

**Paradise Town
Office of the Mayor**

www.paradise.utah.gov

May 2015

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING – We will be holding a Public Hearing at 7:00 PM June 3, 2015 at the Town Hall to discuss the following items:

Budget Amendments for FY2015
Proposed Budget for FY2016

Those documents are posted on the www.paradise.utah.gov website for your review or you may get a copy from Alyssa at the office to study in advance of the public hearing.

Certainly all residents are encouraged to attend to hear about where the money comes from and where it goes and to ask questions or make public comment about the budget or budget amendments.

BUDGET SUMMARY – Essentially the proposed budget for FY2016 is very similar to budgets from previous years. A Change to the property tax revenue line item was briefly discussed, but the Town Council gave unanimous approval to the Mayor’s Proposed Budget which did NOT include a tax increase for the upcoming year.

The income items for next year were projected fairly, but conservatively, based on the variable revenues received through State re-distributed sales tax and Fee-in-Lieu (vehicle registration) revenues. Funding from any State or Federal Grants, RAPZ Tax income, wild land firefighting, or Fire/EMS/Park fundraising are not included since they cannot be budgeted for until they are actually received. Similarly, any increased expenditures due to those “one time funds” are not budgeted for at this point since they would be considered “un-funded” until the above monies are received. The Budget Amendment process is how those additional incomes and expenses are addressed each year.

NOVEMBER ELECTION FILING PERIOD – The window for filing for the two 4-year Town Council seats currently held by Jay Rinderknecht and Margaret O Bray is rapidly approaching. All paperwork must be turned in to Alyssa between 8:00 AM June 1 and 5:00 PM June 8th. Now is the time to consider what direction you may want the Town to be heading in the future years. I strongly encourage you to visit with neighbors and friends and find those individuals that you believe will represent your desires regarding open space, tax rates, recreation, infrastructure, role of Fire/EMS/Police/Animal Control or whatever other issues you believe are important to make Paradise a great place to live.

The requirements for office are contained in the State Code Title 20A Chapter 8 Part 2 Section 203 which can be found at www.le.utah.gov. Basically, a candidate must have lived in Town for 12

months by the time of the election, be a registered voter, cannot be a convicted felon or determined by the Court to be mentally incompetent. Other than that, there are some campaign finance reporting requirements that are in Chapter 9 of that same code which have to be dealt with even if you don't spend a penny on a campaign.

The 2013 and 2011 municipal election cycles had exactly the same number of candidates as open seats, so the elections were cancelled in accordance with State Law. Certainly this is less than ideal, and hopefully there is a healthier field of individuals to choose from this November. In the event that there are more than 2 candidates per open seat, there will be a Primary election to narrow it to just 2 per seat.

WATER BILLS – We recently completed the Spring water meter reading activity. It looks like there may be a few with leaks and some that might have been doing a little excessive outdoor watering or left the water trough running... If you have a large bill and suspect a leak, get with Lee or I and we can determine if it is a leak in your line or if it is just heavy use. If leaks are promptly and properly repaired, we can usually make a partial adjustment of your bill.

CHILD AND FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER – The Child and Family Support Center has a number of activities this summer including a playgroup for young children, a Power of Play Workshop, Children's Social Classes, Parenting Classes, Stepfamily Classes and other helpful events and programs. Of course they also have their "Crisis Nursery" for anyone that needs a break during a difficult situation. Their website is www.childandfamilysupportcenter.org or they can be reached at 435-752-8880.

OFFICE HOURS – The office is typically open from 9 – Noon Monday through Thursday each week. It is closed for State and Federal Holidays, or if Alyssa is ill or taking a well-deserved break.

Feel free to call or e-mail me with any concerns, comments, or questions regarding the above notes or other Town issues.

Leland Howlett – Mayor

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