



The Mayor's Minutia

Mayor Dan McGuire

The Bridge. What's the deal on the Bridge?



Here's the deal on the Bridge.

The last inspection of our bridge as completed by the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) downgraded the bridge structure rating to 45.7 points out of a possible 100. The downgrade necessitated changing the bridge load limit from 25 ton to 14 ton and this downgrade prompted an outcry from residents and potential residents on the south side of the river. Suddenly, we had a restriction on heavy vehicles, i.e., cement trucks, solid waste trucks, heavy laden lumber/wallboard trucks, fire trucks etc. You get the picture.

Some, planning to build and others wanting to add new structures to their properties were suddenly faced with a problem as to how they might be able to carry out their plans and realize their dreams.

The first obstacle we had to address was how to handle the solid waste and as you know, for a short period of time, the waste had to be brought across the river to dump in receptacles on the north side. We worked closely with UDOT who fully understood the crisis they had created for us as a result of their annual bridge inspection. Working in concert with the solid waste company, it was recognized that the axle spacing on the waste trucks would distribute the load of their 20 ton trucks, but they would have to alter their pickup route to get the waste from the south side of the river before loading up in the main part of Rockville. Additionally, we sent certified letters to all known suppliers who make deliveries in Rockville and advised them of the bridge load restrictions.

UDOT made it clear to us that although they would be willing to work with us to solve some of these problems, they expected Rockville to address the long term problem of a continually deteriorating bridge structure.

At a meeting of the Five Counties Association of Governments, I learned of some federal funding that is specifically for bridges that are off the main roads, it was referred to as BR-OFF funding and is administered by the Joint Highway Commission, a state body that considers applications for seeking federal money. With a deadline of January 11, 2013 we put together a good application with the expert help of town staff and some key UDOT Engineers as well as in person meetings with At Large UDOT Commissioners. If ever your Mayor and Council Member Jeff felt like politicians, it was during this process where we had to make many phone calls, meet with Commissioners in our own town and plead for guidance and generally schmooze the big guns.

Our application was accepted and Jeff and I had to travel to Woods Cross in February to sell our application, answer questions and somehow convince them that our needs were greater than others competing for the same funds. It might have been Jeff's new boots, but they took a liking to us and did agree to grant us \$3.2 million dollars for an additional bridge. The funds are set to begin in 2016 and continue through 2017 and 2018. All federal money is contingent upon our government actually having some money to grant, so you can see that the funding dates could actually move further out. We were told that we are funded and cannot be taken off the list, but when the money comes is another story.

The funding comes with a 6.77% match, so we are still faced with coming up with \$230,000. So, if you are feeling flush, consider a tidy donation to the bridge project. We have made contact with other agencies that make low or no interest loans and that may be where we turn to for most of the matching money, but we have a yearly budget outlay for the bridge and by the time our funds begin, we will have some to contribute. The initial engineering proposal for an additional bridge was completed by the Baker Company, a world recognized bridge engineering firm and was funded by UDOT and provided to Rockville free of charge. This study provided the basis for our application.

The preliminary study revealed that we might have to acquire about 0.25 acre of land and the primary assumption has been that it could be a section of the Unruh property on the northeast side of the bridge. The Unruh's have been trying to sell that property and now the potential additional bridge has caused some buyers to back away and that is certainly understandable. We (the Town) fully recognize the hardship being created and we are seeking help. The Washington County Council of Governments (COG) has funds set aside for the acquisition of property and we are currently working to qualify for such funds that could

enable the town to purchase the property. There are so many factors involved that it is impossible at the moment to predict the outcome, but I will be attending a meeting in May to make our pitch.

Whenever a community wants to incur a debt for whatever reason, the public must support the reasons and so as the bridge project evolves, we will certainly comply with the mandate to involve you in public meetings. I hope you will get involved and make your voice heard one way or another. Every Mayor that Rockville has had and has today supported taking action on the historic Rockville Bridge to preserve and protect it. The problem has long been matching funds because the split was always 80/20 with the town having to come up with 20%. Recent federal changes brought the match down to 6.77%. That coupled with the downgrade of the load rating meant that we must take action and so we did.

Merely strengthening the bridge is still a multi-million dollar effort and the bridge would never exceed 25 ton and would have a life expectancy of 25 years. With inflation factored in, the cost of replacing our bridge in 25 years would exceed 11 million dollars. The proposed additional bridge would have a load rating of 50 ton and a life of 75 years. You can see the logic in the action we are taking.

I hope this information is helpful to you and perhaps will answer questions you may have had.

I have tried to provide information through public meetings — our regular council meeting, but the public is not much interested in that meeting. I have also provided information about the bridge on our website and although many people do not access such things, many do.

There is nothing secretive about what we are doing. The timeline has been compressed to meet the application deadline and so we did not engage in much casual talk about the course we were pursuing to satisfy the safety aspect of our responsibility as elected officials. In reality, nothing much has happened except the application was presented and accepted with the promise of future funding. Much of what I have presented here has been on the periphery, and are necessary steps that must be taken to be ready.

I am always available to each of you, preferably in groups, to discuss town business or answer your questions. Contact me at 772-3144 or email mayor@rockvilleutah.org.

Town Council Updates

Megan Honer-Orton



Post Office (PO) Petition—If you haven't signed the petition to preserve small town Post Offices, please make a point to stop by the PO. It is on the counter. We will be forwarding it to the USPS soon. Our PO is the heart of our community and it would be a shame to lose it to NBU's (Neighborhood Box Units).

Recycle at the Post Office — A reminder that the drawers in the PO foyer are for recycling of printer cartridges, CD's,

DVD's, batteries and collection of Box Tops for Education and other school benefit coupons. Please contribute, we have to pay a small fee to recycle the batteries, but the funds we get for the printer cartridges helps offset the cost.

E911 — After consulting with our fire department, we have decided not to pursue address changes at this time. We are told that there are several GIS formats in use in Utah and until there is a statewide standard, we don't feel we should change addresses. Our Fire Chief and ambulance service personnel have assured us that they can find all the residences in Rockville.

Sidewalks — When I first started haranguing you about keeping the sidewalks clear, I had no idea that I would be one of those who would need and benefit from them. But after my accident last summer, I am one who needs the sidewalks to be clear of gravel, hoses, bushes, tree branches and other obstacles. Please check your front walks, particularly if you have a gravel driveway. Those of us who have compromised balance can trip on even a small rock. Thanks!

PAM LEACH



Dessert in the Park & Arbor Day Event - Saturday, May 4th, brought us the perfect spring day, with wonderful temperatures and clear blue skies. It also provided another great day for gathering at the Rockville Town Park for the annual Dessert in the Park & Arbor Day celebration. The dessert table was laden with all sorts of goodies—from brownies and cookies, to cakes, pies and cobbler. Top that off with a little vanilla ice cream, and you have the makings of a wonderful event.

Mayor Dan welcomed everyone and read the Arbor Day proclamation, which states the benefits and beauty of trees. Then once we had all stuffed ourselves with dessert, we worked some of it off by planting two Arizona Ash trees in the park. Many hands made quick work of the planting, and soon Rockville's Town Park was graced with two more beautiful trees which will provide beauty and shade for generations to come.

Many thanks to all who attended and provided desserts and helped with the planting! Thanks to Jim Harlan, a photo record of the event will be available for viewing in the Rockville Town Office/Post Office Entry Hall —Thanks Jim!

Rockville is still the best little community around!

JEFF BALLARD



It seems as though this year is flying by very fast. The irrigation season is on us and most have something in the garden.

Pam Leach did a great job with the pie in the park and we had a better than usual crowd for our Arbor Day celebration. We also planted a couple of Ash trees during the event in the town park.

I would like to thank the Rockville/Springdale Fire Protection District firefighters for the assistance in burning all the Russian thistle at the cemetery. I would also like to thank the Fifth District Juvenile Court for their ongoing help in cleaning up all the weeds in and around the grave sites. It would be hard to keep ahead of it all without both agencies' involvement. BIG THANK YOU!

I would like to remind everyone to keep up their front yards and ditches and to reach out and help your neighbors especially with all the new growth starting up. If we can keep up on it then the ditch cleaning isn't so hard when we have town clean up and everything functions better.

As you may have noticed we have been removing some of the lawn in front of the community center that was partially dead and the rest just looked bad. At some point we will be replacing it with new sod, and will need assistance putting it down. Hopefully we will have better luck this time.



ROCKVILLE CEMETERY

We are in the process of computerizing all the cemetery records. We know that since the cemetery was established in 1861 that there have been many burials in unmarked graves. We are currently aware of 57 unmarked graves and suspect there may be more.

We need your help in identifying, if possible, who might be buried in these graves. If you or your family members have any knowledge, documents or family history that can shed light on the identity of our unmarked graves, please contact Vicki Bell at vicki@rockvilleutah.org or you can stop by the office on Tuesday or Thursday mornings from 9 to noon.

POLICY FOR USE OF BULLETIN BOARD IN TOWN OFFICE FOYER

To allow everyone an opportunity to utilize the board, the following rules will apply:

- Posting for Zion Canyon resident opportunities only. Other postings will be removed.
- Maximum size of posting is one-half of an 8-1/2" x 11" page or 5"x8". For calendars indicating an ongoing activity, post card size is suggested. Larger postings will be removed at the discretion of the Town.
- Maximum time limit for posting is two weeks. Material is to be dated at the time of posting. Ongoing calendars of events are exempt, if the calendar is small in size.
- Postings will be removed when the date of the event has expired or the posting has exceeded the allowed time.
- No postings are to be placed on anything except the bulletin board. Walls, bookcase, municipal posting cabinets, etc. are not for public posting.
- Use the push pins provided; tacks, tape and staples are not to be utilized.

Thank you for your cooperation.

NOTICE OF MUNICIPAL OFFICES

to be voted on in the
Town of Rockville Municipal General Election
on
November 5, 2013

Mayor – (4 year term)
and

(2) Town Council Member – (4 year term)
and

(1) Town Council Member – (2 year term)

Candidate Filing Period Begins Monday, June 3, 2013
Declaration of Candidacy Forms or Nomination Petition
must be filed in person with the
Town Clerk at 43 E. Main, Rockville, Utah between the
hours of 9 am and 4 pm
Monday thru Friday.

Candidate Filing Deadline Ends **June 7, 2013**
UCA 10-3-301.

Rockville is a vote-by-mail precinct.

Are you registered to vote in Rockville? You can register in person at the Washington County Clerk's office, or online at www.vote.utah.gov.

ROCKVILLE MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2013

The Town of Rockville Planning Commission will meet on the following dates at the designated time and place for the remainder of the calendar year 2013 unless otherwise posted. 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.**

June 11	August 13	October 08
July 09	September 10	November 12

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 2013 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.

June 12	August 14	October 09
July 10	September 11	November 13
		December 11

REPAIRS/NEW GARBAGE TOTES

Please call (435) 673-2813 for all requests for repairs/new garbage totes.

CLEANUP DUMPSTER SCHEDULE FOR 2013

May 17, August 23, November 22



NEWS FROM COVENANT COMMUNITY

From the Desk of Bob Kelly – 635-5507 – bobkely@cpaz.net.

This is our very first "Covenant Community" Town newsletter missive... sounds sorta military already. As a caring community, or in our special case, one of three special neighboring towns, we have covenanted with the local Guard, Reserve, Active duty, and of course our Honored Veteran community's. They are caring for us and we are caring for them, and their families. We are a terrific WIN-WIN association.

As the liaison veteran for each of our three towns here in the "Zion Canyon", I will be available to provide information and help for all of our service men and women, and their very important military families here at home. Plus the entire communities.

On a personal note, I am an Army veteran having served from Jan 1958 thru March of 1962. That means I am old enough to know better than to volunteer for this very special assignment. Actually I was very pleased to have been asked to help our military members and their families. It is an honor to serve.

Additionally I am the Past commander of American Legion post 142 and a founding member of the "SW Utah Veterans Coalition". Somewhere I find time to serve as the Service Officer for the District 7 American Legion. This is the part most likely to help our towns.

Each month I will try to provide some pieces of information that will be helpful to the military and the entire community. It is our hope that the goodies contained in the articles will help our, "Guys and Girls", and their families.

So here goes the first tidbit of Vet Info. Everyone with any percentage of service-connected disability will have an annual letter from the VA stating the per-cent of the disability. The very same percentage is applicable to your property taxes. You will pay less. PLUS it also applies to the annual tax on your personal usage cars and trucks WOW!!!!

There is a simple form available at the county assessors office in St. George and I have a small supply. Call me. Additionally, and more importantly to the entire community, not just our military folks, there is a terrific real estate abatement (Less Tax Dollars) available for every household with less than \$30,688 of 2012 countable income. Countable means gross income less all non-reimbursed medical expenses.

And finally, my good friend Bruce Solomon, is a "trained to help" VA military returnee adjustment counselor at the local VET CENTER, which is fully separate from the local CBOC. The Community Based Outpatient Center is only for our regular medical services. I have enrollment forms applicable to both centers.

The Vet Centers' phone number is (435) 673-4498. Bruce is anxious to help the military returnee and their family with any and every kind of adjustment difficulty. On top of that he has walked the walk. Bruce is a Nam Vet who has successfully experienced the return to home adjustment difficulties. So call Bruce and tell him Bob Kelly sent you... he has a great laugh!

Remember my name and phone # - BOB KELLY, 635-5507

*Bob Kelly is the Tri-Community Coordinator for the Covenant Community Program. This program has been endorsed by all three Mayors of Rockville, Springdale and Virgin.

Gardener Needed. Not a mow, blow and go, but real gardening. Weeding, transplanting, selective trimming, mulching, spraying, using organic methods. Call Megan 668-8883.

For Sale: Used Cast Iron Wood Burning Parlor Stove. Stands 31" high, 26-1/2 L x 19" W. Easily heats a small home and has a surface for cooking. \$250 or best offer. Call (435) 772-0909 after 1:00 pm.



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