



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 or by calling 303-926-2777, extension 1. The Trustee's individual email addresses and phone numbers are listed below:

Mayor, Tina Harris

tharris@erieco.gov
303-926-2777, Extension 2

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Trustee, Jennifer Kramer

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Trustee, Janice Moore

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Trustee, Waylon Schutt

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ERIE EDITION

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

Send questions or comments to: ErieNewsUpdate@erieco.gov or call 303-926-2763.

TRANSPARENCY & THE QUASI-JUDICIAL PROCESS

A LETTER FROM MAYOR TINA HARRIS



government in action.

As many of you are aware, the Morgan Hill residential development was recently presented to the Board of Trustees for consideration. A large number of citizens from Northridge had concerns about the impact the proposed development could have on their established neighborhood and they wanted to share those concerns with the Board prior to any vote. But when they sent emails to the Board expecting a response, what they received instead was a reply stating that due to the fact that this was a quasi-judicial proceeding, the Board's capacity to comment on the matter outside the scheduled Public Hearing was limited.

Needless to say residents were upset by the perceived lack of communication on our part. Believe me when I say we shared their frustration. But ultimately, as the quasi-judicial process proceeded, I think citizens realized they did in fact have an opportunity to participate. In the end, the applicant was given a fair hearing; all voices were heard; and the Board made an informed decision.

I'm pleased to announce that the Town's new website has a "Transparency" tab which includes a FAQ section to help all Erie residents better understand how the quasi-judicial process works. Below are a few excerpts from that section:

Occasionally, the Board of Trustees acts in an adjudicatory, or "quasi-judicial", manner. In that capacity, the Board operates, not as a legislature, but more like a court. In a quasi-judicial proceeding, the Board is not setting new policy, but applying the standards in an existing ordinance, statute or regulation to facts

presented at a hearing, similar as to how a judge would act. In other words, much like a court would at a trial; the Board is applying the law to the facts gathered at the Public Hearing to arrive at its decision.

For example, when the Town Board hears a land use application on a specific property or development, it is generally operating in its quasi-judicial, or adjudicatory, capacity.

In making quasi-judicial decisions, due process generally requires that the Board only consider evidence and testimony that it receives at the Public Hearing on the matter.

Town Board members are free to discuss legislative matters with citizens at any time. However, Town Board members should not receive evidence or argument on a pending quasi-judicial matter outside of the official Public Hearing on the matter.

If you wish to express your opinion or communicate information on a quasi-judicial decision, you have only to appear at the appropriate time at the Public Hearing. If you cannot attend the Hearing, you may submit your concerns in writing.

I hope this explanation will alleviate future frustrations and answers questions regarding the quasi-judicial process. I promise you we are listening to your concerns. Please keep communicating with us. We have made a promise to communicate, be transparent, and put the citizens of Erie first. Please continue to hold us accountable to maintaining our promise.

Mayor Tina Harris,

Town of Erie



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.