

# ERIE EDITION

JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2014 ERIE EDITION • VISIT THE TOWN OF ERIE ONLINE AT [ERIECO.GOV](http://erieco.gov) • [ERIECO.GOV/FACEBOOK](http://erieco.gov/facebook)

 **HAPPY NEW YEAR!** 

## A LETTER FROM MAYOR JOE WILSON



Erie excitement! Recent record highs in business licenses and sales tax reported, show Erie is outpacing virtually all its neighbors in those categories. This place is unique in the plentiful opportunity and quality that our town provides.

This is a community that is regularly described as fun, friendly, beautiful views, sports enthusiastic, high quality of life and great neighbors.

Those of us who live here know it to be a good investment with great amenities and as a place that's business friendly with great schools, parks and trails.

We are truly blessed to live in a place as amazing as Erie. We are emerging as a regional leader, too. At the government level, we are setting standards for innovation and efficiency that other cities now take notice of and (in several cases) emulate!

We've just passed a 2014 budget plan with a \$300,000 surplus, a complete reversal of only four years ago.

Here's more good news; Erie property values are steadily rising. That's right, sales data shows that Erie commercial and residential sales are gaining strength.

Those values are aided by lower taxes and interest rates (since market affordability considers a total of Payment + taxes).

If taxes are high, there is less home budget for the payment. Many of you have noticed that your Erie portion of tax mill levy % actually dropped recently. More efficiency in government, balanced budgets and policies promoting economic growth in our area mean less tax burden on the individual and greater community value.

Three new Microbreweries; Old Mine, Echo and Industrial Revolution have opened – or will soon open – their doors in our downtown business area, adding an exciting verve! Come check them out!

New businesses see our commitment to quality, financial stability, excellent citizen demographics, and common sense public policy as an opportunity to be part of something terrific... a future in Erie!

Optimism, innovation, quality of life and opportunity... "Your future is here" is more than a tag line, it's a wonderful reality in Erie!

Mayor Joe Wilson,

## SHARE YOUR IDEAS!

WORKING TO IMPROVE YOUR EXPERIENCE ONLINE



We'd like to hear from you! We know that our website is the top provider of information to our citizens. But how can we improve your experience while on the website? We are looking to reshape our website and want it to contain all of the information you need as a citizen of Erie. Is there information missing or hard to find? Share with us your ideas!

Simply log on to [engage.erieco.gov](http://engage.erieco.gov) and select "Shaping Our Website" from the Topic menu. This Topic will be open through the end of January. The suggestions with the most support are eligible for prizes from our Rewards Zone.

What is Engage Erie? The Town of Erie invites you to participate in our social engagement site -- Engage Erie. This site is one additional opportunity in which we encourage you to share comments and suggestions that will help us shape the future of Erie. The Board of Trustees and Town Staff require the assistance of residents whether that assistance comes in tacit approval or eager help; and commonality of purpose among residents, facilities, policies and programs that appeal to most and causes discord among few.



## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Erie Board of Trustees meets the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month in the Town Hall Board Room located at 645 Holbrook Street. Contact the Board via email at [bot@erieco.gov](mailto:bot@erieco.gov) or by calling 303-926-2777, extension 1. The Trustee's individual email addresses and phone numbers are listed below:

**Mayor, Joe Wilson**

[jwilson@erieco.gov](mailto:jwilson@erieco.gov)  
303-926-2777, Extension 2

**Mayor Pro Tem, Ronda Grassi**

[rgrassi@erieco.gov](mailto:rgrassi@erieco.gov)  
303-926-2777, Extension 3

**Trustee, Joe Carnival**

[jcarnival@erieco.gov](mailto:jcarnival@erieco.gov)  
303-926-2777, Extension 4

**Trustee, Mark Gruber**

[mgruber@erieco.gov](mailto:mgruber@erieco.gov)  
303-926-2777, Extension 5

**Trustee, Dan Woog**

303-926-2777, Extension 6

**Trustee, Janice Moore**

[jmoore@erieco.gov](mailto:jmoore@erieco.gov)  
303-926-2777, Extension 7

**Trustee, Fred Mahe**

303-926-2777, Extension 8



### ERIE EDITION

Erie Edition is a bimonthly newsletter published by the Town of Erie.

Send questions or comments to:  
[ErieNewsUpdate@erieco.gov](mailto:ErieNewsUpdate@erieco.gov)  
or call 303-926-2763.

# KEEP ERIE SAFE

Citizen Support Committee  
for the New Police Station  
& Court Building



During the June 11, 2013 Board of Trustees meeting, the Board instructed Town staff to begin drafting a ballot measure for the April 1, 2014 election asking voters to approve construction of a new police station and municipal court building. In preparation for the April 1st election, the Keep Erie Safe citizen support committee has formed to promote the need for the new police station and court building.

*Editor's Note: As of December 20, 2013, (print time for this issue of Erie Edition) the language for the ballot measure has not been approved. The Board is scheduled to consider both the ballot language and whether or not to move forward with placing it on the April 1st ballot during their January 28, 2014 meeting.*

**WE HAVE AN IMMEDIATE NEED.**

The need for a new police building is real. The existing building poses many challenges for the 22 sworn officers and 3 civilian employees of the Erie Police Department. Erie's police department is approximately 2,400 square feet, dismal in size when compared to those of our neighbors. Our officers lack suitable space to conduct their business.

Since the police moved to their current location in 1999, Erie has more than tripled in population. Over time we will need to increase our staff, but as things stand right now there is simply no place to put them. The best officers want to work where they know they have the necessary support and resources available. Our current facility makes officer attraction and retention difficult.

As Erie continues to grow, the Erie Police Department will need to continually adapt in order to remain a professionally operated department that continues to be responsive to our citizens. The planned police and court building will serve the Erie Police Department and the Erie community for many years to come.

**THIS BUILDING IS THE PRODUCT OF STUDY AND DESIGN.**

This project has been in the planning stages for over four years. In 2010 the Town conducted a Space Needs Assessment which is, as the name implies, an analysis of current and future space needs of the Erie Police Department.

The assessment considered not only professional law enforcement standards and practices which influence space requirements, but also took into account the projected development and growth trends for the Town. If we were to build a smaller building, we not only fail to meet the needs of our community, we would end up paying more money in the long run through higher interest rates and increased construction costs. This is the building we need.

**FINANCING ALLOWS FUTURE RESIDENTS TO PAY THEIR FAIR SHARE.**

The building is for the Erie of today and tomorrow. Since the new building is designed to have a lifespan of at least 25 to 30 years, financing allows future Erie residents to pay their fair share. It just makes sense.



**IT'S NOT GOING TO COST YOU A LOT, AND YOUR COST GOES DOWN OVER TIME.**

Based on the current Assessed Valuation of the Town of Erie, the cost to the average homeowner would be approximately \$1 per \$100,000 in Assessed Valuation of your property, per month. So, if you own a \$300,000 home, your cost would be approximately \$3 per month or \$36 per year. However, as Erie continues to grow and more homes are built, your cost will decrease. Why? Because when there are more property owners to share the cost, the cost each property owner is responsible for decreases. Or put another way, as Assessed Valuation grows – each property owner's share shrinks.



**KEEP ERIE SAFE NEEDS YOU!**

Are you able to volunteer and help inform your neighbors of the importance of a new police and municipal court building?

If so, please visit [www.keeperiesafe.org](http://www.keeperiesafe.org) or [www.facebook.com/keeperiesafe](https://www.facebook.com/keeperiesafe) or contact [info@keeperiesafe.org](mailto:info@keeperiesafe.org).



**HAVE YOU SEEN THE VIDEO?**  
CHECK OUT KEEP ERIE SAFE'S VIDEO ON WHY ERIE NEEDS A NEW POLICE STATION!

[HTTP://YOUTU.BE/1SXJ6Y1\\_VLE](http://youtu.be/1SXJ6Y1_VLE)



### TOWN OF ERIE COMPLETE PROPERTY TAX MILL LEVIES FOR 2014

Town of Erie Property Tax Mill Levies for 2014: 16.567 • General Operating Funds: 7.288 (\$203.04\*) • Trails & Natural Areas Acquisition: 4.000 (\$111.44\*) • Erie Community Center Construction Bond: 5.279 (\$147.07\*) \*Example: If you own a home with an actual value of \$350,000, your total Town of Erie Mill Levy for 2014 would be \$461.55.

# APRIL 1, 2014: MUNICIPAL ELECTION

## WHAT'S ON THE BALLOT

The Town of Erie will conduct its Regular Municipal Election on Tuesday, April 1, 2014. **During this election, registered voters in Erie will be electing a Mayor and five (5) Trustees.** The Mayor will be elected to serve a two-year term; three Trustees will be elected to serve four-year terms; and two Trustees will be elected to serve two-year terms. Voters will also have the opportunity to consider a ballot question seeking approval for the funding and construction of a new police and court building.

Background: The Town of Erie holds a Regular Municipal Election the first Tuesday of April in even-numbered years. Trustees serve four-year staggered terms; at every Regular Election there are three out of the six seats up for election. However, this year two Trustees elected in April of 2012 resigned from their positions creating two additional vacancies on the Board. The three (3) candidates for Trustee receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected for four (4) year terms, and the two (2) candidates for Trustee receiving the next highest numbers of votes shall be elected for two (2) year terms.

During the June 11, 2013 Board of Trustees meeting, the Board instructed Town staff to begin drafting a ballot measure for the April 1, 2014 election asking voters to approve construction of a new police station and municipal court building. Though the Ballot Measure has not been approved, it is anticipated the language on the ballot will be substantially similar to the one issued in 2012. The Board is scheduled to consider the ballot language during their January 28, 2014 meeting.



## CANDIDATE INFORMATION & DEADLINES

- Erie residents interested in running for the Board of Trustees may pick up a Candidate's Packet from the Town Clerk's Office beginning on **Monday, February 10, 2014.**
- Each petition requires a minimum of ten signatures from registered electors within the boundaries of the Town of Erie. Registered electors may only sign one petition for the Mayoral candidacy and up to five petitions for the Board of Trustees candidates (only one signature per candidate). Completed petitions must be filed no later than **5:00 pm on Friday, February 28, 2014** with the Town Clerk's Office.
- The Town Clerk's Office has scheduled an informational meeting on **Monday, February 10, 2014 at 6:00 pm.** This meeting is not mandatory, however, information will be provided from the Secretary of State's Office regarding the Colorado Campaign and Financial Practices Act as well as other important candidate information.
- The last day for candidates to submit petitions to be included on the April 1st ballot is **5:00 pm on Friday, February 28, 2014.**

## MAIL BALLOT INFORMATION

The Town Clerk's Office will mail the ballots by **March 10, 2014.** Erie voters may mail their ballot or drop off their ballot at Town Hall any time during normal business hours (8:00 am to 5:00 pm) and on Election Day from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm. Ballots must be received by 7:00 pm on Election Day. Registered voters who do not receive a ballot in the mail may request one from the Erie Town Clerk's Office.

## VOTER REGISTRATION

**HAVE YOU REGISTERED TO VOTE OR DO YOU NEED TO UPDATE YOUR REGISTRATION?**

### TO REGISTER TO VOTE YOU MUST BE:

- A United States Citizen
- Be 18 years old on or before the date of the election
- Reside in Colorado and in the municipal election precinct for at least 22 days before the election
- Registration is permitted on any day up to and including the day of the election

### DEADLINE INFORMATION:

You may register either online, by mail or in person. Registration options are:

- Up to 8 days prior to the election voter registration is available via the Secretary of State's online voter registration system [www.govotecolorado.com](http://www.govotecolorado.com)
- Prior to and including the day of the election voter registration can be conducted by your County Clerk and Recorder or Town Clerk

### IN ADDITION TO REGISTERING TO VOTE YOU MAY:

- Change your address on your current voter registration record
- Change your party affiliation on your current voter registration record

For more information, please contact Erie Town Clerk, Nancy Parker at 303-926-2731 or [nparker@erieco.gov](mailto:nparker@erieco.gov) or visit [www.erieco.gov/vote](http://www.erieco.gov/vote)

# 2014 SPECIAL EVENTS

## JANUARY

5th - ECC 6th Anniversary and Volunteer & Member Appreciation Day

## FEBRUARY

7th - Erie Community Showcase\*

15th - Night of the Stars

## APRIL

26th - Arbor Day & Earth Day

## MAY

3rd - 9Health Fair

10th - Fishing Clinic

17th - Erie Town Fair\*

31st - Concert in the Park\*

## JUNE

7th - National Trails Day

14th - Movie in the Park

25th - Bike to Work Day

28th - Concert in the Park\*

\*These events are endorsed or sponsored by the Town of Erie. Visit [www.erieco.gov/specialevents](http://www.erieco.gov/specialevents) to view coordinator.

All other events are coordinated by the Parks & Recreation Department.

## JULY

3rd - July 3rd Extravaganza\*

4th - Firecracker 4k/4 mile

5th - Erie Brewfest\*

19th - Concert in the Park\*

## AUGUST

2nd - Mighty Kids' Triathlon

9th - Erie Air Fair\*

## SEPTEMBER

5th - Coal Miner's Classic\*

6th - Movie in the Park

6th-7th - The Great Erie Outdoor Adventure

20th - Erie Biscuit Days\*

21st - Briggs Street Bomb\*

## OCTOBER

4th - Miner's Blast\*

25th - Erie Erie\*

25th - Trunk or Treat

## DECEMBER

5th - Country Christmas & Parade of Lights\*

22nd - Kris Kringle's CookieFest

## 2014 ERIE HOMEBUYER'S INCENTIVE PACKAGES

INCENTIVES AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASERS OF NEW & EXISTING HOMES IN ERIE



**3-MONTH FAMILY PASS TO ERIE COMMUNITY CENTER\*** (Valued at \$199) Limited to first 100 applicants in 2014.

**COLORADO NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP DISCOUNT\*** (Value: \$2,250) One Free Golf Membership Initiation Fee (\$1500 value) and six months free dues with one year paid in advance (\$750 value) (Associate Membership only)

**WELCOME FLIGHT\*** (Value: \$99) Free welcome to Erie flight provided by Vector Air. This flight will introduce new Erie residents to the airport and provide an aerial tour of Erie. Limited to first 10 applicants in 2014.

**ONGOING TREE INCENTIVE PROGRAM** (Value: \$150) Certificates are distributed on a first-come, first-serve basis until all have been claimed for the calendar year. Please call the Tree Hotline number (303-926-2739) to participate. This program does not begin until mid-March.

**FREE IRRIGATION AUDIT** (Value: \$110) Available on a first-come, first-serve basis until all have been claimed for the calendar year.

**HIGH EFFICIENCY WASHING MACHINE REBATE** (Value: \$50) Good towards the purchase of high efficiency washing machines available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

**ONE TIME FREE TREE PROGRAM\*** (Value: \$200) Each buyer of a new home in Erie receives a \$200 Tree Certificate good towards the purchase of trees at participating nurseries.

The Town of Erie makes no assurances regarding services or incentives offered by participating private entities. Please contact the individual business with respect to any particular questions or concerns.

\* In order to receive the Erie Community Center 3-Month Pass, One Time Free Tree Certificate, Golf Discount and Welcome Flight Coupon, applicants must complete an application and attach a copy of real estate transaction or closing document as verification of closing date.

For more information, please contact Melinda Helmer at 303-926-2710, [mhelmer@erieco.gov](mailto:mhelmer@erieco.gov) or visit [www.erieco.gov](http://www.erieco.gov)



## ERIE COMMUNITY CENTER CORNER



### CAMP ERIE:

### SPRING BREAK CAMP • AGES 5-12

Join us for a week of fun! All campers will go on a field trip on the Thursday of Spring Break week to Progresh! Camp will start at 9:00 am and end at 5:00 pm. Before and after care is included in camp fees. Before care starts at 7:00 am and after care ends at 6:00 pm. More information can be found at [www.erieco.gov/camperie](http://www.erieco.gov/camperie). Registration deadline is March 28. Camp Erie is a state licensed day camp program.

### PERSONAL TRAINING



Let a nationally certified personal trainer help you optimize your workout. Work one-on-one or bring a friend and we'll help you reach your fitness goals. You will learn various exercises that build strength and endurance, enhance body composition and improve overall cardiovascular fitness. Personal training sessions are made by appointment only. Please register in person at Guest Service.



### ADULT SPRING SOFTBALL • AGES 18+

**Men's Competitive Spring Softball** - Level of play for this adult league is Competitive (C). The spring season will consist of an eight week schedule with double headers played each week (16 games with the last week of play as a positional playoff game). Games are played on Tuesday evenings. Registration deadline is March 10.

**Men's/Women's/Mixed Spring Softball** - A variety of leagues are available. Level of play for this adult league is recreational. The spring season consists of eight games with the last week of play as a positional playoff game. Games are played on Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday evenings. Registration deadline is March 10.

For more information on league options, see the Program Guide or visit [www.erieco.gov](http://www.erieco.gov).

### CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



Share your ideas and give the Town of Erie feedback! [engage.erieco.gov](http://engage.erieco.gov)



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