

Coffee with the Mayor

Ser 30 (2025-4) Water infrastructure

I spent last week visiting my daughters and grandsons in Portland, OR and Thornton, CO. Thoroughly enjoyed spending time with both families! Have to say the coffee in Portland was better than the coffee in Thornton! My daughter in Portland and I both share a love of coffee which is why the coffee is better. The daughter in Thornton shares a love of tea with her mom so it balances out.

Last fall we contracted with Commonwealth Engineering to prepare a five-year plan to address our aging water infrastructure system. As you probably noticed, the Gas and Water department personnel are fixing a water leak somewhere in the city on an almost daily basis. The leaks range from minor in out of sight locations to major in heavily traveled highways and streets. Often valves that could be used to isolate water leaks do not work making the repair harder. With the daily reliance on water, it was time to look at seeing what could be done to improve the system.

This Thursday we will be presented with the plan recommended by Commonwealth. Not sure how extensive this plan will be, but the intent was to develop a five year, phased in plan with associated forecast of cost and possible grants. Completing this plan will be no easy task and I'm sure it will not be cheap. As with any update, there will be a lot of disruption within the community, but the end result will be worth it. We will take their recommendation and see how best to implement either all or in part. At least we will have an idea going forward.

It's been some time since I've provided an update on the dog park at the Evan Witty Memorial Park. As of last year, the fencing is in place, the shelter house complete and water line installed! Benches will be placed at both the shelter house and inside the fenced areas. When the weather allows, gravel will be placed to allow for parking in front of the fenced in area. Once the parking area is complete, the dog park will be open for use. I will make the official notice once that is accomplished. Later in the Spring a sign will be installed dedicating the area as the Evan Witty Memorial Park! Stay tuned for that announcement!