

Show Low Quarterly



a quarterly publication of the City of Show Low, Arizona

January-March 2013

www.showlowaz.gov

City's fiscal year 2014 budget process to begin

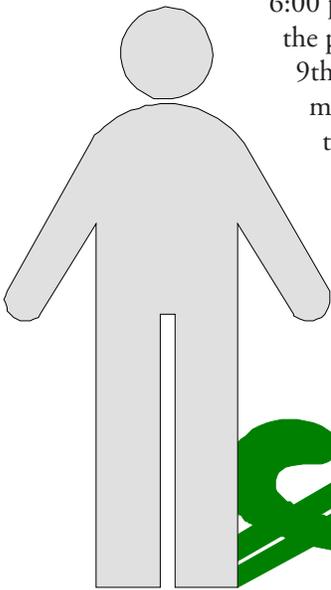
Like every business or household, the City of Show Low operates successfully by living within its means. A major tool is our annual budget which is built on a foundation of fiscal responsibility to our taxpayers, residents and customers.

Our fiscal year runs from July 1 through June 30. The Show Low City Council and staff begin preparations for the fiscal year 2014 (July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014) budget on January 15 with a 6:00 p.m. budget study session that is open to the public in Council Chambers, 181 North 9th Street (across from city hall). At this meeting, the Council's goals and priorities are reviewed, early revenue estimates are presented and a review of all major assumptions is done.

To ensure that the city's budget meets the needs of our residents, the Council has asked for as much citizen participation as possible. To that end, we have created a citizen

request form, available online at www.showlowaz.gov or by calling (928) 532-4024. Any citizen may utilize this form to present an idea

...continued on page 4



A tribute and farewell to Gerry Whipple

The City of Show Low lost one of its favorite sons in October 2012 when Council member Gerry Whipple passed away, leaving behind a legacy of public service to the City of Show Low that spanned 22 years. He served 12 years as mayor from 1990 to 2002, then returned and served as a Council member in 2004 until his passing.

The Show Low City Council honored Gerry Whipple at a Council meeting in November. He was remembered for his many attributes, among them integrity and stalwart character, leadership and vision, thoughtfulness and non-judgmental acceptance of others, selflessness and dedication. He was admired and respected, not only locally, but at the state and national levels through his involvement in the League of Arizona Cities and Towns and the National League of Cities.

Under his mayoral leadership, the city experienced unprecedented, yet managed growth. The Council hailed some of the major accomplishments that occurred spanning his 22 years of service, including new commercial and residential developments; major improvements to new and existing roads, water, and sewer systems; new and expanded parks and recreational amenities; and expanded city services.



Gerry Whipple
1953-2012

Join us January 21 for MLK Day of Service



Citizens are invited to join city employees and volunteers to participate in Show Low's King Day of Service on Monday, January 21. This year, a number of opportunities to serve our community are available, depending on weather conditions and the number of participants. Everyone will assemble at 9:00 a.m. in the Show Low city hall parking lot, 180 North 9th Street, for orientation and assignments.

Following working at the assigned sites, everyone will reassemble at city hall at noon for lunch. Please check the city's website at www.showlowaz.gov for the latest update.

Initiated by Congress in 1994, King Day of Service transforms this federal holiday into a national day of community service. It honors civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr.'s legacy to strengthen communities and achieve common goals through volunteerism.

This annual city-sponsored event began in 2009 with city employees and volunteers cleaning up the areas around Show Low Lake. We invite any interested citizen to come join us in our continuing efforts to beautify Show Low.



Calendar of Events (January – March 2013)

Family Aquatic Center: 532-4130 Recreation: 532-4140 Public Library: 532-4070

- 01/01 **New Year's Day** (City offices CLOSED)
- 01/02 **Show Low Family Aquatic Center reopens** (tentative); call 532-4140 for information
- 01/02 7 p.m., Council Chambers
City Council Special Meeting
- 01/08 7 p.m., Council Chambers
Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting
- 01/10 10 a.m., Public Library
Show Low Library Friends meeting (public welcome)
- 01/12 **Youth Basketball** registration ends
- 01/15 Council Chambers
6 p.m., **City Council Budget Study Session**
7 p.m., **City Council Regular Meeting**
- 01/21 **Martin Luther King Day** (City offices CLOSED);
MLK Day of Service (see article on cover page)
- 01/21 **Grand Reopening Celebration of Aquatic Center** (free admission for lap swim, 9 a.m.–12 p.m., and open swim, 12–5 p.m.) (see article on page 3)
- 01/24 6 p.m., Council Chambers
Town Hall Budget Meeting (for citizen input)
- 02/02 **Youth Basketball** games begin (through 03/16)
- 02/05 7 p.m., Council Chambers
City Council Regular Meeting
- 02/09 6–8 p.m., City Campus studio, 760 E. McNeil
Daddy Daughter Valentine's Day Dance (532-4140 for info)
- 02/11 **Spring Swim Lessons** registration begins

- 02/12 7 p.m., Council Chambers
Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting
- 02/14 10 a.m., Public Library
Show Low Library Friends meeting (public welcome)
- 02/18 **Presidents' Day** (City offices CLOSED); **aquatic center holiday hours:** 9 a.m.–12 p.m., lap swim; 12–5 p.m., open swim
- 02/19 7 p.m., Council Chambers
City Council Regular Meeting
- 02/26 7 p.m., Council Chambers
Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting
- 03/04 **Lifeguard training** registration begins
- 03/05 7 p.m., Council Chambers
City Council Regular Meeting
- 03/11 **Spring Swim Lessons** begin (through 03/21)
- 03/12 7 p.m., Council Chambers
Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting
- 03/14 10 a.m., Public Library
Show Low Library Friends meeting (public welcome)
- 03/16 9 a.m., Nikolaus Homestead Park
St. Patrick's Day Run for the Gold (532-4140 for info)
- 03/19 7 p.m., Council Chambers
City Council Regular Meeting
- 03/23 10 a.m., Nikolaus Homestead Park
Hare Raising Fun Easter Egg Hunt
- 03/25 to 29 1–5 p.m., Aquatic Center
Spring Breaker (open swim all week)
- 03/26 7 p.m., Council Chambers
Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting

2013 excess trash dates

The City of Show Low contracts with Waste Management to provide free excess trash pick-ups six times a year. Show Low residents billed for city water and/or sewer services are eligible for this service. The dates in 2013 are **January 7 through 11, March 4 through 7, May 6 through 9, July 1 through 4, September 2 through 5** and **November 4 through 7**. Excess trash must be bagged, boxed or bundled. In addition, each garbage bag should weigh no more than 50 pounds and items should be no longer than four feet long (bound if there is more than one item). Place the garbage bags and items in the right-of-way next to your polycart on your regular trash pick-up day.

Calendars showing trash and recycling collection weeks from January 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014 were mailed to all customers in December. Additional calendars are available at city hall and on the city's website. Anyone with questions may call (928) 532-4005 during regular business hours (Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.).

Dog tags now on sale

Dogs four months and older living within the city limits must be registered annually. Dog tags are valid January through December 2013. Tags are available for purchase at Show Low city hall at 180 North 9th Street. Tags are \$5 for a spayed/neutered dog or \$15 for a non-spayed/non-neutered dog. Dog owners 65 years and older get a senior discount



of \$3 per tag. Present the dog's description, dates of vaccination and revaccination, and a current rabies vaccination certificate with a name and address when you purchase your dog's tag.

Family aquatic center completes major renovations

On Wednesday, January 2, the newly renovated, state-of-the-art Show Low family aquatic center is tentatively scheduled to reopen. Come join us for a grand reopening celebration on Monday, January 21, at 1:00 p.m. for a brief ceremony and refreshments. The pool will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for lap swim and 12:00 to 5:00 p.m. for open swim on January 21, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, with pool users swimming for free.

Extensive improvements, which began in September 2012, include upgrades to the spa to meet Americans with Disabilities Act requirements; a new dehumidification system that greatly enhances the pool environment, making it more comfortable for guests; improved and energy-efficient lighting; a facelift of the interior walls and ceiling plus repainting; a new pool water heating system; a new pool surface featuring a mini-Pebble Tech white finish that is more aesthetically pleasing and provides greater functionality; and a complete roof overhaul.



The Show Low Family Aquatic Center is a popular spot, no matter the season or weather outside. The pool is kept at a comfortable temperature throughout the year.

The renovations have created a more user-friendly, state-of-the-art venue for our public to enjoy. We appreciate everyone's patience while the aquatic center was closed for these major renovations. Our patrons will see the difference and can now enjoy swimming and participating in activities and events in a first-class facility. Come check it out!

Water & wastewater rates increase January 1, 2013

City of Show Low water and wastewater rates increase effective January 1, 2013. A multi-year rate increase was adopted by the Show Low City Council on May 17, 2011. Based on this Council action, rates will automatically increase on January 1st and be reflected in the utility bills mailed out in February.

A typical Show Low utility customer with all three utility services (water, wastewater and sanitation) will see the base utility bill, including taxes, increase by approximately 5%. The city's last water and wastewater rate increase was on July 1, 2011.

The majority of customers will see their base water rate increase from \$24.00 per month to \$26.64 per month. This base rate includes up to 5,000 gallons of water each month. For customers who utilize more than 5,000 gallons per month, the consumption rate will increase from the current \$2.36 to \$2.62 per 1,000 gallons used over the base. For customers located outside the city limits, these rates will increase from the current base of \$30.00 to \$33.30 per month and the per consumption rate for usage above 5,000 gallons will increase from \$2.95 to \$3.28 per 1,000 gallons.

...continued on page 4

Show Low Bluff trail offers scenic views

Show Low has a new trail that has become a popular destination for hikers and mountain bikers. Located at the north end of the Meadow on White Mountain Road, the Show Low Bluff trail is about a mile long, forming a loop that crosses a pedestrian bridge and rises east into the Show Low Bluff development. Enjoy scenic vistas of the Meadow and Show Low Creek as you walk the trail.

Conveniently located close to downtown, the Show Low Bluff trail joins City Park as an easy-access recreation spot. Hikers park at the Meadow trailhead, where an informational kiosk is located.

The city thanks the TRACKS organization and its volunteers for constructing the trail and the Eagle Scouts for building the kiosk and erecting a fence to separate public from private property. City crews built and paved the parking lot at the trailhead.



Earn rewards for recycling

The City of Show Low and Waste Management of Arizona are issuing a call to action for residents to earn rewards through **Recyclebank** to continue encouraging enhanced recycling participation throughout the community. A customer can simply sign up and report monthly that you are using our convenient curbside recycling service.

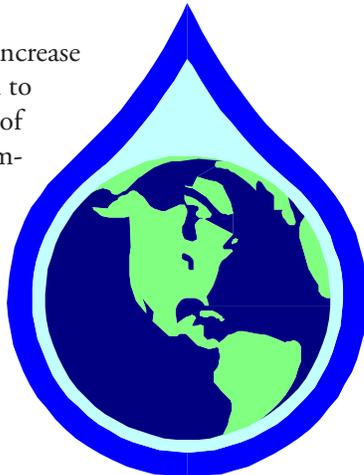
Recyclebank is similar to a frequent flyer program with members earning points for living a more environmentally friendly lifestyle. Members can use those points to “shop” at www.recyclebank.com for rewards such as discounts and deals from hundreds of reward partners in more than 10 categories including food and beverage, health, beauty, home, clothing, accessories and gifts. Over the course of a year, an average family can earn hundreds of points that can be redeemed for special rewards; this translates into real value—more than \$160 annually—for families in Show Low.

As part of the special America Recycles Day promotion, Show Low residents who informed the city that they had signed up for **Recyclebank** or that they had reported monthly recycling activity on recyclebank.com in the months of November and December were eligible to enter a drawing for a chance to win one of two pairs of Phoenix Suns tickets or one of two \$25 Safeway gift cards. The winners for the month of November, drawn at the December 4, 2012 Council meeting by Mayor Daryl Seymore, were Becca Seely, Sharon Fox, Carol Deacon and Josh Deacon. Four additional winners for the month of December will be drawn at the Council meeting on January 15, 2013. Although this contest is now completed, residents are encouraged to sign up for the free Recyclebank program at www.recyclebank.com. If residents do not have access to a computer, they can call (888) 727-2978 to register or go to the Show Low City Hall customer service window where a computer is available to both sign up for the Recyclebank program and report monthly recycling.

Rate increase...continued from page 3

Residential wastewater rates will increase from the current \$26.78 per month to \$27.58 per month for the majority of customers. Most commercial customers will see their base rate increase from \$21.12 to \$22.71 and will pay a flow rate of \$2.60 per 1,000 gallons of water used.

The city’s full utility rate schedule has been included with your utility bill and is also found on the city’s website at www.showlowaz.gov.



City’s budget process begins...continued from cover page

for consideration in the budget process. They may be ideas for increased or decreased services, improvements, or anything that you feel the city should address during the budget process.

As part of our goal to get as much citizen input as possible, we have scheduled two budget town halls that are specifically and exclusively designed for citizen input. The first will be held January 24, early in the budget process to give citizens a chance to voice any concerns, opinions and service desires. The second will be held in April, during which staff will present the recommended budget for citizen discussion and feedback prior to presenting it to the Council for discussion.

Also, beginning in April, the Council will hold two or three study sessions to review the city manager’s recommended budget in detail. This overview will focus on revenues and a department-by-department review of all expenditures requested and recommended. These study sessions are open to the public and questions by the public are always encouraged by the Council. It is anticipated that the final fiscal year 2014 budget will be adopted by the Council in June. The entire city budget calendar is available online at www.showlowaz.gov and is also shown below (all dates are in 2013 and all meetings are held in Council Chambers, 181 North 9th Street):

- Tuesday, January 15, 6:00 p.m., budget study session
- Thursday, January 24, 6:00 p.m., town hall budget meeting (specifically for citizen input)
- Tuesday, April 2, 6:00 p.m., presentation of recommended budget at budget study session
- Thursday, April 4, 6:00 p.m., town hall (specifically for citizen input) followed by budget study session
- Thursday, April 18, 6:00 p.m., budget study session
- Thursday, April 25, 6:00 p.m., budget study session
- Tuesday, May 7, 6:00 p.m., tentative budget overview at budget study session
- Tuesday, May 21, 7:00 p.m., public hearing and Council consideration and adoption of tentative budget
- Tuesday, June 4, 7:00 p.m., public hearing and Council consideration and adoption of final budget
- Tuesday, June 18, 7:00 p.m., Council consideration and adoption of secondary property tax levy

Please let your voice be heard in our annual budget process through any of the means listed above or by contacting Administrative Services Director Doug Sandstrom at (928) 532-4024 or at dsandstrom@showlowaz.gov.

City newsletters are produced by the City of Show Low, 180 N. 9th Street, Show Low, AZ 85901. Quarterly newsletters (January-March, April-June, July-September, October-December) are distributed in the utility statements. Direct comments to the City Clerk’s office at (928) 532-4061.