

THE ROCKVILLE GLOBE

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Mayor's Minute

Mayor Dan McGuire

I am truly sorry that Mayor Brown resigned for personal reasons and I wish all the best for him as he seeks to improve his health.

I am honored that I have been entrusted with the position of Mayor to complete Mayor Brown's term of office and will do my best to fulfill the duties.

The Mayor and Town Council are elected to not only serve the interests of the citizens on a day-to-day basis, but to plan for the future of our town. That is much more difficult than the regular routine and it is a task that every citizen must be involved with if we are to be able to sustain our rural/agricultural lifestyle. Every town survey that we have completed indicates essentially that "what we are is what we want" and don't change it.

We are one of a few communities in the entire state of Utah that derives most of its income from property taxes and some from sales tax. In most communities, it's the other way around. The bottom line is that our annual income to operate the town is basically fixed, but our expenses are not.

This past budget cycle has been very difficult to develop and we had to trim in several areas to balance the budget in keeping with state law. Only once since our incorporation in 1987 have we had to raise property taxes and that was done specifically to fund our share of the Canyon Police services.

I am not making a case here to raise taxes, but to point out the day is coming that we may have to consider generating other sources of income to meet the needs of our town. It's our infrastructure, in particular our historic steel bridge, that poses the greatest challenge to the town budget.

Recently the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) downgraded the load rating from 25 tons to 14 tons based upon an inspection and study. Immediately, there was a firestorm of protest from many who are dependent upon the bridge and viewed the lowered rating as a threat to their own plans across the river. That is totally understandable, but what can we do when the cost of strengthening the bridge to accommodate heavier loads has a cost of millions of dollars?

We did seek and receive some relief from UDOT, but it is only temporary because the bridge needs to be upgraded. Money may be available for a portion of the cost, but the matching part is always the problem for Rockville.

I can tell you from personal experience when sitting before a board that can make money available, that they do not

always take kindly to the fact that we are a rural/agricultural community with limited resources; they want to know what funds we can put into the cost of the project.

You have the picture, so what do we do? I suggest that in the coming year we gather together as a community to brainstorm how we might be able to generate additional income. We can only do this if all ideas are acceptable and can be put on the list. Like all good brainstorming sessions, everything is ok and then we sort through all the ideas until we get something that works for all of us. Something for each of you to start thinking about.

The job of running Rockville is up to your elected officials, but the job of insuring our future is up to all of us and it's time for you to get involved.

Town Council Updates



Megan Honer-Orton

Thank you!! - Bob and I would like to thank so many of you who helped us out after my accident in July. We knew that we lived in a great community before, but we appreciate how wonderful much more now. We so appreciated the meals, cards, flowers, errands, medical equipment, personal services and good wishes you sent our way. Thank you so much again. I am recovering. I have been able to jettison that awful back brace and I am beginning to walk again. Hope to see you around town!

Sidewalks - I had planned on reminding those of us who have sidewalks in front of your homes to keep them clear of bushes, branches, hoses, gravel and other debris. I didn't anticipate that I would be needing un-obscured sidewalks, but I will as I begin walking again. Please take a look at your sidewalks for obstacles that could trip up your neighbors, including fallen leaves. When you are learning to walk again the slightest piece of gravel or debris can throw you off balance. Thanks!

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) - The good news is, we have a CER Team. The not so great news is that most of us are too busy to meet. However, I know that should the need arise, your CER Team will be available to do whatever is needed. We have been trained in first aid, disaster management, and building damage assessment. We are grateful that we have not been needed recently and may that continue to be the case.

Sesquicentennial - We appreciate all the hard work the STP residents of Rockville have put into making our Sesquicentennial a huge success and all of you who "drilled" in the drill team! Way to go!!!



PAM LEACH

Celebrating 150 years - Well the usual quiet has returned to Rockville after a joyous celebration of our town's 150th birthday. The turn-out for the Friday night dinner exceeded our expectations with over 200 attendees. The service provided by Zion Party Rentals and delicious food prepared by Wildcat Willies was excellent, and the musical entertainment by the Sunset Corner Bluegrass Band was enjoyed by all! Thank you!!

Saturday's events kicked off with the first parade in Rockville in many, many years. Led by the Boy Scouts Honor Guard, the parade included the Mayor and Councilmembers, locals Lindsey and Samantha Ballard "saddled up" for a ride on their ATV, the World Famous Rockville "Drill" Team, emergency and fire vehicles from both Zion National Park and the Rockville/Springdale Fire District, and finishing with members of the Utah Western Heritage Foundation in period costumes riding horseback and driving various wagons, buggies and buckboards, a fitting tribute to the pioneers who settled this area.

The celebration continued at the Rockville Town Park, where everyone shopped for local goods in the Country Store, enjoyed more music by the Sunset Corner Bluegrass Band, and visited with long-time friends and family members. Rockville's first ever Chili Cook-off, which included nine entrants, was won by local resident Pete Mortensen—congratulations Pete! We all enjoyed a lunch of hamburgers, hot dogs, fixin's and a taste of all the chili's from the contest. Following lunch, the raffle tickets were drawn and many happy attendees went home with items donated by local artists and businesses.

I think we can all agree - it was a fitting celebration for Utah's Last Treasure. Many thanks to all who worked to make the celebration a success, and all of you who attended to make it fun!

Excellent Christmas Gifts!! Looking for that perfect gift for family and friends?? Well, look no more! Rockville has the perfect solution—cookbooks, mugs and t-shirts!! We are currently well-stocked with cookbooks and mugs, and will be ordering more t-shirts, both long-sleeved and short-sleeved, so check with Town office for new sizes in a few weeks.

Santa is coming to town - Rockville will be welcoming Santa on Saturday, December 1st. The fun will begin at 6:00 pm in the Rockville Recreation Hall, so bring something sweet to share, join in singing some Christmas carols, and welcome Santa as he prepares for the busiest day of his year. He will be checking his list to see who has been naughty or nice! See you there.

DOG LICENSES DUE

Dog licenses for 2013 are due December 31, 2012. If you need more than the one application enclosed, contact the Town Clerk at 772-0992. Please remember that **PROOF OF AN UP-TO-DATE RABIES VACCINATION IS REQUIRED**

REMAINDER OF ROCKVILLE MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2012

The Planning Commission usually meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Rockville Community Center, 43 E. Main, Rockville, Utah. **There is no regular meeting scheduled for December.**

The Town of Rockville Town Council will meet on the following dates at the designated time and place for the remainder of the calendar year 2012 unless otherwise posted. The Town Council usually meets on the Wednesday following the second Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. in the Rockville Community Center, 43 E. Main, Rockville, Utah.

December 12

REMAINING 2012 DUMPSTER SCHEDULE FOR 2012

November 16

ROCKVILLE WEBSITE

The new Rockville website is up and you can check it out at rockvilleutah.org. Thanks to Rob Snyder and Vicki Bell for their work on this great addition for Rockville!

UPCOMING VACANCIES ON THE ROCKVILLE PLANNING COMMISSION

There are two three-year terms on the Rockville Planning Commission held by Sharon Hatfield and Logan Hebner that expire December 31, 2012.

If you have an interest in serving on Rockville's Planning Commission, submit a letter of interest containing a statement of why you would like to serve and relevant experience to the Town Clerk no later than 4:00 pm December 31, 2012. This will enable the Town Council to review the request prior to their regular meeting on January 09, 2013. A letter of interest may be sent to the Town of Rockville, PO Box 630206, Rockville, UT 84763 or delivered to the office during regular business hours. The letter must include the NAME, PHYSICAL AND MAILING ADDRESSES AND PHONE NUMBER of the applicant. Rockville Planning Commission members must be residents of the Town of Rockville.

Besides having an interest in preserving Rockville's General Plan, Commission members should be willing to attend training when offered.

The General Plan and Land Use Code may be checked out for your review from the Town Clerk. Office hours are Monday thru Wednesday, 9 am to 4 pm., Thursday, 9 am to 1 pm. Phone - 772-0992.

NOTES FROM YOUR PLANNING COMMISSION

Chair Sharon Hatfield

General Information: Planning Commissioners are appointed by the Town Council to serve three-year terms that are staggered and run from January 1 through December 31, or until replaced. Your current Planning Commissioners are: Sharon Hatfield, Chair, Logan Hebner, Vivian Cropper, Robert Snyder and Linda Brinkley. The Chair position is rotated. The Planning Commission meets the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm. Agendas are posted at the Town Office, on the town's website, and on the Utah Public Notice Website at least 24 hours prior to each meeting in order to keep you abreast of what the Commission is addressing. All meetings are open to the public, who are encouraged to attend.

Outdoor Lighting Ordinance: In the last town Survey, a large majority of residents indicated they would like to see Rockville's night sky protected. In response, the Planning Commission developed an Outdoor Lighting Ordinance that was guided by your written responses to an outdoor lighting survey questionnaire as well as through your participation at a special night sky presentation. Following approval by the Town Council after a public hearing, the Land Use Code was amended to include Chapter 26, Outdoor Lighting, on April 11, 2012.

The main goals of the Chapter are to maintain outdoor lighting practices that minimize light pollution, glare, light trespass and sky glow while still providing adequately for nighttime safety, utility and security. To meet those goals the chapter sets forth specific standards. For example, all outdoor lighting must:

1. use full cutoff fixtures and be installed in a manner that directs light downward with no light emitting above the horizontal.
2. not be placed at a location, angle or height that directs illumination outside the property boundaries.
3. use the lowest wattage necessary to provide safety and function, but may not exceed 60 watts per outdoor fixture.

The chapter also provides specific regulation for spotlights, pathway and driveway lights as well as for field, court and recreation lighting. For complete information, we recommend you access Chapter 26 on Rockville's website—rockvilleutah.org—or call Elaine at the Town Office (772-0992) and request a copy.

The chapter provides that all outdoor lighting legally existing and installed prior to April 11, 2012 shall be brought into compliance within three years - that is, by April 11, 2015. Immediate abatement will be required of all existing lighting that trespasses and/or emits glare that creates a safety hazard.

Off-street Parking Requirements: Chapter 10 - Off-street Parking, has recently been updated to allow parking on public streets provided the parked vehicle does not present a safety hazard. For example, a vehicle, to ensure adequate visibility, may not be parked within 10 feet of a driveway that exits into a street or within 30 feet of either side of a street that enters onto SR-9. Also, vehicles may not be parked directly across from one another on Rockville's narrow side streets.

Chapter 10 prohibits overnight camping on all Rockville streets as well as parking within five feet of a fire hydrant. In addition, the chapter also provides that vehicle parking in a driveway must accommodate the size of the vehicle; that is, no part of a parked vehicle shall block the sidewalk or protrude into the street.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping to keep Rockville the safe, beautiful place we all cherish.