

THE MORNING AFTER

TOWN OF ROSS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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Mayor's Corner



Elizabeth Brekhus

The Town Council has begun the process of recruiting a permanent Town Manager with the help of a recruitment firm. In June, we will spend two full days interviewing candidates.

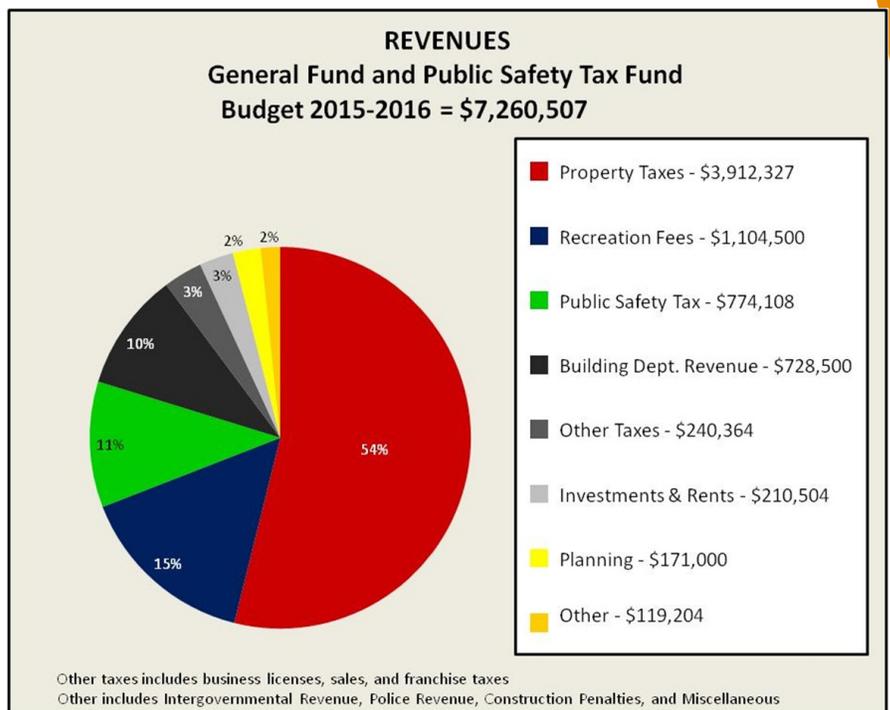
Finding an effective Town Manager is obviously of critical importance to the Town and we encourage all residents to participate in the survey on-line or to come to the Community Input Meeting on June 11th.

On April 29th, the Town Council held a budget workshop, and due to the excellent work of Liz Ford, our Town accountant, and Council Members Katie Hoertkorn and Carla Small, who serve on the Finance Committee, the Council had a very thoughtful, prudent, proposed budget to review that only required some

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Fiscal Year 2016 Budget Highlights

The Council held their annual budget workshop on April 29th to discuss the FY 2016 budget. The following are highlights of the budget:



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- Pay off 50% of CalPERS unfunded accrued liability of \$1.850M (50% of \$3.7M) by borrowing \$1.350M from County of Marin at interest rates ranging from 3.5% to 4% and using \$500K of Town operating funds in order to save \$3.4M in future year payments to CalPERS.
- Pay off CalPERS unfunded liability for retiree health care by accelerating payments to California Employers' Retirement Benefit Trust.
- Set the parcel tax rate at \$950, with \$22 of the parcel tax paid from remaining Legal Defense Funds. Residents will pay \$928.

The Council will hold a public hearing on May 21st at 6:00 pm to review and consider adoption of the FY 2016 budget. ■



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minor changes. The Town finances are in good shape thanks to prudent fiscal management by the Town Council. The Council will meet again on May 21st to review and hopefully adopt a final budget.



The Town has hired a consulting firm, to review the fire fees paid by the Town and the services provided by the Ross Valley Fire District. The Study should be concluded within the next couple months. Given that fire services are the biggest expense we have in our Town budget, the Council felt it was essential to make sure that the cost of the services are appropriate.

Ross Recreation runs great programs during the summer months and a list can be found online. If you have ideas for programs that you would like to see, please contact the Ross Recreation office. The Recreation Department is now run by Mike Armstrong, with the help of Ross resident Sue Talmage, whose dedication to RR is truly admirable.

Plans are underway for the 4th of July Parade, and the Ross Recreation Department, which is spearheading the parade and celebration, is looking for volunteers and parade participants. There is nothing more charming or more Americana than the Town's 4th of July parade and celebration. Please stay tuned for details about the event.

Finally, please hold the date of September 25th, the last Friday in September, for the annual Town Dinner! ■

Farmers Market Vendor Selected



The Council approved a new seasonal farmers market vendor to be located on the Ross Common Thursdays, 12:00- 7:30 p.m. beginning May 28th. through October. The Marin Community Farm Stand

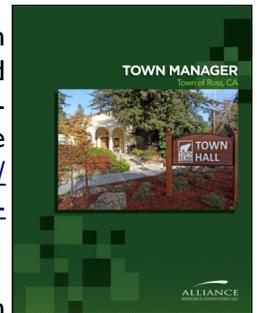


(MCFS), originally located at the Marin Art & Garden Center, submitted a proposal to the Council to relocate to downtown Ross. The Farm Stand features local organic producers and artisans. The

new location on the grass in the wooded area on the Commons will provide shade and improved visibility for the market (rather than the previous location in the Post Office parking lot). The MCFS has been in Marin County since 2003. They currently operate seasonal markets in San Anselmo and Forest Knolls. ■

Town Manager Recruitment Update

Recruitment has begun for the Town Manager position. The Town selected Alliance Resource Consulting to conduct the recruitment. To view the recruitment brochure go to <http://www.alliancerc.com/current-searches/town-manager>.



The Council is seeking input from residents on the Town Manager position. There are two ways residents can participate in this process:

- 1) A community outreach meeting will be held at the June 11th Town Council meeting. Alliance Resource Consultants will facilitate the session. Residents can provide comments in person.
- 2) A citizen survey can be completed online. Go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/townross> to access the survey. The survey link will also be sent out via email to everyone on the Town's email list.

Recruitment schedule is as follows (some dates subject to change):

- June 5: Resume review begins
- June 11: Community Outreach Meeting (at Council meeting)
- June 15: Progress Meeting - Council Closed Session
- June 19-20: 1st & 2nd round of interviews with Council
- August 1: New Town Manager start date ■

PLANNING RESULTS



Leann Taagepera
Contract Planner

The Town Council took the following action on planning applications at the May Council meeting. Staff reports and audio for the meeting can be found on the [May 14th meeting page](#). The minutes for this meeting will be available on this page after adoption by the Council at the June Council meeting.

Address: 14 Madrona Avenue
Applicant: Michael & Elika Rosenbaum
Council Action: Approved
Vote (for/against/abstain): 5-0

Address: 38 Fernhill Avenue
Applicant: Cypress Trust
Council Action: Approved
Vote (for/against/abstain): 3-2-0 (Brekhus, Robbins opposed)

PUBLIC SAFETY



Recently the Ross Police Department served a search warrant on a Ross residence due to an identity theft investigation. The suspect owns the home and was using his Post Office Box to facilitate obtaining credit cards using other people's personal identifying information.

The alleged suspects, Deron Kartoon and Lindsey Tredway, were arrested and booked into jail for charges related to identity theft.

There were several Ross residents that were victims of identity theft by these suspects. There may be other suspects that have not reported incidents of identity theft to the police.

If you have been the victim of identity theft recently, please contact the Ross Police Department. ■

Town Hires New Contractors



The Town has hired three new contractors, two of which were introduced at the May Council meeting.

Planning Department

Alicia "Ali" Giudice is a professional land use and environmental planner with over 17 years of project management experience in public and private sector planning for agencies in Marin, Sonoma and Napa. She has managed a wide range of complex development permits, specific plans, and master plans. She will work with Leann in the Planning Department. Her hours are Tue, Wed, Thu, 10:00 am-3:00 pm, and contact info is ajudice@townofross.org, (415) 453-1453 ext. 122.



Ali Giudice
Contract Planner

Public Works Department

John Moe has worked as the Town's engineering consultant since 2006 overseeing numerous Public Works capital projects. He will now have the official title of Contract Town Engineer/Public Works Director. John is President and Principal Engineer of Moe Engineering, Inc. He has over 25 years of civil engineering experience which encompasses street improvement design, storm drainage, surveying, project management, etc. In addition, he has over 18 years of experience as a consultant providing local agency assistance to cities and town in Marin and Sonoma Counties. He can be reached at publicworks@townofross.org.



John Moe
Contract Town Engineer

Building Department

Salvatore (Sal) Lucido, P.E., is the Building Department Services Manager for Coastland Civil Engineering, with 21 years of experience providing plan review, project management, administration, and on-site engineering support to dozens of municipalities and private sector clients in northern California. He has served as Assistant Town Engineer for the Town of Yountville and Interim Building Official for the Town of Windsor and City of Cloverdale. He will be working for Ross as a contract Building Official. He can be reached at building-dept@townofross.org. ■

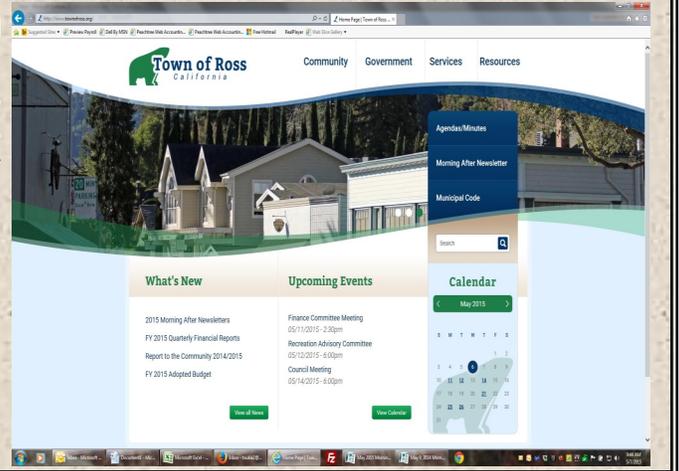


Sal Lucido
Contract Building Official

Website Feedback Requested

The Town recently launched a new and improved website. The company that created the website specializes in creating websites for cities and towns nationwide. The website was designed to help the user locate information quickly and easily. For instance, meeting pages now contain everything regarding the meeting on one page (agenda, minutes, staff reports, etc.).

We welcome your constructive feedback on the website. Are you finding what you need easily? Do you have constructive suggestions? Send your comments to: llopez@townofross.org.



New Part-Time Office Asst Position Approved

At the recommendation of the Finance Committee, the Council approved the budget allocation for a new permanent part-time office assistant position in the FY 2015-16 budget.

The Town of Ross operates with very few staff. The Town Clerk/Administrative Manager oversees duties of accounting, human resources, and payroll, as well as Town Clerk duties. With the addition of the Recreation Department, this work load has increased substantially. The new position will help offset the increased work load and can also provide assistance to the Building and Planning Departments as needed. Although the position is allocated for FY 2016, the Council approved the position to be filled as soon as possible prior to the new fiscal year. ■

Recreation News

Ross Recreation Summer Camps - 30th Anniversary



Adventure Camp 2015 Trips (Ages 8-15, 9am - 3/5pm, Drop off & Pickup at Ross School)

Session 1 6/15-6/19 Stinson Beach 4pm pu (pickup)	6/16 Great America 5pm pu	6/17 Ice Skating 3pm pu	6/18 Driven Raceway 4pm pu	6/19 Swimming 1pm pu COM
Session 2 6/22-6/26 Stinson Beach 4pm pu	6/23 Raging Waters 5pm pu	6/24 Paintball 5pm pu	6/25 Sky High 3pm pu	6/26 Swimming 1pm pu COM
Session 3 6/29-7/3 Stinson Beach 4pm pu	6/30 6 Flags 5pm pu	7/1 A's Game 5pm pu	7/2 Water World 5pm pu	7/3 HOLIDAY! NO CAMP!
Session 4 7/6-7/10 Stinson Beach 4pm pu	7/7 Great America 5pm pu	7/8 Driven Raceway 4pm pu	7/9 Sky High 3pm pu	7/10 Swimming 1pm pu COM
Session 5 6/13-7/17 Stinson Beach 4pm pu	7/14 Paintball 5pm pu	7/15 Raging Waters 5pm pu	7/16 Cal Skate 3pm pu	7/17 Swimming 1pm pu COM
Session 6 7/20-7/24 Stinson Beach 4pm pu	7/20 6 Flags 5pm pu	7/22 Water World 5pm pu	7/23 Sea Trek 3pm pu	7/24 Swimming 1pm pu COM

Camp Safari, Ages 3-5, 9am - 1pm:

Kinder Camp, Entering Kindergarten, 9am - 1pm:

Both younger camps feature a new "Theme" each week with activities including arts & crafts, cooking, games, yoga, music & singing, science, sports, nature and outdoor play!

NEW! Marin Explorers, Ages 6-9, 9am -3pm:

Explore the Bay Area with 2 travel days to "out-of-the-way" places to see what it's like to milk a cow in Point Reyes, or make chocolate bars at a Berkeley chocolate factory, take a ride on the Redwood Valley Steam Train and picnic at Tilden Lake. Then record memories in a scrapbook.

Other Weekly Camps:

Academic Enrichment, Sporty Girls Sports, Holly's Hoppin Camps, Kids on Camera, Art, Music, Tennis, Kayaking, Little Champs Sports, NextStepSoccer, Kids Choice/Carpentry, Lacrosse, Kids Book Club, Performance Camp-101 Dalmatian Kids!

Register at: RossRecreation.org

Top Gun Sports Camp (Ages 7-14, 9am - 3/5pm)

Baseball, soccer, flag football, dodgeball, basketball, lacrosse or swimming; we have them all and you can play nonstop in this unique camp that is a sporty kid's dream. Adding to the fun are Jersey Days, Baseball days, Fridays swimming at the College of Marin Pool and Wednesday field trips:

Session 1 6/17 Bowling	Session 2 6/24 Paintball	Session 3 7/1 A's Game	Session 4 7/8 Giants Game	Session 5 7/15 Driven Raceway	Session 6 7/22 Sky High
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ROSS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY 2015

May 11	2:30	pm	Finance Committee Meeting, Town Hall
May 12	6:00	pm	Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting, Town Hall
May 14	6:00	pm	Council Meeting, Town Hall
May 21	6:00	pm	Special Council Meeting - Budget Public Hearing, Town Hall
May 25	--	--	Town Hall offices closed Memorial Day
May 26	7:00	pm	Advisory Design Review Group Meeting, Town Hall

JUNE 2015

June 9	6:00	pm	Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting, Town Hall
June 11	6:00	pm	Council Meeting, Town Hall
June 15	10:15	am	Special Council Meeting Closed Session, Town Hall
June 23	7:00	pm	Advisory Design Review Group Meeting, Town Hall

JULY 2015

July 3	--	--	Town Hall offices closed Independence Day Holiday
July 4	11:00	am	Annual 4th of July Parade & Celebration, Ross Common
July 9	6:00	pm	Council Meeting, Town Hall
July 14	6:00	pm	Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting, Town Hall
July 28	7:00	pm	Advisory Design Review Group Meeting, Town Hall

AUGUST 2015

August 25	7:00	pm	Advisory Design Review Group Meeting, Town Hall
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RECURRING EVENTS

Thursdays thru October Ross Farm Stand, 12:00-7:30 pm, Ross Common **Starts May 28th**



C O N T A C T U S	Mailing Address:	Street Address:
	P.O. Box 320	31 Sir Francis Drake Blvd
	Ross, CA 94957	Ross, CA 94957
	Administration	415.453.1453 x105
	Building	415.453.1453 x106
	Planning	415.453.1453 x121
	Police	415.453.1453, option 2
	Public Works	415.453.1453 x106
	Recreation	415.453.6020
	Ross Valley Fire	415.258.4686
Town Manager	415.453.1453 x107	
	www.townofross.org	

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