

HIGHLAND INSIDER

VOLUME 22, ISSUE 4

APRIL 2016



COUNCIL BRIEF

In each month's newsletter we give a brief overview of some stand-out items from City Council meetings. For full agendas, minutes, and audio, please visit bit.ly/HC-agenda.

March 1

Canal Boulevard/Murdock Connector or the SR 74 East/West Connector is a complicated project due to all of the entities involved and the length and cost of the road. The State Developmental Center's Master Plan includes a plan for the Connector as well as a mixed-use development of 143 acres of property along North County Boulevard. Recently, City Staff requested proposals and recommended a firm to City Council for approval on the design work of the road. Shortly before the City Council meeting, the State Legislature passed a bill that required the Legislature to sign off on any changes to the Developmental Center Land. As such, the design work will not currently go ahead on the project. Staff and City Council will continue to work with State Legislators as well as the affected neighborhoods to see what can be done to move this project forward.

City staff has been in the process of updating our Building Use Fees and Policies. The major changes include:

- Residents are now charged \$15 per hour
- Non-residents are now charged \$30 per hour
- 501(c)(3) groups are now charged a \$5 per hour
- The Council Chambers are available to rent to groups hosting political education events

You can see the full policy and all information at bit.ly/HC-Building_Reserve.

March 15

Council authorized City Staff to complete Road Reconstruction on 6000 West as a part of the Road Maintenance plan. The reconstruction will take place from 10400 North to the north side of the Murdock Canal Trail. This will take place March 30 - April 30 (weather permitting). To see the full Road Maintenance Map visit <http://bit.ly/HC-roads>.

For the past couple of months, City Council has discussed the idea of selling the land dedicated to future Spring Creek Park (east of Mountain View Drive and north of 9860 N) in order to help pay for some development of Mountain Ridge Park (west of Mountain Ridge Junior High). City Council authorized staff to begin the disposal process of Spring Creek Park This does not mean that Council is required to sell the property, but allows staff to begin the notification process so that if Council chooses to sell, things are ready.

CITY CALENDAR

April 5: City Council*, 7:00 p.m.

April 15: Pressurized Irrigation turns on

April 19: City Council*, 7:00 p.m.

April 23: Highland Glen Bike Track Community Project 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

April 30: Arbor Day Tree Sale, 8-2 p.m.

April 30: Arbor Day Tree Planting Project, 8:00 a.m.

April 26: Planning Commission*, 7:00 p.m.

SAVE THE DATE

May 6-7: Spring Clean-Up

May 5: Youth Fishing Class starts

May 12: City Budget Open House

*Access to Statewide Public Notifications, including City Council, Planning Commission and Committee Agendas, Meeting Minutes and various other notifications can be found at www.utah.gov/pmn

PHONE NUMBERS

City Offices 801-756-5751, 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday - Thursday

Library 801-772-4528

Justice Court 801-772-4525

Police Department/Animal Control 801-756-9800

Fire Department 801-763-5365

After-Hours Public Works Emergencies (water, sewer, streets) 801-420-2553

Republic Services (garbage and recycle pick-up, can repairs) 801-785-5935

Report a concern, pay your bill, etc. online at: www.highlandcity.org

SOCIAL MEDIA

Check us out on Facebook and Twitter @HighlandCity

Community Newsletter items may be emailed to: emily@highlandcity.org

CHECK OUT PAGE 4 FOR BUDGET & UTILITY RATE STUDY INFORMATION

Recreation Programs

Highland City participates with [Cedar Hills City Recreation](#). All youth sports and recreation programs are available with no additional non-resident fees. Please contact Cedar Hills Recreation at recreation@cedarhills.org or call: 801-785-9668, ext. 302.

Tot Soccer for Boys and Girls Ages 3 & 4: Tot Soccer is a fun, six-week soccer league for children ages 3 & 4, offered in both the spring and fall every year. Parents are encouraged to coach, if possible. Online registration is available at [REC1.com](#) before April 9. Registration fee is \$25 plus \$5 for a reversible, reusable jersey, if you haven't already purchased one. The jersey will be used for all Cedar Hills recreation programs. Games are played on Tuesday evenings at Mesquite Park.

T-Ball for Boys and Girls Ages 4 & 5: This is a great way to introduce children to baseball or softball. Every child bats every inning and plays in the outfield. Games are played twice a week, beginning the first week in June through the end of June. Online registration at [REC1.com](#) opens in April of each year until the teams are filled. The cost is \$25 per child.

Highland City Youth Fishing Instructors Wanted

Do you want to share your love of fishing with young people? Become a Highland City fishing instructor.

Classes are held on Thursdays in May from 5:30-7:00 p.m. at Highland Glen Park. Those who are in the

Dedicated Hunter program with the Division of Wildlife Resources may earn volunteer hours towards the program. Contact Emily at Highland City for more information 801-772-4523.

Youth Hooked on Fishin' Class

Highland's youth fishing classes focus on educating youth about fishing and aquatic resources. Classes are held for four weeks on Thursdays, May 5 – May 26, from 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at Highland Glen Park. Cost is \$20 which includes instruction manual, bait, tackle, and t-shirt. A fishing pole may be rented for an additional \$5. Class is limited to 20 participants, ages 6 years old and over. Parents are more than welcome to attend and participate with the class (no registration required for adults). Register online starting April 1 at www.highlandcity.org (go to the Recreation page under the Events Department).

Fence Permits

Section 3-612 of the Development Code, requires residents to obtain a permit when installing a fence, screen wall, or hedge wall on their property. The cost is \$25 and does require a simple review process to make certain that all guidelines are followed. Applications are available at the City office or on the website at: <http://www.highlandcity.org/index.aspx?nid=223>. You may also contact us at planning@highlandcity.org or (801) 772-4515 for more information.

Library Events and Classes

Family Fun Night: held every Monday Night from 7:00-8:00 p.m. unless otherwise specified. Activities will vary from week to week. April Activities are: Chess Club (4/4 from 6:00-7:00 p.m.), Robotics (4/11), Trivia (4/18), and TBA (4/25).

Genealogy Class with Matt Pinkston: Thursday, April 21, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. Professional genealogist, Matt Pinkston will answer questions and demonstrate how to use online databases.

Teen Book Club: Monday, April 25, 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. The Teen Book for April is *The Witch of Blackbird Pond* by Elizabeth Speare. The hour will be an open discussion for anyone who read that month's selection. We encourage patrons to come prepared to discuss what they liked or disliked about the book and to ask their own questions.

English, Writing, & Computer Basics Tutoring: one-on-one tutoring help is available for these subjects for all ages. Email taylor.highlandcitylibrary@gmail.com to set up an appointment.

Room for Everyone: The Library is currently undergoing a "re-write". Come in or follow us on Facebook and Twitter to see all the fun changes being made.

Contact taylor.highlandcitylibrary@gmail.com if you have any questions about library programs.

Highland Glen Bike Park Community Project

In 2015, the Highland City Council partnered with local Boy Scout Carson Seegmiller on his Eagle Scout Project to bring a Bike Course to Highland City. The Highland Glen Bike Track will be a BMX, mountain bike-park, and skills course situated in the north end of Highland Glen Park. The park is designed with multiple courses for all skill levels so that a variety of individuals can use and enjoy this amenity. Lots of work has been done over the winter and now we are ready for the final push and **we need help!**

We invite you to volunteer with your family to in moving some dirt, and shaping of jumps. Come out to the Bike Park on **Saturday, April 23 at 9:00AM to 12:00PM** and do your part to make this great park a reality.

Items to bring: Work clothes, gloves, eye protection, rakes, flat head shovels and water. Chick-fil-a will be providing lunch at noon until the food is gone! Professional BMX riders will also be on hand to instruct in jump building and maintenance. We thank those local builders who have already donated material to this project. We are still looking for more donations. If you or someone you know can help, please give us a call at 801-772-4566.

Assist us in giving back to our community and in building a legacy for generations to come!



Highland City Arts Council



Seascape Watercolor Classes by Sharon Cannon. Classes held April 18 & 25 from 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Cost is \$30 for both days or \$15 for one day. Sharon is an accomplished watercolorist and this class will be very informative.

Oil Painting Classes by Regan Reichert. Classes held April 11 & 25 from 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Drawing Classes by Regan Reichert. Classes held April 4 and 18 from 1:30-3:00 p.m. \$20 per class.

Kids Art Classes held April 11, 18 and 25 from 3:00-4:00 p.m. \$10 per class.

Annual Art Show dates set for August 1-6. More information will be made available soon.

Second Annual Creekside Theatrefest held in June at the Cedar Hills Amphitheatre. Please check out the website at creeksidetheatrefest.org for more information.

To Register for Arts Council classes or for more information, please visit www.highlandcityarts.org or call at Shauna 801-756-9614. Classes are held at the Community Center, 5378 West 10400 North, unless otherwise noted.

Arbor Day Activities

Come celebrate Arbor Day by helping the Tree Commission plant trees. Join us on Saturday, April 30 at 8:00 a.m. on North County Blvd (south side of SR92/4800 W). Volunteers are asked to bring shovels, rakes, and water buckets. Scouts, schools, sports teams, families, etc. are encouraged to help out. If you have a fourth grader attending a Highland Elementary School, they will have a fun school assembly and plant a tree to celebrate Arbor Day!



Spring Clean-Up

The annual Highland City Spring Clean-Up will take place May 6-7, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. at the parking lot at the mouth of the American Fork Canyon. Dumpsters will be available so you can dispose of your metal, wood, household waste, and yard waste (please no hazardous materials). Scouts and other groups are welcome to help city crews during this time and earn community service hours! If you are interested in doing a project, please contact Public Works at 801-772-4515.

Arbor Day Annual Tree Sale

The annual Tree Sale will be held on April 30 from 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. on the corner of 10700 North and 5400 West by the Police Station, City Hall, and Library. April 30 is reserved for Highland Residents only. Please bring proof of residency (ID, Utility Bill, etc.). All forms of payment are accepted. All trees are sold AS IS, with a maximum of 8 trees per resident. A list of trees for sale and their prices will be provided on-line at least one week before the Tree Sale on the Arbor Day page at www.highlandcity.org.

Some trees will be slightly higher in price due to limited quantities and a high demand from our grower. Maple trees quantities will be limited as the price is significantly higher this year. Any trees left over from the April 30 sale will be available for anyone to purchase on May 7.

Pressurized Irrigation

The pressurized irrigation system will be back on and ready for use the week of **April 15**. Please be patient while the City brings up the system. It usually takes a week to ten days to bring online. Make sure your stop and waste valves are **shut off** while the system is being loaded. Individual sprinkling systems can then be loaded by residents.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAY

FOR RESIDENTS OF UTAH COUNTY



April 9, 2016 9:00 A.M. — 3:00 P.M.

Provo Towne Centre West Parking Lot

What TO bring:

- Medications
- Gasoline / fuels / motor oil / lubricants
- Batteries (auto, ATV, laptop, tools, hearing aids, sealed lead acid/SLA)
- Antifreeze
- Solvents / paint thinners
- Aerosol cans / paints / stains
- Pesticides / herbicides
- Glues / adhesives
- Fluorescent light bulbs
- Mercury thermometers
- Photographic chemicals
- Electronics (strict limit 2 per vehicle)
- Paper for Shredding
- Glass bottles and jars

What NOT:

- Containers over 5 gallons in size
- Ammunition/ explosives
- Compressed gas tanks / propane tanks
- Asbestos materials
- PCB- related materials
- Medical / biological waste
- Radioactive waste
- Fire extinguishers
- Business / commercial / construction waste
- Tires
- Gas cans (no exchange)

NO!

Please do not mix wastes (bring in original containers if possible). Waste must be capped or sealed.



For information: 801-851-7525 or www.UtahCountyHealth.org/hhw

Utility Rate Study

Over the past year, Highland City has made an effort to better understand the true cost of utility services. City Council and staff worked together to create master plans and maintenance plans and update our impact fees. Once that was complete, the City hired a consulting firm to complete a Utility Rate Study. Their findings show that **our current utility rates do not provide enough revenue for the City to carry out that needed maintenance and capital improvement to ensure good service now and in the future.**

Right now the final calculations are still being conducted to determine what the bottom line cost will be on utility bills. It is anticipated that the consultant will make final a final presentation to City Council on Tuesday, April 5 at the 7:00 City Council meeting. Council will then adopt the new rates on Tuesday, May 3 at the 7:00 City Council meeting. Additional information including a discussion on impact fees, rate history, needed projects, and background information can be found at www.highlandcity.org. Updates will also be shared there as they become available. If after reading the information you still have questions, please don't hesitate to contact us at 801-756-5751.

Annual Report

In an effort to improve transparency and communication, Highland City has instituted an Annual Report. The report is designed to give a snapshot of each of the City departments and the projects they have worked on over the year. You can see the full report at <http://bit.ly/HC-Admin>.

The highlights show that most departments duties have increased over the past year. Whether it was:

- 44% increase in total building permits,
- 21% increase in the number of water meters installed, or
- 21% increase in the number of cemetery burials

In addition, we have a number of important projects coming up. For example:

- Administration is working on a performance measurement system and other processes to improve accountability and equity among employees,
- Community Development is updating our GIS data to improve City records and data,
- Engineering is working on a Road Reconstruction Plan of the City's failed roads to have a better understanding of the condition and cost of repairs, and
- the Library is working to improve its community outreach.

In all, Highland City is a busy place. Employees work hard to make life for Highland residents the best it can be. If you have any questions related to this report, please reach out to the City Administrators Office, 801-772-4510.

Community and Budget Open House

The fifth annual Highland City Community Open House is scheduled for Thursday, May 12 from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at the City Hall. Parents, come learn about what's going on with Highland City, get a preview of the city's budget for the upcoming year, and learn about the Utility Rate Study. Kids, come enjoy a bounce house, games, and more. Highland City businesses will also be hosting booths and will have plenty of giveaways. If your business is interested in being a part of the event, contact Erin Wells at erin@highlandcity.org or 801-772-4566 to reserve your spot. Spaces are limited.

Resident Survey

1,094 residents took our 2016 Resident Survey. Both the response number as well as the demographic markers show that the results can be applied to the community. Full results are at <http://bit.ly/HC-Admin>. Here are a few things we've learned:

The top reasons people live in Highland are *Large Lot Size* (55%), *Family Focused City* (54%), and *Low Congestion* (41%). We will do our best to preserve those things that are important to you.

The top things residents want to focus on this year are *Improving and Repairing Roads* (70%) and *Debt Reduction* (43%). The City is proposing more road maintenance funding in the FY2017 budget. In addition, the City recently refinanced the parks and building bonds saving nearly \$530,000 over the next 11 years.

Some of the highest rated City functions are (out of 4): *Fire Service* (3.4), *EMS* (3.3), *Cemetery*, *Crime Prevention*, *Garbage*, and *Utility Billing* (each at 3.2). We will continue to strive for excellence in those areas. Some of the lowest rated functions are: *Roads* (1.8), *Library* (2.5), *Events* (2.5), and *Code Enforcement* (2.6). As previously discussed, the City is proposing more road maintenance funding. In addition, the Library is currently undergoing an intense audit and reorganization. And a new staff position has been created with one of the duties as code enforcement.

89% of residents felt general City staff were doing a *Good* or *Excellent* at their job. We appreciate your confidence and will continue to do our best to serve you.

Residents prefer communication via the *Newsletter* (67%), *Email* (57%), and *Website* (39%). Staff is currently working to do a revamp of the newsletter. In addition, a new website and e-mail communication tool will be launched mid-April and staff has been working to ensure it is very user friendly.