

Huntsville Happenings

www.huntsvilletown.com P.O. Box 267 801-745-3420 April 2024

Town Council Meetings 1st and 3rd Thursdays each month at 6:45 PM

Planning Commission Meetings 4th Thursday each month at 6:30 PM

The Public is always welcome!

Notice of Annual Water Meeting

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the annual meeting of Shareholders (including those entitled to become Shareholders prior to the annual meeting) of the HUNTSVILLE WATERWORKS CORPORATION will be held on Tuesday, April 9, at the Huntsville Town Maintenance Building, 165 S 7500 E, Huntsville, Utah at 7:00 p.m. The order of business at the annual meeting of the Shareholders will be as follows:

- (a) Reading of Notice and Proof of Mailing.
- (b) Minutes of the last annual meeting will be available for Shareholders to read.
- (c) Report of the Treasurer.
- (d) Report of the President or other elected officer.
- (e) Elections
- (f) Such other business as may be introduced by any Shareholder.

A meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held following the Shareholders meeting. There is one position on the Board of Trustees open for election. This position is for a three-year term. The annual assessment for shares will be sent out June 1.

Irrigation Water

As in other years the irrigation water will be placed in the system approximately May 1. However, to avoid filling your lines with dirty water, **shut your main valve off before the irrigation water is turned on. REMEMBER THAT THE SECONDARY WATER IS NOT SAFE TO DRINK. ALL CHILDREN SHOULD BE REMINDED OF THIS REGULARLY.**

Town Clean-up Day

We have scheduled our Spring Town Clean-up Day for Saturday, April 20, from 8:30 AM to noon. Meet in the

Southwest Bowery between 8 and 8:30 AM. We will need power washers to clean the gazebo and picnic tables in the boweries. We also need rakes and shovels to clean up the park and lay new mulch in the playground. Come and join your friends and neighbors and help us make our park look beautiful.

Turkey Trapping

Our infamous Turkey Trapper, Mack Devries, had a successful season, trapping some 83 turkeys, which were ultimately relocated to eastern Utah. Last year, the Utah DWR trapped and removed 125-150 birds, for a total of more than 200 turkeys trapped and relocated in the last two years. We will put the traps away for now, but will aggressively begin trapping again next fall.

Huntsville Annexations

Our border has expanded over the last couple of months. About two years ago, members of the Ogden Valley incorporation committee reached out to share their plans for incorporation, and initially asked if we would consider annexing the entire valley to become one city. We thanked them, but respectfully declined to be included in their new city. They also asked for our support of the incorporation efforts, and we told them we were in support of their effort.

While we feel that residents should have the right for local representation, we were put in the unfortunate situation of playing defense, because our small town was about to be surrounded on all sides by a larger city. While there had been talk in town for years of possibly expanding our borders, we were now faced with the proverbial gun to our head, and we had a relatively short time to act. The county's attorneys informed us that any annexations would need to be completed prior to the incorporation's first meeting to present the feasibility

study. Unfortunately, nothing in government moves quickly, so we spent the next couple of years trying to navigate the situation in conjunction with the Incorporation Committee, Weber County, the Forest Service, the Lieutenant Governor's office, the state legislature, our residents, surrounding neighbors and others. We immediately began looking at areas we would consider annexing. In the ensuing months, we revised our potential annexation map many times. Initially, we started with a large area, but over time the area dwindled because of two concerns - exceeding a population of 1,000, which would grow us to a city, and the ability to provide water and services to the larger areas.

Concurrently, residents outside of our boundaries received a letter from the Lieutenant Governor, informing them of the possible incorporation. Many of those neighbors reached out to us stating that they would rather be in Huntsville, than a new city headquartered and organized in Eden. Over time, some of those neighbors opted out of being annexed into Huntsville. In the end, four entities applied for annexation. They came to us and applied on their own - we did not force them to annex. One later backed out because of the property owner's desire to ultimately subdivide his property, and he felt he could get approved for four lots in Weber County, and only three lots if in Huntsville.

We welcome our new families, Lonnie and Nancy Bailey, and Sanford Moss and Laurie Porter. Their properties are east of the new Sage subdivision, and both properties were already being served by Huntsville water, so their inclusion seemed to make sense.

The other properties are located north of First street and west of Highway 39. There were several properties formerly owned by the McKay family, but recently sold to Steve Starks. Mr. Starks owns several contiguous parcels, with some being in Huntsville while others were in Unincorporated Weber County. One of the county properties was zoned "RE-20," which means it was permitted to have five houses per acre, vs our R-1 zoning throughout much of the town, which only allows one house on a ¾-acre lot. As part

of the annexation agreement, Mr. Starks agreed to up-zone the property to A-3 (1 house per 3-acres). Additionally, he agreed to limit the number of houses to only four on the 30+ acre property and his water connections to five. The Town Council felt this was a win-win, and a way to preserve open space vs. the potential for many homes being allowed with the county's zoning left unchanged. We appreciate Mr. Starks' generosity and welcome his family to our community.

Lastly, we looked closely at the Forest Service properties surrounding Pineview, and ultimately made the difficult decision to annex a portion of their properties. We annexed the Forest Service property south of town from Winters Grove west to include Anderson Cove campground, then across the reservoir, surrounding Cemetery Point, and then across the reservoir to the Northeast to include Spring Creek.

The recent annexations should net the town more area and additional property tax revenue, with very limited requirements for servicing the new areas. Additionally, the need for road maintenance and plowing for the newly annexed properties will be very minimal.

Summer Concert in the Park August 31, 2024

Do you remember the 1970's band "Bread?" We are excited to announce that their Number One tribute band, "Toast," will be headlining the show. Toast travels the country and sells out every show, and they have generously agreed to help us raise funds for the audio/video system for our new Town Hall and Community Center. Tickets will be available soon and we will have some special discounts for our residents. It should be a fun night, so be sure to mark your calendars.

That's all for now. Thanks for being great neighbors and friends.

Richard L. Sorensen
Mayor