

Mayor's Message -From Kurt Ostler

Springtime for the City means looking at the amount of moisture received over the winter, preparing to start up the City's water pressurized irrigation system, and hiring temporary, seasonal employees. City parks department pays between \$14 to \$16 per hour and works Monday-Thursday if you know of anyone looking for a job. Over the coming weeks, the City will be evaluating expected water runoff and water reserves in the reservoirs. I would expect there will still need to be water conservation measures put in place, and one option is delaying the start of our city pressurized system until May 1.



In April, the reconstruction of 6800 West from 9600 North going south down by the Utah County Equestrian Park will begin with an estimated completion in late Fall. The plan is to have one lane going in each direction plus a center turn lane for safety.

Over the winter, the City has been working on several projects, including redrilling a City culinary well down to 1,200 feet. Most of the City's current culinary wells are at 600 feet; this new well depth will help with future culinary water needs, and our initial test shows it will be a high-performing well.

As mentioned in past City newsletters, our police and fire departments see extreme wage pressures to retain our great staff. The City Council and I have met with our Chiefs and reviewed next year's budget and funding request to maintain our public safety employees. As Elected Officials, we will be going line by line over the City budget to see where there might be areas of saving. As a City, we plan to have budget open houses, so residents who would like to ask questions, provide feedback, or offer solutions, will have time to engage and understand any tax or fee increase request.

During February and March, several issues were happening at Planning Commission and City Council meetings wherein 150+ individuals attended. I wanted to thank all those who engaged with the City Council, City Staff, and myself and the respectful nature of their communication.

Property Lines and Permits

With Spring upon us, many residents are planning on installing fences, adding a patio or pool, improving their landscape, and more. Before you begin any of these projects, remember to confirm your property lines and check to see whether you need a permit for the work. [Utah County Parcel Maps](#) is a great online resource that anyone can use to reference property boundaries. Checking your property lines ensures work only occurs on property you own rather than someone else's including the City's. You can see information on Building Permits at <https://bit.ly/HC-Building> or feel free to give us a call at 801-756-5751.

6800 West Reconstruction Project

A section of 6800 West, south of 9600 North will be reconstructed and widened this year. The work will consist of widening the roadway to include a center turn lane, bike lanes, and sidewalks on both sides of the street. Work will be taking place from March – December 2022. To avoid travel delays caused by the construction, please consider using an alternate route. For further information:

- Visit the project website – 6800West.com
- Subscribe for weekly email updates by sending an email with "6800 West Updates" in the subject line to roadprojects@highlandcity.org
- Call the project hotline – 800-948-4002
- Send an email to roadprojects@highlandcity.org



HIGHLAND CITY

CALENDAR

April 12: City Council Budget Work Session*, 7:00PM, City Hall

April 19: City Council Meeting*, 7:00PM, City Hall

April 26: Planning Commission*, 7:00PM, City Hall

April 30: Tree Planting, location TBD, 8:00 AM

April 30: Tree Sale 8:00 AM- 2:00 PM, residents only

May 5: Budget Open House 5:00 PM-8:00 PM, City Hall

May 7: Tree Sale 8:00 AM- 12:00 PM, open to all

May 6&7 Spring Clean-up 8:00 AM-5:00 PM, parking lot at mouth of American Fork Canyon

*Agendas, Minutes, and Audio at <http://bit.ly/HC-agendas>

PHONE NUMBERS

City Offices: 801-756-5751

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: 801-420-2553

Waste Management (pick-up & can repairs): 888-496-8824

ONLINE

Report a concern, pay your bill, reserve a pavilion, etc. on-line at: www.highlandcity.org

Sign up for email, text, and phone alerts from Highland City based on your interests at alerts.utahcounty.gov.



Check us out on Facebook and Twitter



Council Brief

In each month's newsletter, we give a brief overview of some stand-out items from Council meetings. For full agendas, minutes, & audio, visit <http://bit.ly/HC-agendas>.

March 1

City Council gave architectural approval for Bank of America to remodel the building formerly operating as a Taco Time. After Bank of America receives a building permit, they will begin the construction process.

City Council voted to update City Code relating to animals and nuisances. The updates to Chapter 6 of the Municipal Code clarified when dog barking is considered a nuisance, limited the number of dogs and cats in each household to three a piece, and updated vaccination requirements to current standards.

March 15

City Council voted to keep 4800 West designated as a three-lane major collector road in the General Plan and not move forward with any widening projects at this time. Council also directed staff to continue to study the intersection at 4800 West and Timpanogos Highway for any potential, but less impactful improvements.

Council approved a road access agreement that will allow for an access from the Meier's shopping area to 5600 West. Staff is working through the purchase process. Afterwards, the owner of the commercial areas will construct the road.

City Council voted to update pavilion rental fees. See more on page 3.

Council selected a new playground to replace the old one at Highland Glen Park. The playground features a two-tiered slide tower, large climbing structure, and spinning structure. It will be installed between July and September.

City Open House

The annual Highland City Open House is scheduled for Thursday, May 5 from 5:00—8:00 PM at City Hall. Information will be available on the City's budget including potential fee increases, 2022 Road Projects, Mountain Ridge Park, the Arts Council, the Historical Society, trash collection, ways to get involved in volunteer committees, and more. There will also be interactive activities for kids. We hope to see all of Highland there!

YOUTH SPORTS & RECREATION PROGRAMS

OPEN TO HIGHLAND CITY RESIDENTS WITH NO ADDITIONAL FEES

VISIT CEDARHILLS.ORG/RECREATION TO FIND OUT MORE!

Upcoming City Budget

You can't turn on the news without hearing a story about inflation. This City is experiencing this in its own budget in particular in utility budgets with construction prices and other service costs. In recent months, each capital project the City has bid out has come in over budget. The price for one recent sewer project came in more than \$1 million over what was expected. Further, service contracts such as with our garbage hauler, Waste Management, have an inflationary component. As such, the City is analyzing all utility rates to ensure they are keeping up with rising costs.

Another area the City is experiencing budget stress is in public safety wages. Finding and retaining quality police officers and fire fighters is becoming harder and harder to do. This is especially true when neighboring entities are increasing their fire and police wages by 10% or more. Having reliable public safety is a key goal for our City and meeting that goal will likely mean raising wages. Afterall, how can we ask our public safety personnel to take the risks they do to protect and help us if we aren't going to compensate them fairly. A large part of what Highland contributes to the Lone Peak Public Safety District comes from the Public Safety Fee, which may not be enough cover the cost of the increased wages.

The City is doing everything it can to cut costs and keep increases to residents minimal. We understand that City budgets are funded by our hard-working residents who are experiencing inflation in their own family budgets, and as such, we make every effort to use tax dollars judiciously and frugally. We would encourage residents to watch upcoming Council agendas to get informed about the budget. You can also come to the Budget Open House on Thursday, May 5 from 5:00-8:00 PM to learn more about the budget and talk to your Elected Officials.

Mountain Ridge Park

Mountain Ridge Park is a 17-acre parcel of property west of Mountain Ridge Junior High. The full park design includes an all-abilities playground, walking paths, restrooms and pavilions, 3 multi-use grass fields, and 8 pickleball courts. Construction will begin this spring to begin work on the park by improving the entrance by piping the ditch, putting in a sidewalk, and creating a parking lot. Contractors have also submitted designs for the playground and shortly the Council will ask for resident input to select the final design. Watch for more information soon and visit <http://bit.ly/MtnRidgePk> to learn more. If you would like to provide a tax-deductible donation to the park through the Highland Foundation, please reach out to Councilmember Brittney Bills (bbills@highlandcity.org), Kim Rodela (krodel@highlandcity.org), or Scott Smith (scott@highlandcity.org).



Highland Choral Arts our fantastic adult choir is holding their annual Spring Concert, May 7, 7 pm at Timberline Middle School! Visit our website highlandchoralarts.org to purchase tickets.

Highland Children's Choir

Spring Concert May 21 6:00pm at Timberline Middle School

Timpanogos Ringers Bell Choir and the Highland Elementary Chime Choir presents "Yesterday, Songs We Love to Remember" on May 18 at 7 pm, at the Town Hub Theater. Visit timpanogosringers.org for tickets.

The Highland Fling Fine Art Show will be August 5 & 6. The theme is "The Great Outdoors." There are categories from pre-school through high school and adults. All are welcome! Start working on your entries now and save the date for the Artists' Reception on August 4.

Beautification Committee

Spring has arrived! We are taking nominations for Yard of the Month. To nominate a yard, email Cary wisecaryj@gmail.com. We would also love to have you participate in the Backyard Garden Tours in conjunction with the Highland Fling. Make your preparations now and reach out to Cary for more information. We would especially like to highlight water wise landscaping and xeriscaping. Please reach if you know of such a yard.

Highland Fling Happenings

Preparations for this year's Highland Fling continue as we look forward to August. Applications are now open for the Vendor Fair on August 6 at Heritage Park. The fair runs all day from right after the parade until shortly before the fireworks. The park will be full of people with the Highland Games, Kids Zone, live entertainment and more. So, come get your business noticed by the community! We have openings for food and non-food vendors. Visit www.highlandcityfling.com to apply.

Wellbeing Survey

USU's Utah Wellbeing Project has partnered with many cities and towns throughout Utah to conduct a public wellbeing survey. Highland City encourages you to take 10 minutes to provide your feedback. You must be age 18+. Disponible en Español. Please share with others in your household and the Highland City community. For more information you can contact Dr. Flint at courtney.flint@usu.edu. Take the survey at <https://tinyurl.com/Highland2022>.

Youth Council Corner

Join us at Heritage Park on Saturday, April 9 at 9 am for the Easter Egg Hunt! We have prepared thousands of eggs with treats, toys, prizes, and surprises. Bring your basket and don't be late. The fun happens fast! Stop by the pavilion before you leave and pick up a craft kit from the Arts Council.



Friends of the Library

Since the opening of the Highland City Library, thousands of items have been checked out, stories shared, and people connected. The Friends of the Library have watched the impact the library has on the patrons and the impact the patrons have on the library. Many impact stories are posted on the library website. To view them go to www.HighlandCityLibrary.org, click *Information*, then click *Library Impact Stories*. See how the library has become a haven for many, a place for stories for the little ones, a quiet spot to do homework for teenagers, a provider of activities for those with special needs, a source for professionals, and a supplier of books to hundreds of local homes. The patrons bring enthusiasm, appreciation, donations, and time. It's a great combination.

Friends of the Library Half Price Sale! The continuous book sale inside the library will be half off the week of April 18-April 22. Hardcover books will be \$0.50 and paperbacks will be \$0.25. Happy Reading!

Pavilion Rental Fee Changes

Effective April 18, our fees will be changing for pavilion rentals in city parks. See <http://bit.ly/HC-reserve> for available facilities and to start the rental process. For those areas that are available for rental, the fees will be as follows:

Half-Day Rental		Full Day Rental	
Resident	Non-Resident	Resident	Non-Resident
\$20	\$70	\$40	\$100



Highland City
Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 9th
9am- Heritage Park

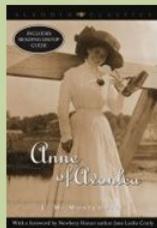
Children's craft at the pavilion following the hunt
sponsored by the Arts Council

HIGHLAND LIBRARY HIGHLIGHTS

APRIL 2022



Have You Read This?



Many people have read *Anne of Green Gables*, but did you know that Anne grows up? Adults may be surprised by how much they can relate to the grown-up Anne Shirley.

"Everyone should be able to do one card trick, tell two jokes, and recite three poems, in case they are ever trapped in an elevator."—Lemony Snicket, *Horseradish*

WELCOME



Hours

Monday-Thursday 10AM-8PM

Friday 10AM-4PM

Saturday 12PM-4PM

Closed Sunday



Springtime Scavenger Hunt

April 1-16 Come find all the hidden springtime shapes and earn a prize!

Help Me Grow Utah

April 6 & 8 @ 11:30

Help Me Grow Utah will be available after Storytime to provide a free developmental screening, answer parents questions, and share resources!

Poetry Contest

April 1-30

Do you love poetry? Do you write poetry? Join our poetry contest! Submission form available at the library website. Open to all ages.

Winners will earn a prize!

Read with Brian Russo

April 2 1pm-2pm

Join Brian Russo to read his new book *A Friend for Yoga Bunny* and do yoga!

Spring Insert

Water Once a Week

Spring is officially here, and temperatures are warming. Pressurized Irrigation water will be available for use by April 15. However, Highland City is asking all water users to please ease into watering this season. While we did see some snow this winter, our area only has about 80% of normal snowpack at this point. Due to the extremely low snow levels last season, a large amount of our reservoir water was used up, leaving less reservoir water for use this irrigation season.

So please, rather than automatically turning on your sprinkler clock to water three times a week like you'll need in the heat of the summer, only water as needed. One time per week or less is likely sufficient in April and early May (weather dependent). If water users use too much water in the early part of the season, our supply may be extremely limited at the later end of the hot summer when water is really needed.

An excellent resource to help determine how often to water is the Utah Division of Water's Weekly Watering Guide published at conservewater.utah.gov and on Facebook [@conserveutahwater](https://www.facebook.com/conserveutahwater). There you can also find other resources such as how to do your own water check on your sprinkler system, rebate programs for taking water conservation steps, waterwise landscaping, and how to "flip your strip" from grass to a water-wise strip.

Help Keep Our Gutters Clean

If you walk outside your home and glance at the curb and gutter, do you see a lot of leaves, mud, and other debris? Will you join in a community effort to clean the gutters adjacent to your property? Every fall and winter the gutters fill with leaves, mud, and debris that the street sweeper is unable to remove. This means that with April showers, some of this material eventually finds its way into the storm drain system and potentially even our ground water. Please help to keep the streets, gutters, and water resources clean.



FULL & PART TIME POSITIONS.
FLEXIBILITY TO SUMMER PLANS &
VACATIONS. MUST BE 16 OR OLDER.

APPLY AT
HIGHLANDCITY.ORG OR
CALL 801-772-4521
WITH QUESTIONS.

Arbor Day Tree Planting & Sale

Our annual Tree Sale will be April 30 from 8 am - 2 pm on the corner of 10700 N. and 5400 W. April 30 is for Highland residents only. Bring proof of residency with you (ID, utility bill, etc). We accept all forms of payments. All trees are sold AS IS, with a maximum of 8 trees per resident/household. We cannot hold trees or take special orders. A list of trees for sale and their prices will be posted online at least one week before the Tree Sale. Prices and tree types subject to change without notice. Any leftover trees will be sold the following week on May 5 from 8AM-12PM (or earlier if sold out).

Celebrate Arbor Day with us at our annual Tree Planting on April 30 beginning at 8 am. Projects typically finish before noon. Location is TBD, please check the website, social media, or give us a call. Volunteers are encouraged to bring garden tools, drinking water, and work gloves. Please dress for the weather. Individuals, scouts, school groups, sports teams, families, etc. are encouraged to help out! If you have a group planning to attend, please email us to let us know at events@highlandcity.org.

Highland City Spring Clean-Up

The annual Highland City Spring Clean-Up will take place May 6 & 7 from 8 am-5 pm at the parking lot at the mouth of the American Fork Canyon. Proof of residency is required. Dumpsters will be available for disposal of metal, wood, and household waste. No green waste or hazardous waste will be accepted. Green waste should be taken directly to North Point Transfer Station. More info at www.utahcountygARBAGE.org.

Ducks at Highland Glen Pond

You may have seen news articles recently from the [Daily Herald](http://www.dhherald.com), [KSL](http://www.ksl.com), and others encouraging individuals to not leave domesticated ducks at local ponds. Not only is duck dumping illegal, it also is cruel to the animal, and causes water quality issues. This has been a large problem at Highland Glen pond where the City has even had to pay U.S. Fish and Game to cull the domestic duck population when it gets too large. So please, before you purchase a duckling this spring, do your research and understand what the animal will be like when it grows up so you can commit to caring for it its entire lifetime. For more information, please see the related news articles.

WATER CONSERVATION,
make it your
lifestyle!