



# Park County Newsletter for August 2024



Welcome to the Park County Commissioners' monthly newsletter. Use this newsletter to stay up to date on important updates, upcoming events, and the latest developments from your local government.

This newsletter is released on the first Friday of each month. If you wish to receive this newsletter directly to your email in the future, please scan the QR code to subscribe. To view this newsletter online, follow the link on the [parkcounty.org](http://parkcounty.org) homepage.

## Park County Budget Update

Park County Commissioners recessed the July 25th Public Hearing for the FY25 Preliminary Budget. The hearing will be continued on **Friday, August 23rd at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioner Chambers.**

The FY25 Preliminary Budget may be accessed on the Park County homepage, [parkcounty.org](http://parkcounty.org).

The Montana Department of Revenue ("DOR") provides 2024 Certified Taxable Valuation information to the counties on August 1st, or within a few days. The taxable values are used to set levies across all entities in Park County. The County will provide consolidated levies from across the county to the DOR by September 9th. Entities such as fire agencies and schools provide information to the Finance Department. The Treasurer and DOR work together to update the levies for the year.

## FINAL BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

Park County Commissioners will meet on **Thursday, September 5th, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.** in the Commission Chambers in the City/County Complex at 414 E. Callender Street for the purpose of adopting Park County's final budget and fixing the tax levies for the 2024/2025 fiscal year. The final budget will be adjusted from the preliminary budget. Starting August 28th, the budget is open to inspection by any person and is available for public review during regular business hours in the Park County Accounting Office. Any taxpayer or resident may appear at the hearing in person or virtually and be heard for or against on any part of the final budget. Written comments on the final budget may be submitted either in person or by mail to the Park County Commissioners, 414 East Callender Street, Livingston, MT 59047, until September 5, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

- To view Certified Taxable Values for 2024 (once available), visit the Montana Department of Revenue page: <https://svc.mt.gov/dor/property>  
- For questions, please call Erica Strickland, Finance Director, at 406-222-4135.

## Wildfire and Emergency Preparedness for the Home

**By Dann Babcox, Fire Chief  
Park County Rural Fire District #1**

When considering the safety and protection of yourself and your homes, these are some pointers and recommendations for the current fire season or for any emergency.

1. Have a generator big enough to power your well and have an electrician wire in a port near your breaker panel for easy swap from the power grid to the generator. Consult with an electrician about the proper size generator for the well pump and for the amount of electricity you need for your home.
2. Have a sprinkler kit for use around your buildings to turn on if a fire breaks out anywhere near your home. Turn them on immediately when you know of a fire that could get to your property.
3. Have a go bag with your important documents, prescriptions, and must have items ready during the fire season.

4. Have an escape plan and a meeting place predetermined so that family members can meet if unable to communicate via phone.
5. Clear all vegetation and combustible materials from around the buildings you do not want to start on fire.
6. Know and understand the difference between fireproof and fire resistant. Know the limits of the fire-resistant materials you are using. When it comes to construction, very few things are fireproof.
7. Know your surroundings and mark your escape route. When a fire is happening, the smoke will disorient your position, and family members may not be able to find the way when vision has been reduced.
8. Have a plan for your animals and act sooner rather than later. If it's going to take time, then make sure your giving yourself plenty of time to do whatever is needed for the protection of your animals.
9. Practice, practice, practice!!!! Especially if you have children, imagine scenarios that could happen, not just fire, that will require an emergency exit or action on your part and share it all with your family or occupants of your property. Give everyone a job to do and go over it until it becomes second nature. Do not practice until you get it right, PRACTICE UNTIL YOU CANNOT GET IT WRONG.
10. Make the required arrangements for disabled or infirmed family

members. When possible, have a written list of medications or medical needs in case you get separated from them.

11. Evacuations are not a joke. Do it for the good of your family. If you are advised to leave then leave, turn on your sprinklers before and go to the meeting place you and your family have chosen.

12. A charged cell phone is not an emergency plan, it is a small tool to use within your plan.



Photo description: Commissioner Story, Commissioner Wells, and Executive Assistant Carly Ahern (filling in for Commissioner Tinsley) participated as judges in the Pie Tasting Contest on Friday, July 26, 2024 at the Fairgrounds Exhibit Building during the Park County Ag Fair (Right photo). Three pies were submitted (Left photo): Blueberry Rhubarb (First place), Dutch Apple (Third place), and Lemon Chiffon (Second place).

## How do I...view my property tax bill?

*"How do I...?" is a recurring feature of the newsletter that provides readers with information on navigating local government.*

To view your property tax bill online:

- Visit <https://itax.tylertech.com/ParkMT/> or click on "2023 Tax Bill" on the Park County homepage [www.parkcounty.org](http://www.parkcounty.org)
- Only one criterion is required to search (e.g. Property Tax ID, Owner Name, Property Address, or Geo Code).
- For owner name searches, it is important to search LastName FirstName. For example, Jones Steve.
- On the results page, you can view your tax bill, geo code, property tax ID, and a tax breakdown.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

PARK COUNTY COMMISSION MEETINGS are held every Tuesday at 9:00am and typically take place at the City-County Building, 414 E. Callender St., Livingston, MT, in the Commissioner Chambers unless otherwise indicated.

- The Commissioners will have a Workshop on Solid Waste with some of the Board members **Wednesday, August 7th at 10:00 a.m.** in the Commissioner Chambers.
- The July 25th Public Hearing on the FY25 Preliminary Budget was recessed and will continue **Friday, August 23rd at 9:00 a.m.** in the Chambers.

## MEET WITH YOUR COMMISSIONERS

Visit with Commissioner Clint Tinsley and Commissioner Bryan Wells:

## Park County Commissioners

### **1st Friday of the Month at 9:00am**

Two Doors Down Coffee Bakery in Clyde Park

Visit with Commissioner Bryan Wells at the following locations:

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of Month at 9:00am**

Riverside Hardware \*upstairs conference room

107 S Main St, Livingston, MT 59047

### **4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of Month at 9:00am**

St. John's Episcopal Church

8 Story Rd, Emigrant, MT 59027

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

#### **DISTRICT 1- MIKE STORY**

Term: 2023-2026

Phone: 406-223-1548

#### **DISTRICT 2- BRYAN WELLS**

Term: 2023-2024

Phone: 406-223-9162

#### **DISTRICT 3- CLINT TINSLEY**

Term: 2021-2024

Phone: 406-224-3376

## **County Board Meetings**

When county residents serve on county boards and commissions, they volunteer their service for the betterment of local communities and Park County. Citizens are encouraged to attend board and commission meetings, which are always open to the public.

Board and Commission meeting agendas are posted in the City/County Complex 48 business hours in advance.

### **OPEN BOARD SEATS**

The Solid Waste Board has one open board position for a three-year term, and is accepting applications

The Planning Board has one open board position to fill a vacancy and is accepting applications.

To apply:

- Complete the Park County Board Application form.
- Please return applications to Carly Ahern in the County Commissioners office via email at [cahern@parkcounty.org](mailto:cahern@parkcounty.org) or mail to:

Commissioners  
414 E. Callender St  
Livingston, MT 59047

## **Work with Us**

Join us and experience the job satisfaction that comes with knowing your work directly contributes to the betterment of Park County and its residents. Job opportunities are posted on the bulletin board outside of the Human Resource Director's office.

Visit our website at [jobs.parkcounty.org](http://jobs.parkcounty.org) for information on how to apply.

### **SPOTLIGHT CAREER OPPORTUNITY**

#### **Join the Windrider Transit Team!**

Park County is seeking a dedicated and friendly Transit Relief Bus Driver to join our Windrider Transit team. This part-time position (10-15 hours per week) is perfect for someone who loves interacting with community members and serving the public. Responsibilities include safely operating buses, providing excellent customer service to passengers, and ensuring compliance with safety regulations. Candidates must have a valid Montana Driver's license.

This role offers a rewarding opportunity to engage with diverse community members while delivering reliable and friendly transportation services. Apply online or visit us in person at the Park County Human Resources Office at 414 E Callender St in Livingston to pick up an application. Come join us and make a positive impact in your community!

Note: This is a safety-sensitive position and is subject to drug testing, including pre-employment, random, reasonable suspicion, and post-accident drug tests. Our drug testing policy, aligned with federal regulations, includes marijuana, regardless of its legal status at the state level.

[https://jobs.parkcounty.org/jobs/138/Windrider-Transit-Relief-Bus-Driver#job\\_138](https://jobs.parkcounty.org/jobs/138/Windrider-Transit-Relief-Bus-Driver#job_138)

## Upcoming Events

### 2024 PARK COUNTY COMMUNICATION SURVEY PRESENTATION

Tuesday, August 6th during the regularly scheduled Commission meeting at 9:00 a.m.

### WORKSHOP ON SOLID WASTE

Wednesday, August 7th at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioner Chambers

### PUBLIC HEARING ON FY25 PRELIMINARY BUDGET

Friday, August 23rd at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioner Chambers

### FINAL BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

Thursday, September 5th at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioner Chambers

## Engage with Us

City/County Complex  
414 E. Callender St.  
Livingston, MT 59047  
(406) 222-4100

### LET'S CONNECT!

We want to tell you about what we are doing. Your Park County staff is working hard to meet the needs of our community. Visit our new communications page to sign up for newsletters, email updates, social media, and emergency alerts. We welcome you to join us in our meetings, engage in the public process, and let us know how we are doing.