

# THE ROCKVILLE GLOBE

Volume 17, Issue 3

August 15, 2014

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## Notes from the Mayor

### MAYOR TRACY DUTSON

Greetings Residents of Rockville! Time seems to be flying fast and we are already in August with summer running out and fall fast approaching. I hope that your gardens have been productive and you have all had a chance for some rest and relaxation.

The Rockville Town Council has been working on the annual budget since April, we held two budget work meetings in order to get a clear picture as to where our Town finances stood. The picture was far from rosy! The Town Council soon learned that the Town has been running at a budget shortfall for several years and has had to utilize "rainy day" reserve funds to balance the budget. In budget terms, this is not a fiscally prudent way to manage the Town budget. The Town Council went line by line in this year's budget to find possible areas to cut spending, but at the end we were only able to cut about \$1,000. The budget is lean and our Town is very frugal with its non essential spending, relying on our wonderful volunteers to perform most duties.

In order to avoid continued budget shortfalls, the Town Council has made the very difficult decision to propose a property tax increase. Many of you have received your property tax notice from Washington County. Upon seeing that the proposed increase is equal to 131.40% above your 2014 property tax rate, I am certain you must have thought your eyes were playing tricks on you.

The last time we had a property tax increase was in 2008 and that was to specifically fund our share of the Zion Canyon Police, with no additional funds for other Town budget items. Prior to the increase in 2008, our Town has not had an increase since the Town was incorporated in 1987. Since 1987, the cost of operating Rockville has increased as has the cost of living in general, and our Town revenue has not kept pace with these increases.

We all value the rural character and charm of our Town. Our General Plan does not allow commercial operations (other than a small number of Bed and Breakfast operations) which means that we receive a very limited amount of sales or use taxes, so the burden falls on the residents in the form of property taxes which fund the Town operations.

I enjoy serving the Town of Rockville as your Mayor and thank you for the opportunity!

All the best, Tracy

## Town Council Updates



### MEGAN HONER-ORTON

#### Thank You Drill Team!! Great performance!!

**Tax Increase** -- Yes, we need to increase taxes. The cost of most everything has gone up and we have used our reserve funds for several large projects the most significant being our Post Office/ Town Office and the insulation of our community center buildings among other projects . We have raised taxes only once since our incorporation and that was specifically to pay for police protection. Now, however, our council has gone line by line through the budget and the only cuts we could make were to senior lunch, grad night and YAZ and our donations to those were not large. We hope you will give us your input. We know it's hard, we know no one likes it, but there doesn't seem to be an alternative.

**Recycling Household Batteries** - We can no longer recycle ordinary alkaline batteries locally. Only rechargeable batteries will be accepted for recycling. SO, PLEASE only buy rechargeable batteries from now on!!!! Thanks!!!!

**Water Conservation** - Please watch your water consumption. I suspect the reason the water company has not put us on alternate day watering is because when they do that, consumption goes up, not down, because we know it is in short supply. I have also noticed that a few residents who have irrigation water are also using culinary water to sprinkle at night. Stop It!! Even though we have had some rain, it is not recharging the aquifer from which our household water is drawn.

Some things we can do: full loads of dishes and laundry, shorter showers, catch the water that would run down the drain while you are waiting for the water to get hot and water your plants with it, and, of course, turn off the water when you brush your teeth.

**Rockville** - We are all in this together. Your participation in our town is vital. The closest we get to true democracy is right here. Please answer the call, whether its attendance at town meetings, a vacancy on a town board, raising the flags, picking up trash, participating in town events or helping your neighbor. We currently have a vacancy on the Planning Commission and could use volunteers to take the Community Emergency Response Team training.



**PAM LEACH**

**2014 ROCKVILLE DAZE - OCTOBER 11TH**

Mark your calendars for Rockville's annual "Daze" in the park! Hamburgers, hot dogs and all the trimmings - Country Store - Live music - Raffle.

Watch for times and more information to be posted at the Office & in the Post Office foyer. Cooks and crafters - start thinking about items you want to donate for sale at the Country Store.

Monies raised at this event will be used to sponsor the other wonderful community events held in Rockville - the Christmas Party, Appreciation Breakfast and Arbor Day-Dessert In The Park. So come join family and friends for a good time and show your support for our wonderful community!



The Rockville Park is available for exercising your dogs as long as they are under voice command or leashed. Please clean up after your dog when necessary out of courtesy for the next users of the park.

**ROCKVILLE PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2014**

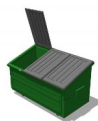
The Rockville Planning Commission will meet on the following dates at the designated time and place for the remainder of the calendar year 2014 unless otherwise posted. The Planning Commission usually meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. in the Rockville Community Center, 43 E Main, Rockville, Utah. **PLEASE NOTE THE DATE FOR NOVEMBER HAS BEEN CHANGED TO A WEDNESDAY AND THERE IS NO SCHEDULED MEETING IN DECEMBER.**

September 09	October 14
November 12	<b>Dec. No meeting</b>

**NOTES FROM THE CLERK'S DESK**



There seems to be an attitude that when horse owners ride their horses on the streets of Rockville, they don't have to pick up or clean up after their horses. But horse manure **HAS TO BE CLEANED UP** when it is left on the public sidewalks and streets!! It can't be left where it falls. Your attention to this matter will be greatly appreciated by your neighbors.



The dumpsters that are located on Bridge Road leading up to Eagle Crags Road are for the specific use of the residents of the Mesa and Grafton Road who do not have access to the services of a garbage pick up. We have had reports of the dumpsters being used by people other than those living on the Mesa and Grafton Road. If you have trash or other items too large for your garbage totes, the Town of Rockville does provide cleanup dumpsters four times a year for your use. The next cleanup dumpster is scheduled for August 29.

**ROCKVILLE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2014**

The Rockville Town Council will meet on the following dates at the designated time and place for the remainder of the calendar year 2014 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. **PLEASE NOTE THE DATE FOR THE NOVEMBER MEETING HAS BEEN CHANGED TO A THURSDAY.**

September 10	October 15
November 13	December 10

**CLEANUP DUMPSTER SCHEDULE FOR 2014**

August 29 and November 21

**WANT TO CONTACT YOUR TOWN OFFICIALS?**

You are welcome to contact your Town officials at the following email addresses:

**Rockville Town Council**

Mayor Tracy Dutson	mayor@rockvilleutah.org
Pam Leach	pam@rockvilleutah.org
Megan Honor-Orton	megan@rockvilleutah.org
Bernie Harris	bernie@rockvilleutah.org
V. Terry Bell	terry@rockvilleutah.org

**Rockville Planning Commission**

Sharon Hatfield	sharon@rockvilleutah.org
Vivian Cropper	vivian@rockvilleutah.org
Linda Brinkley	linda@rockvilleutah.org
Bob Ford	bob@rockvilleutah.org

Town Clerk, Elaine Harris	rockville@rockvilleutah.org
Deputy Town Clerk, Vicki Bell	vicki@rockvilleutah.org



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