



HIGHLAND INSIDER

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MAYOR'S CORNER

I have had several people inquire about the City Truth-In-Taxation property tax increase. You may have noticed in your tax notice there is no tax increase for Highland. A referendum was filed with the City after the truth-in-taxation vote. This resulted in signatures gathered and the issue going to a vote of the citizens. So will you be voting on the tax increase in November? The answer is no, because of a timing problem created by the State Legislature.

The Legislature passed a law that allows a referendum to be filed on any law. Previously truth-in-taxation was exempt from referendums. The Legislature did not see the unintended consequence of the timing problem. Truth-in-Taxation hearings occur in August following a City Council or other municipality vote on a budget. A referendum, once filed, can take up to 50 days to process. The County needs the information by the end of August to get the item on the upcoming November ballot. Therefore, there is not enough time to accomplish the task. This results in the issue put on hold until the next election the following year which is another budget year. Members of the Legislature are well aware of the problem and will make a correction in the next legislative session in February.

Many have asked how this affects the City of Highland. The good news is, in the short run it does not cause major problems. We will not rebuild our badly deteriorating roads as

soon as we had planned. Long term the needed road rebuilds will cost more to fix. We will continue to do maintenance as much as we can with the dollars available. When the tax increase was proposed it all went to roads. We do not need a tax increase to sustain ongoing operations of the City. Some cities that require tax increases for daily operations now have to cut essential services to make up the difference. We are happy to report that is not the case in Highland.

We do need to build reserves over the next several years to rebuild some of our roads. The amounts required are large. I am confident that we will find solutions to solve the problem.

We wish you all a happy Thanksgiving. It is amazing how quickly this year is almost concluded. We have much to be thankful for in our City, State, and Nation. Thank you for making Highland City the greatest place to live, raise our families, and enjoy the association with good people.

Mayor Lynn Ritchie

If you have any questions you can email me at mayor@highlandcity.org. Also, I am at the City on Tuesdays from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. if you would like to discuss an issue please call Jody at (801) 772-4505 to make an appointment.

Election Day Polling Locations



Your polling location on Election Day may have changed! Highland now has 10 voting precincts. If you are unclear where you vote please visit <http://vote.utah.gov> or call the Highland City Records office at (801) 772-4506.

Highland City polling locations:

Freedom Elementary (10326 N 6800 W) HI01, HI03

Lone Peak High (10189 N 4800 W) HI02, HI05

Mountain Ridge Jr. High (5525 W 10400 N) HI06, HI07, HI09, HI10

Ridgeline Elementary (6250 W 11800 N) HI04, HI08

Winter Snow Removal & Plowing

With winter approaching it is important for Highland residents and the City to work together during snow removal weather. During heavy snow storms it can take as much as 48 hours to clear all priority routes and through streets once the storm has subsided. Vehicles may not park on City Streets between 12:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m., December 1st through March 31st, and any-time snow is present. The Police Department may issue a parking citation. Parking on the street makes it difficult for plows to clear the streets. Residents may view a copy of Highland City's snowplow frequently asked questions on the Public Works page at www.highlandcity.org. If you have any concerns you may report them on-line using the Report a Concern feature or call Public Works at (801) 772-4523.

Tips to Save Money on Utilities

Did you know your winter water usage can affect your monthly sewer fee? Your yearly sewer fee is calculated by your winter water usage. On your monthly utility statement from Highland City, you can see your previous water reading, your current water reading, and the usage. The usage is in 1,000 gallon increments (i.e. 6 equals 6,000 gallons of water used). The average usage per household can range from 6,000 to 10,000 gallons per month. Please monitor your water usage on your monthly utility statement. If you see an unexplained increase in your water usage please check your appliances including toilets and water softeners to see if those are using excess water. If you are unable to locate the problem, please call the Public Works Department at (801) 772-4523 to receive assistance in locating possible outside water leaks. This simple tip can you save money!

Cemetery Decoration Cleanup

The next Cemetery decoration cleanup will be on Monday, December 3rd At this time perishable items will be discarded and all trinkets, ornaments, lamps, shepherd-crooks, etc. will be removed from the cemetery and taken to the Public Works Shop (4066 West 11000 North). These items will be held for two (2) weeks.

Youth City Council Canned Food Drive

During the month of December the YCC will be collecting canned food items to be donated to the Community Action Services and Food Bank. Every donation we receive will go to help a family in Utah County. Please bring a canned food item to City Hall during the month of December and place it under the Christmas tree. Any community group including scouts are encouraged to help with the food drive.

Santa to Visit City Hall

The Highland Youth City Council has invited Santa to come to City Hall on Saturday, December 1st. Come see Santa arrive in style on the Lone Peak Fire Truck at 10:00 am! He will be visiting with us until noon. Don't forget to bring a canned food item with you & place it under the Christmas Tree!

Children's Christmas Crafts Day

The Arts Council will once again be hosting the Children's Christmas Crafts Day on Saturday, December 1st from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. They will have children's craft projects ranging from free - \$1.50 per craft.

Youth Recreation Programs

Highland City currently does not offer youth recreation programs, however Highlands youth may participate in the following cities/organizations programs:

Baseball: Lone Peak Youth Baseball, American Fork Baseball, Cedar Hills City, American Fork City, and Lehi City.

Basketball: Cedar Hills City, American Fork City, and Lehi City.

Football: Lone Peak Youth Football, Caveman Youth Football, American Fork City, and Lehi City.

Soccer: North Utah County Soccer, Cedar Hills City, American Fork City, and Lehi City.

For more information, please contact the city/organization directly or call Highland City at (801) 772-4523 for more information.

Legacy Concert

Legacy Concerts presents an evening of music for the entire family! Featuring Enrique Melena, *tenor*; Laura Lambert Allen, *piano*; and Mitera Trio playing Beethoven's Piano Trio in c minor. Please join us on Friday, November 2, at 7:30 pm at American Fork Junior High School for this fabulous event. Free admission.

Timpanogos Symphony Orchestra Concert

The Timpanogos Symphony Orchestra presents "Musical Prodigies: Youthful Compositions by Great Composers," on November 16 and 17 at Timberline Middle School in Alpine. Featured works include Richard Strauss' Horn Concerto No. 1, with Kit Weber on the French Horn, and Felix Mendelssohn's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, with the Conservatory of Performing Arts Concert Choir. Concerts begin at 7:30 each night and are recommended for ages 8 and older. For details, please visit the symphony's Web site at www.theTSO.org.

Protecting the Environment

Household hazardous waste should be recycled rather than disposed of in your garbage can. Items such as motor oil, paints, batteries, insect spray, bleach, swimming pool chemicals, etc. can be disposed of properly at the North Pointe Solid Waste Special Service District located at 2000 W 200 S in Lindon. For more information and hours, please contact them at (801) 225-8538.

UTA FrontRunner South Opens December 10th

Visit www.rideuta.com for more information or call (888) 743-3882 for bus route and train schedules.

WWW.HIGHLANDCITY.ORG

HIGHLAND CITY

5400 W. Civic Center Drive, Highland, Utah 84003

For your convenience our office hours are extended from 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. to better meet your needs, Monday - Thursday. You can contact us by phone at (801) 756-5751. For afterhours Public Works emergencies, please call (801) 420-2553.

CITY MEETING SCHEDULE

City Council, 1st & 3rd Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.

Planning Commission, 2nd & 4th Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

Please submit newsletter articles via email no later than the 15th of the month to emily@highlandcity.org