CITY MANAGER’S NOTES
November 25, 2014

Upcoming Council Meetings

City offices will be closed Thursday, November 27 and Friday, November 28, 2014 for Thanksgiving. For a complete list of closures visit: http://www.engelewoodgov.org/our-community/news-and-events/calendar-of-events

The next meeting will be Monday, December 1, 2014. The Study Session will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room. The Regular Meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. in Council Chambers. Sandwiches will be available at 6:30 p.m.

Informative Memoranda
The following are memoranda in response to City Council’s requests, as well as other informational items.

1. The Villager article regarding Englewood street sweeper
2. Denver Post article regarding Englewood Fire Department
3. E-Notification Press Release titled “Setting the record straight on Englewood Fire Department discussion”
4. Calendar of Events
5. Tentative Study Session Topics
Englewood cleans up with street sweepers

Added by Tom on 11/19/2014.
Saved under Local, News

Tyler Koltay, a street maintenance worker with Englewood Public Works, operates a new street sweeper, cleaning the city’s 240 miles of curbs. Photo by Tom Barry

Work delayed due to snow

By Tom Barry

Each fall for a three-week period, two sizable white street sweepers canvas Englewood’s 240 miles of curb lanes with the massive brushes on the undercarriage of the units capturing any debris in their path.

The city purchased its newest mechanical sweeper this year for $170,000.

“We try to do the whole town in a month, but it started to snow before we got to them all,” said Brad Hagen, the street-maintenance manager with the city’s public works department.

A street sweeper can typically travel 26 city blocks each day, he said. During the fall season with the abundance of leaves, sweepers can only go about four blocks before transferring debris into a dump truck.

Englewood’s efforts were abbreviated due to last week’s snowstorms and historically frigid temperatures.

In the meantime, Hagen strongly encourages residents and businesses to bag their leaves, instead of blowing them into the streets and gutters. He said due to the popularity of leaf blowers, people have an increased tendency to take the easy way out and blow debris directly into the street.
Debris from the curbs and streets is captured in the sweepers’ storage area and transferred into a dump truck. In the fall, the trucks deposit the debris in stockpiles at a service center adjacent the Platte River.

“We let the leaves set for six months as the pile gets smaller over time,” said Hagan, noting the debris is then transferred to the Denver Arapahoe Disposal site at Quincy Avenue and Gun Club Road.

“Just about anything people can lose, we find,” Hagen said. “We find money once in a while and return it.”

Englewood’s street-maintenance budget for 2015 is about $2 million of the overall public works budget of $5.8 million, according to Deputy City Manager Mike Flaherty.

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The origins of the Englewood Fire Department date back to the Roosevelt administration — Teddy Roosevelt, that is.

That longevity is a big part of the reason city leaders are having so much trouble deciding what to do with their 106-year-old firefighting force.

Plans to merge or consolidate with a larger fire department, like Denver, or with a nearby fire protection district, like South Metro, have been on the table for more than a year.

But the pull to remain autonomous remains strong.

"People seem to have this overwhelming desire not to lose our individuality," Englewood Councilman Rick Gillit said. "They see our fire department as not just a service but an asset."

It's why Gillit and several on the council are wracking their brains trying to figure out how to get more funding for badly needed station improvements and new firetrucks while preserving the 59-member institution as its own entity. The council is expected to make a decision on the issue in the next two months.

"People do want to feel like they have local control over their fire and emergency medical services," Englewood City Manager Eric Keck said. "There is that pride and tradition."

But Keck said things at the Englewood Fire Department can't continue as is.

According to a study issued by Emergency Services Consulting International early last year, the city's three fire stations are in "poor" condition, especially with regard to air quality. Englewood also needs to come up with more than $1 million to replace aging vehicles, including a ladder truck, an ambulance and two command vehicles, the report concluded.

ESCI commended Englewood Fire for consistently good service but warned that the "underlying support systems and programs are seriously strained and are at risk to fail."

Englewood Fire Chief Andrew Marsh said the trouble was brought into sharper focus this past summer when one of his firefighters was injured by a ceiling collapse at a dual structure fire in Littleton, with which Englewood has a mutual aid agreement.

But Englewood is still struggling with whether it makes sense to continue running its own fire department when the trend has been to take advantage of firefighting agencies with larger economies of scale.

In 2004, the Denver Fire Department took over operations for Glendale, which has a population of 4,500.
It did the same with Sheridan a few years later.

And South Metro Fire Rescue Authority serves the cities of Castle Pines, Centennial, Cherry Hills Village, Foxfield, Greenwood Village, Lone Tree and Parker, covering 176 square miles and protecting 195,000 residents.

Englewood is looking at bids from Denver Fire and South Metro to take over the department. It is also considering a merger with Littleton Fire Rescue.

"Where does the fire department best fit — is it Englewood or not?" Keck asked.

Todd Bower, a deputy chief with Denver Fire, said his 900-firefighter force could "tailor a package" to fit Englewood's needs. The cost would be around $4.5 million a year, he said.

South Metro's chief, Bob Baker, said his agency's $6.5 million annual bid would mean that Englewood will never find itself short of a crucial piece of equipment.

Baker said his agency has four aerial trucks with buckets and 274 line firefighters.

"It is very difficult to maintain a small fire department in today's world," he said. "Regionalization has a lot of positives for both agencies."

Englewood spends around $7.5 million a year to run its fire department.

Chuck Line, deputy city manager for Glendale, said the $2.1 million a year arrangement with Denver has reaped "huge cost savings" for the city.

Fire equipment these days, he said, is very specialized and very expensive. If a pumper truck suddenly goes out of service, for example, it's no longer Glendale's problem to fix.

"We didn't have predictability of cost before — now we do," Line said.

But Gillit said his constituents overwhelmingly want the Englewood Fire Department to operate well into a second century.

He acknowledged it will take additional investment not being made now, but he said residents are willing to pay to keep firefighting operations in house, including the prospect of a possible bond issue on the ballot next November.

"While most people are against tax hikes, they aren't against them when it comes to funding our fire department," Gillit said.

John Aguilar: 303-954-1695, or twitter.com/abuvthefold
Subject: Setting the record straight on Englewood Fire Department discussions

Post Date: 11/24/2014 10:15 AM

Stories have recently aired regarding the City of Englewood's Fire Department that contain some inaccuracies.

Here are the facts:

- The Englewood City Council has been in discussions for well over a year regarding the possibility of shared services or a merger for the Englewood Fire Department.

- On Monday, November 17, 2014 City Council reviewed and discussed a Fire Location Analysis Study conducted for Englewood by the Metropolitan Area Communications Center Authority (MetCom).

- One media outlet reported that Englewood is considering consolidating its current three fire stations to one single station. While the Fire Station Location Study presented this as one of ten possible scenarios, City Council is not considering this as an option.

- The current budget for the Englewood Fire Department is $8.2 million. There are two possible merger scenarios on the table at present: South Metro Fire Rescue Authority has offered to provide fire/rescue services for the City of Englewood at an approximate cost of $6.5 million, with a one-time consolidation expense of $5,450,000; the Denver Fire Department has offered to provide these services for approximately $4.75 million.

- Upgrades are currently needed to update Englewood's fire stations and equipment. As decisions are made regarding the future of the Englewood Fire Department, it may be necessary to put forth a bond measure ballot question to seek funding for these improvements.

- City Council is expected to further discuss the future of the Englewood Fire Department at a Study Session in mid-January.

Updates regarding the Englewood Fire Department discussions will be posted on the City of Englewood's website.

To change your eNotification preference, Click Here. To unsubscribe from all City of Englewood, Colorado eNotifications, Click Here.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thurs., Nov. 27</td>
<td></td>
<td>City Hall closed — Thanksgiving Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri., Nov. 28</td>
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<td>City Hall closed — Thanksgiving Day Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon., Dec. 1</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Study Session, Community Room</td>
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<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Council Meeting, Council Chambers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues., Dec. 2</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Election Commission, City Manager’s Conference Room</td>
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<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Planning &amp; Zoning Commission, City Council Conference Room</td>
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<td>Wed., Dec. 3</td>
<td>5:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Cultural Arts Commission, City Council Conference Room</td>
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<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Local Liquor and Medical Marijuana Licensing Authority, City Council Chambers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs., Dec. 4</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Englewood Urban Renewal Authority, City Council Conference Room</td>
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<td>Mon., Dec. 8</td>
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<td>Cancelled Study Session, Community Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues., Dec. 9</td>
<td>5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Water and Sewer Board, Community Development Conference Room</td>
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<td>Cancelled Keep Englewood Beautiful, City Council Conf. Rm.</td>
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<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Library Board, Library Board Room</td>
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<td>Wed., Dec. 10</td>
<td></td>
<td>Cancelled Board of Adjustment and Appeals, Council Chambers</td>
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<td>Cancelled Englewood Urban Renewal Authority – meeting changed to Thursday, December 4th at 6:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs., Dec. 11</td>
<td>11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Alliance for Commerce in Englewood, City Council Conference Room</td>
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<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Parks and Recreation Commission, Broken Tee Englewood Golf Course Maintenance Facility</td>
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<td>Mon., Dec. 15</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Council Holiday Dinner</td>
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<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Council Meeting, Council Chambers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues., Dec. 16</td>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Budget Advisory Committee, City Council Conf. Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed., Dec. 17</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Local Liquor and Medical Marijuana Licensing Authority, City Council Chambers</td>
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<td>Wed., Dec. 24</td>
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<td><strong>City Hall closed — Christmas Eve</strong></td>
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<td>Thurs., Dec. 25</td>
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<td><strong>City Hall closed — Christmas Day</strong></td>
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<td>Wed., Dec. 31</td>
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<td><strong>City Hall closed — New Year's Eve</strong></td>
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<td>Thurs., Jan. 1</td>
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<td><strong>City Hall closed — New Year's Day</strong></td>
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<td>Mon., Jan. 5</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Study Session, Community Room</td>
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<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Council Meeting, Council Chambers</td>
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<td>Tues., Jan. 6</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Planning &amp; Zoning Commission, City Council Conference Room /Council Chambers</td>
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<td>Wed., Jan. 7</td>
<td>5:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Cultural Arts Commission, City Council Conference Room</td>
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<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Local Liquor and Medical Marijuana Licensing Authority, City Council Chambers</td>
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<td>Thurs., Jan. 8</td>
<td>11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Alliance for Commerce in Englewood, City Council Conference Room</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Transportation Advisory Board, City Council Conference Room</td>
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<td>Mon., Jan. 12</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Study Session, Community Room</td>
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<td>Wed., Jan. 14</td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Englewood Urban Renewal Authority, City Council Conference Room</td>
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<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Board of Adjustment and Appeals, Council Chambers</td>
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<td>Mon., Jan 19</td>
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<td><strong>City Hall closed – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</strong></td>
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<td>Tues., Jan. 20</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Study Session, Community Room</td>
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<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Council Meeting, Council Chambers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed., Jan. 21</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Local Liquor and Medical Marijuana Licensing Authority, City Council Chambers</td>
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<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Planning &amp; Zoning Commission, Comm Dev Conference Room/Council Chambers</td>
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<td>Mon., Jan. 26</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Study Session, Community Room</td>
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<td>Mon., Feb. 2</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Study Session, Community Room</td>
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TENTATIVE
STUDY SESSIONS TOPICS
FOR ENGLEWOOD CITY COUNCIL

December 1  Study Session – 7:00 p.m. & Regular Meeting
            Fire Department Medical Direction

December 8  Study Session – CANCELLED

December 15 Regular Meeting Only
            No Study Session Scheduled - Holiday Dinner

December 22 Christmas Holidays – No meeting scheduled

December 29 New Year’s Holidays – No meeting scheduled

2015

January 5  Study Session & Regular Meeting
            Colorado and US Legislators – tentative

January 12 Study Session
            Board and Commission Interviews

January 20 Study Session & Regular Meeting
            Financial Report
            MuniRevs Filing Fee Update
            Redistricting

January 26 Study Session
            Planning & Zoning Commission – Comprehensive Plan Discussion
            Board and Commission Appreciation Night/Gift Discussion
            Citizen of the Year Selection

February 2 Study Session & Regular Meeting
            Arapahoe County Commissioners
            RTD Representatives

February 9 Study Session

February 17 Study Session & Regular Meeting
            Financial Report

February 23 Study Session

11/25/2014
March 2  Study Session & Regular Meeting
March 9  Study Session
         NLC Conference - tentative
March 16 Study Session & Regular Meeting
         Financial Report
March 23 Study Session
March 30 No meeting scheduled – 5th Monday

FUTURE STUDY SESSION TOPICS

McLellan Reservoir – Executive Session
River Run Easement
Police/Safety Update – Quarterly Update
Citizen Engagement
         Social Media Policy
         NextDoor Update
Tale of Two Cities presentation: What Can or Should Our City Look Like in the Future?
Hotel/Motel Regulations
Fire Department Discussion
Public Smoking Ban
Affordable Housing Studies
Bike Paths
Construction Defects Ordinance
Englewood Branding/Image – pending ACE report
         Buy Englewood/Buy Local
         Neighborhood Naming/Branding
         Gateway Improvements
         Targeted Economic Development
Cultural District – pending URA report

11/25/2014