



HIGHLAND INSIDER

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Improving Services in your community!

Barry Edwards, City Administrator

Eighteen months ago the City finished installing electronic water meters at each home throughout the city. These meters emit a signal which is read by a computer located in a city vehicle. The signal gives the exact meter reading as the vehicle passes by on the street in front of your house. The decision about which meter system to use was difficult and required consulting with the City's Water Advisory Board and the City Council.

The consensus among city officials was that this type of system was a good idea; however no one quite understood how positive it would be. As the system has been used significant benefits have been recognized in three main areas: 1) billing accuracy, 2) water conservation, and 3) manpower savings.

Billing Accuracy. The electronic meter transmits water usage to a wireless computer which then downloads data to City Hall. This process eliminates human error in meter reading as well as clerical mistakes from data input. Our utility customers can have the confidence in knowing their bill accurately reflects water usage.

Water Conservation. One of the hazards of manual reads is that water leaks are harder to detect and may go unnoticed for a significant period of time. Water leaks are a financial liability because the resident has to pay for the water and it also affects the sewer bill. Under the manual system a leak could go unnoticed for as long as six months. City records indicated that some past leaks have been as high as one million gallons. That's a lot of water! With electronic meter reading, leaks are now detected within 30 days and the highest leak now recorded has been 75,000 gallons. In fact, the system has an alarm that alerts the meter reader if more than 50,000 gallons has been used in a month. This is an enormous service to our residents who are protected from the financial exposure that a million gallon leak can impose. This also potentially saves millions of gallons of water each year as well as wear and tear on culinary pumps.

Manpower Savings. Under the manual system, it generally took 5 employees 3 weeks to read all the meters. Because of the time it took, meter reading was only done 3 times a year. The new system allows meters to be read by 1 person in a 4-hour period each month. If you calculate actual hours, this saves almost one annual full time position. Top that off with the time saved for the billing clerk to enter the readings 3 times each year (approximately 60 hours). Since the data is transferred electronically no data entry is required.

During these trying economic times many residents have a tight budget. Reading meters on a monthly basis allows utility bills to be relatively constant and much easier to budget for. Accurate monthly billing also helps our customers understand their bills better with fewer surprises.

All of the above items enable the City to keep water rates low which is a savings for you, the resident. Highland City strives every day to improve service to residents. I hope you will agree that electronic meter reading has been a wise endeavor. Especially if you are someone whose leak we detected early and saved hundreds of dollars!

Highland City -- Making life better!



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MAYORAL DEBATE and MEET THE CANDIDATES NIGHT!

THURSDAY, OCT 22
6:30 p.m.
Highland City Hall

Randomly drawn questions may be submitted that evening or emailed to gina@highlandcity.org Audio recordings of the City Hall event will be available by contacting the Records Office at 801-772-4506.

PTA's from Freedom Elementary and Mtn Ridge Jr. High will also be hosting an event:

FRIDAY, OCT 9
7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Mtn Ridge Junior High
5525 West 10400 No.

LIBRARY NEWS!

Did you know—Repairing library materials at home can actually cause more damage. If a library item needs to be repaired, please bring it in and let us know it needs a repair such as a torn page, scratched disc, etc.

The October book for the **teen bookclub** will be *Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson. Contact Michelle in the library to sign up for the next book.

Excerpt from, The body in the book-drop, by Michelle DeKorver and Beth Totten.

Liz sighed and reached her arm into the box to shift books, movies, and audio books out from between the overfull cart and the 4' x 5' metal box it rested in. That's when she felt it... She stifled a terrified squeak, and practically JUMPED backwards, away from the box. That was no book! She stood shaking for a moment... wondering... Then, taking a deep breath and gathering her courage, she tentatively bent down to peek between the cart and the box it was in. Yes. Liz was certain now and she felt sick. It was an arm. A cold arm. There was a body in the book-drop! **TEENS** please join us on **October 30th at 7:00 pm SHARP** at the Highland City Library for a **Murder Mystery Night**. Dress up as anyone (or thing) human(oid.) Interrogate witnesses, review forensic evidence and follow leads to solve the crime! [Eerie refreshments will be served...]



The library opens at 10:00 am and closes at 9:00 pm Mondays–Thursday and at 6:00 pm on Fridays & Saturdays.

Contact the **Highland City Library** 801-772-4528

Email: highlandcitylibrary@highlandcity.org Web: www.highlandcitylibrary.org

RUN TO SERVE

Looking for a way to get in-shape and involved?? Come join Community Action Services and Food Bank for the 1st annual 5K run/walk for Utah County's Food Bank on **Saturday, October 17 at 8:30 a.m.** Online registration is \$20; day-of registration is \$25 (or \$20 with five cans of non-perishable food). All proceeds go to the Food Bank and other services offered by Community Action. For more info or to register please visit the website at www.communityaction5k.org or contact Erica Hone at 801-691-5237.

Transportation and Community Planning Open House

October 14, 2009

4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Am. Fork Senior Center

54 East Main, Am. Fork

October 21, 2009

4:30 to 7:00 p.m.

Orem Senior Friendship Ctr

93 North 400 East, Orem

October 28, 2009

4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Springville Senior Center

65 East 200 So, Springville

Please come out and learn about air quality, road/highway improvements, new community development, transit plans, and how it affects you. Information will be available on: Lehi 2100 North, I-15 CORE Reconstruction, Pioneer Crossing Blvd, Commuter Rail, Bus Rapid Transit, Geneva Road, Provo Westside Connector, American Fork Main Street Study, West Lake Vision Study. Representatives from Mountainland, UDOT, UTA, and communities in Utah County will be available to answer questions on transportation plans and community development.

Low or No-Cost Health Care Options Available for Children and Uninsured

Due to economic difficulties, many Utahns are losing health care benefits as a result of job losses and employer budget cuts. In an effort to reduce the number of uninsured, the Utah Department of Health (UDOH) offers the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) to help Utahns provide health insurance for their children. UDOH also offers Utah's Premium Partnership for Health Insurance (UPP) to help Utahns provide health insurance for themselves and children.

CHIP provides comprehensive health insurance for the uninsured children of families who qualify. It is now easier for working families to qualify! For example, a family of four earning up to \$44,100 a year may be eligible. CHIP also offers a more inclusive mental health benefit package and change co-pay amounts for selected benefits, as directed by the 2008 Utah Legislature. CHIP is now open year-round and will continue accepting applications. Once approved, CHIP covers well-child exams, immunizations, hospital and emergency care, mental health services, dental care, hearing and eye exams, and more. CHIP does not require a co-payment for well-child exams and immunizations.

UPP was designed to help more uninsured Utahns afford their employer health plans. If an employee's work offers health insurance, qualified individuals and their families may receive up to \$150 per person each month from UPP to help cover their monthly premium payment.

Approval for UPP is also considered a qualifying event for applicants to enroll in their employer-sponsored health insurance. Previously, employees could enroll or make changes to their insurance only during open enrollment or if they had a 'qualifying lifetime event' like marriage or the birth of a child. Now, qualifying for UPP is included as an eligible event, making it possible for individuals to enroll in work-sponsored coverage year-round.

For more information about CHIP, visit <http://www.health.utah.gov/healthservices.htm> or call 1-877-KIDS-NOW (1-877-543-7669). Visit the same website for UPP or call 1-888-222-2542.

2009 GENERAL ELECTION - MAYORAL CANDIDATES

please visit www.highlandcity.org for detailed platform information



JAY W. FRANSON
 (801) 756-8266
 10179 N. 5950 West
FRANSON.jay.2009@comcast.net



LYNN RITCHIE
 (801) 756-5642
 11071 N. Manor Drive
lynnmayor2009@yahoo.com
www.ritchieformayor.com

CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES - Vote for two



TOM BUTLER
 (801) 616-3425
 6232 W. 10150 North
tombutler2009@gmail.com
www.tombutler2009.com



SCOTT L. SMITH
 (801) 376-4248
 9813 N. Meadow Lane
www.highlandcity.net
scottsmithcitycouncil@att.blackberry.net



ROGER DIXON
 (801) 766-8088
 10366 N. 6530 West
dixonrd@xmission.com



BRENT WALLACE
 (801) 766-1558
 10481 Canterbury Drive
bwallace@mstar.net

IMPORTANT ELECTION INFORMATION/DATES - Highland City will be holding elections for two City Council seats and the Mayoral seat. Contact candidates to become an informed voter.

Early voting runs October 20 - 30 at City Hall with the following schedule:

Tues, Wed & Thurs - 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Fridays - 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Voters MUST BRING identification for early and regular voting (drivers license, etc.)

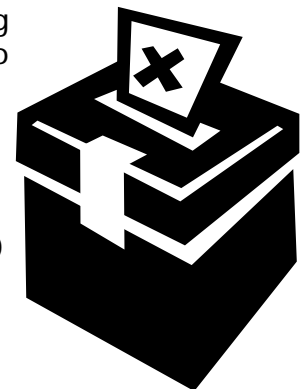
October 22, 2009 - 6:30 p.m.

Meet the Candidates / Mayoral Debate
 Highland City Hall

November 3, 2009 - General Election POLLING LOCATIONS will remain the same as the Primary Election

*see the City website for details.

Visit <http://gva1.utah.gov/elections/polling.aspx> for additional information including your polling location. Complete the fields online for a sample ballot with links to candidate info! For question regarding the 2009 Election, please contact the City Recorder at (801) 772-4506 or email gina@highlandcity.org





5400 W. Civic Center Drive, Suite 1
Highland, Utah 84003

Phone: 801-756-5751
Fax: 801-756-6903
Email: gina@highlandcity.org

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.HIGHLANDCITY.ORG

OCTOBER MEETING SCHEDULE
CITY COUNCIL - 7:00 P.M.
TUESDAYS - OCTOBER 6 & 20

PLANNING COMMISSION - 7:00 P.M.
TUESDAYS - OCTOBER 13 & 27

Celebrate @ the Library!

YOU'RE INVITED!!

Saturday, October 24th

Help celebrate the Library's first birthday. Enjoy birthday cake and punch, and purchase some great books available for sale!



**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!**
Christmas Crafts Day
with Santa!

**December 5th
10:00 a.m. to noon**

MERIT BADGE CLASS

Citizenship in the Community *(required)*

Dates/Times: Fridays - October 9th & 23rd - 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

*Scouts are encouraged to complete their service project before the first class. Information about the service project will be emailed once the scout is registered.

Reading *(non-required)*

Dates/Times: Fridays- October 16th and November 6th - 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Registration will be online ONLY beginning October 1 at 9:00 a.m. for residents; October 2 for non-residents. Once the class is full you may register for the waiting list online. An adult must attend with 11-year old scouts and/or scouts with special needs. For more information and to register for these classes please visit www.highlandcity.org.

Eagle Scout Project Ideas

Highland City has a number of potential Eagle Scout Project ideas. Scouts may sign up online beginning in October. For more information about the project ideas and to register for these project ideas please visit the Events & Education page at www.highlandcity.org.

TREE COMMISSION

The Highland City Tree Commission is looking for volunteers to decorate the **City Hall Christmas Tree**. The tree and all decorations will be provided. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Emily Gillingwater at Emily@HighlandCity.org or by phone at (801) 772-4523. No arborist experience is necessary, but is welcomed.

Youth City Council — APPLY NOW!

Now is the time to apply for Youth City Council/Youth Court. Visit the Youth City Council webpage at www.highlandcity.org for more information.

This month's service project involves taking hygiene kits and clothing to a refugee camp in Salt Lake City. Boy Scouts enrolled in the Highland City Citizenship in the Community class will be collecting items that will be donated. If you would like to donate items you may bring them to Emily at City Hall.

ATV and OHV use on Private Property!

The City Council is seeking public comment on the use of ATV's, Motorcycles, Off-Highway Vehicles (OHV's) and similar on private property. The City has received a substantial number complaints regarding the excessive use of off road vehicles on private property over many years and is considering an ordinance that would prohibit this use if the associated noise specifically related to this use is considered a nuisance. If you have comments related to this issue, please attend the City Council meeting on **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2009, 7:00 P.M. AT CITY HALL** and express your opinion.