



City of Cortez
123 Roger Smith Ave.
Cortez, Co. 81321

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

April 26, 2022

The following are the current events and topics for the City:

1. After months of preparation, the Community Intervention Program (CIP) is set to go live on May 1, 2022. This is great news for Cortez and greater Montezuma County.
2. In order to assist small businesses in creating a positive commercial environment, the City of Cortez has re-launched its Business Beautification Mini Grant Program. The City is providing a matching grant of up to \$300 for the purchase of materials utilized in the enhancement of a business's existing façade or primary public entrance. Projects could include the purchasing of flowers, flower pots, potted bushes, other vegetation, paint for exterior, or window cleaning and painting. All materials and vegetation must be purchased from Montezuma County businesses. The program began April 18th and runs until September 1st. Funds are limited. Qualifying requests are being considered on a first come, first served basis, while funding lasts. Thanks to Rachael Marchbanks and her team in the Community and Economic Development Department for making this program come to life.
3. CCN Broadband – We had 7 responses to our RFI regarding proposals to possibly lease the existing broadband system. All 7 companies will be interviewed next week by the City selection team in an effort to reduce the pool to as few as three companies we feel we can, or rather should, present to Council and obtain authorization to start negotiations.
4. The interview process to select a new City Attorney will occur May 6th.

EMPLOYEE HIGHLIGHT

Nominated by Creighton Wright, Director of Parks and Recreation

Currently the Aquatics Management team is made up of three employees.

Ahna Higgins is the Pool Manager who started working in the Aquatics Division in 2014. Ahna began as a swim lessons teacher. The next year she added cashiering, and lifeguarding the following season. Her tenacity and drive led her to an assistant manager position soon after, ultimately earning the Manager Position.

Ivana Kibel and Jenna Barner, both Assistant Managers, began their employment journey in the Aquatics Division in 2017. Starting as lifeguards, they desired to learn every aspect of the

aquatics division from day one. They have learned all the roles and jump in at a moment's notice. Their initiative coupled with their desire for success quickly brought them both to their current positions.

Combined, these women have almost 18 years of experience in the Aquatics Division with the City of Cortez and are all under the age of 25. Each has had firsthand experience with just about every situation that one could imagine. Not only do they face all of the typical medical situations, they also have navigated a wide variety of unusual and unexpected situations. This team works at an amazing level together and on their own creating a safe, supportive, and fun environment for Cortez residents and visitors.