon our accomplishments. 2015 was a year with exciting changes for Fraser. I hope you will join me in welcoming Murdoch's to Fraser! We are very excited to have them - judging from the cars in the parking lot they have solved the county's pent up demand for retail therapy! After over 20 years of discussion about transit, Fraser and Winter Park voters passed a sales tax increase to fund year round transit and to provide a sustainable source of funding for trails in the

Fraser Valley. We made major investments in infrastructure this year including adding two traffic signals and widening Highway 40 to four lanes from Kings Crossing Road to the Fire Station. I want to thank our partners CDOT, Grand Park and Rendezvous for providing over 2 million dollars of funding for this project. We partnered with the County to widen County Road 804 and worked with Grand County Water and Sanitation District No. 1 on the Big Dig which will provide for augmentation storage for north Fraser. The Town Board made economic development a priority in 2015 and will focus on transit, broadband and affordable housing in 2016 and will continue to work collaboratively with the Town of Winter Park, the Winter Park Fraser Valley Chamber and the Winter Park Resort on making the Fraser Valley a sustainable community for everyone who lives, works and plays here.

I want to thank the Town staff who are responsible for all the day to day operations. First of all I want to thank Jeff Durbin for all of his hard work and for his guidance. We are very fortunate to have a Town Manager who tirelessly works to make Fraser a great place to live and work. I also want to thank our staff for all their long hours and dedication - Nat Havens, our Finance Director whose financial acumen and integrity allows all of us to sleep at night knowing the town's finances are in good hands; Lu Berger, Town Clerk and our Chief Compliance Officer who makes sure that we follow all the State statutes, files all the paper work and makes sure everything runs smoothly—thank you, we could not run the Town without you! Catherine Trotter, our Town Planner whose vision and professionalism keeps the town moving forward. She is responsible for the \$136,000 grant we received from Great Outdoors Colorado for the pedestrian bridge in the Cozens Ranch Open Space. In addition, Catherine accepted a Colorado Association of Transit Agencies award for the design and implementation of the bus shelter at Gorenson Station, by local designers Krista Klancke and Tim Hodsdon. Thank you, Catherine for all of your hard work! Allen Nordin and his Public Works staff maintain the infrastructure that enables us to live in an environment that is not always hospitable. Among a multitude of tasks, they keep our drinking

water safe and our roads plowed—thank you! Joe Fuqua and his staff keep our Wastewater Treatment Plant working and provide us with the most accurate information of peak infrastructure use in the valley - thank you! Glen Trainor and his staff for keeping the Fraser Valley a safe place to play and live and a fun place for our visitors.

The Water and Wastewater Committee meets monthly to make sure we are providing excellent service at a reasonable cost to our citizens. Thanks to Ron Anderson, Jane Mather, Steve Radcliffe, Dennis Soles, Philip Vandernail and Eileen Waldow for your service.

In addition, I want to recognize the Planning Commission who have spent countless hours making recommendations to the Town Board. I want to thank these citizens for sharing their expertise with all of us, Jean Wolter, Chairperson, Debbie Young, Herb Meyring, Parnell Quinn, Steve Sumrall and Cody Clayton Taylor.

I would also like to recognize my fellow board members for all of their hard work and commitment to the Town of Fraser: Philip Vandernail, Eileen Waldow, Katie Soles, Jane Mather, Andy Miller and Cody Clayton Taylor.

**Thank you all for your hard work in 2015. I hope all of you have a great 2016!**



**2015 RECAP FROM THE COMBINED WINTER PARK/FRASER/GRANBY BUILDING DEPT.**

2015 was a busy year in Fraser as 76 building permits were issued for construction-related activities. Twenty single-family dwellings, five duplex structures, and three tri-plex structures were issued building permits for a total of 39 new dwelling units in Fraser. The Town also saw a new commercial structure built on Highway 40 which houses Grand Valley Flooring and two additional tenant spaces. Although not a new commercial structure, Murdoch's Ranch Supply moved into the old Alco space, which has been a welcomed addition to the community.



The New Year will bring some changes to the Winter Park/Fraser/Granby Building Department. Brian Szczepanski, who has been with the building department since 2006, will be stepping away from his responsibilities with the department to pursue other adventures. He plans to stay in the area but focus on spending more time with his family. Plans are already underway for a new Building Official to start in January, and Brian will be available to help ensure a smooth transition.



**HELP US HELP YOU!**

Disaster often strikes when we least expect it or are away from our property. Pipes can freeze because thermostats are set too low or because the thermostat battery dies, rendering it inoperable, or because pipes are in uninsulated/unheated areas. If this happens and you are not in town, it is helpful for the Town to have your contact information **so we can notify you if a water issue arises on your property**. The information we request is kept strictly confidential.

Property Owner Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Utility Billing Acct. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Property Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Property Owner Phone Contacts: home \_\_\_\_\_ cell \_\_\_\_\_  
Property Owner Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please submit this information with your utility billing payment to Nancy Anderson, Town of Fraser Utilities Administrator, or via [nanderson@town.fraser.co.us](mailto:nanderson@town.fraser.co.us) or 970-726-5491, ext. 207 Thank you!