

Mayor's Message – Mayor Kurt Ostler

Looking at the current situation in Ukraine and their fight to keep freedom, I'm sure it makes many of us reflect upon how blessed we all are to live in a free country and our rights as United States citizens. One of those freedoms our ancestors fought for is "Taxation with Representation." With this in mind, I would like to share with you the possible tax increases the city is looking at.

Highland City recently completed a utility rate study to determine the ongoing needs and current utility rates. After reviewing this study, it was discussed the possible needed increases on all of the City's utility fees (sewer, water, pressurized irrigation, and storm drain) because of the high cost the City is seeing on new projects because of inflation. There would also need to be an increase in the garbage service fee. It has been the desire of the City to make sure each utility service carries its own weight and is not subsidized by other utility fees or the City General Fund. The City will also need to determine how to fund the increase to Lone Peak Public Safety to cover Police and Fire Department's increased expenses. The public safety increase will need to be covered by a property tax increase or by increasing the current public safety fee.

There has also been some discussion about the City possibly eliminating or modifying the way the city charges the Highland Special Service District Open Space fee. This is a fee that is charged to around 26% of Highland residents who live in 18 open space subdivisions. It is the thought that if the open space fee is reduced or eliminated, the lost open space revenue would then be covered by the City's General Fund.

It's your chance to engage your elected representative to voice your support or nonsupport for this utility fee, property tax, and/or public safety fee increase. As your elected representatives, we understand that raising taxes would come from all of our residents' hard-earned money and could cause a burden to some of our residents on a fixed income, which over this past year are already feeling inflationary pressures.

The City will be holding a City Council Budget Work Session on Monday, June 6 at 7:00 PM and a Budget & Fee Information Session on Tuesday, June 14 at 7:15 PM to help answer questions and to have an open dialog with our residents on the recommended approach on how to fund this increased cost. The City's Final 2022-2023 Budget will be voted on at the city council meeting on June 21. You can also reach your elected officials through email: Mayor: mayor@highlandcity.org or City Council: council@highlandcity.org.

Quarterly Cemetery Cleanup

Highland City seeks to offer families and friends that visit their loved ones resting in the cemetery a clean, beautiful, and peaceful environment. Please help us with this goal by keeping your site clean. On Monday, June 13, the cemetery will be cleared of ALL grave decorations, real or artificial, including trinkets, ornaments, lamps, shepherd hooks, etc. Items which appear to be of a more permanent nature will be placed in a Conex container located on the southeast corner of the cemetery. Owners may claim these items by appointment only by calling (801) 772-4505. Items left unclaimed after one week will be discarded. Please make every effort to remove items from your loved one's grave prior to the cleanup. For questions, please call (801) 772-4505. Cemetery cleanups are held on the 1st Monday in March, the 2nd Monday in June, the 1st Monday in October, and the 1st Monday in December.



HIGHLAND CITY

CALENDAR

May 30: Memorial Day. City offices will be closed and garbage services will be delayed one day that week.

June 6: City Council Budget Work Session*, 7:00PM, City Hall

June 7: City Council Meeting*, 7:00PM, City Hall

June 13: Quarterly Cemetery Cleanup

June 14: Budget & Fee Information Session*, 7:15 PM, City Hall

June 21: City Council Meeting*, 7:00PM, City Hall

June 28: Planning Commission*, 7:00PM, City Hall

July 4: Independence Day. City offices will be closed and garbage services will be delayed one day that week.

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

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, sign up for alerts, etc. on-line at: www.highlandcity.org

Check us out on Facebook and Twitter @HighlandCity

City Budget & Fee Increases

As has been discussed for the past couple of months, Highland City is seeing significant cost increases due to inflation, especially our utility departments as well as wage pressures with public safety.

As was presented in the May 17 City Council meeting, analysis of the City's utility funds including culinary water, sewer, storm drain, and pressurized irrigation showed that in total, the base rate for residential utility bills needs to be increased by about \$16 per month. Homeowners may also see additional increases in their bill depending on their water use and size of property. These increases will allow the City to have sufficient funds to continue to maintain the utility systems properly without taking on any additional debt. Utility rates do not pay for costs related to new construction. Those costs are born by developers through impact fees which the City Council also recently increased.

The City's contracts related to garbage services with Waste Management and the North Point Transfer Station are also being impacted by inflation. For homes that have two garbage cans and one recycling can, the monthly bill will increase by \$2.79 per month to keep up with the costs of hauling, dumping, and recycling.

Due to nearby cities drastically increasing the wages of their public safety personnel, City Council felt the need to respond to be able to better recruit and retain quality police officers and properly staff the fire department. As a result, the Lone Peak Public Safety District increased its 2022-2023 budget paid by Highland City by approximately \$665,000. Council is currently deciding how to pay for this needed increase including the idea of increasing the public safety fee.

City Council understands that City budgets are funded by residents who are experiencing inflation in their own family budgets as well. As such, the City is working to find all cost savings it can in the budget to keep the necessary fee increases to residents as low as possible.

We would encourage residents to get informed about the budget and these proposed increases. City Council will have an additional Budget Work Session on Monday, June 6 at 7:00 PM. In addition, a Budget & Fee Information Session will be held on Tuesday, June 14 at 7:15 PM (please note this was previously scheduled for a different day). Finally, Council will vote on the Final Budget at the City Council Meeting on Tuesday, June 21 at 7:00PM. All meetings will also be broadcast on the City's YouTube channel at <http://bit.ly/HC-youtube>.

Residents can learn more and express their opinions by reaching out to their Elected Officials. Individual contact information is available at <http://bit.ly/HC-Council> or you can send a message to the entire City Council and Mayor at council@highlandcity.org.

Public Hearing—Pressurized Irrigation Enterprise Fund

Tuesday, June 21, 7:00 PM at City Hall

The General Fund pays the Pressurized Irrigation (PI) Fund \$108,000 per year to water the approximately 179 acres of parks, park strip grass, and vegetation owned by the City. It is proposed that the PI Fund transfer funds back into the General Fund in the amount of \$108,000 to make the General Fund whole for this cost. The purpose of this hearing is to notify the public of this proposal. The \$108,000 represents 2% of the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 budgeted expenses of the PI Fund.

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>.

May 3

City Council discussed a draft public/private partnership agreement proposed by Utah Surf Athletic Club (Surf). The basics of the agreement are that Surf would construct and maintain two full sized fields at Mountain Ridge Park. In exchange, Surf would be able to use the fields free of charge during specified times for a period of 11 years with options to extend the contract. Revisions to the agreement are currently being drafted. The Council plans to vote on the final proposed agreement at the June 7 Council meeting.

May 17

City Council and staff discussed the needs for utility rate increases. In addition, Council approved the FY23 tentative budget. More information on the budget and planned fee increases are discussed in the column to the left.

City Council selected Sonntag Recreation as the playground vendor for the Mountain Ridge Park Playground. A Council subcommittee is currently working with Sonntag to finalize the design. The playground is expected to open spring of 2023. You can see the draft design at <http://bit.ly/MtnRidgePk>.

City Council took the first step in completing a property swap that will allow the City to construct trail access to the Hogs Hollow trail system north of Angels Gate on Draper City property. As soon as the needed property is owned by Highland City, the City will work with local mountain biking teams to create the trail access.

YOUTH SPORTS & RECREATION PROGRAMS

OPEN TO HIGHLAND CITY RESIDENTS WITH NO ADDITIONAL FEES

VISIT CEDARHILLS.ORG/RECREATION TO FIND OUT MORE!



HIGHLAND CITY **Highland Youth Theater**
will be performing *Matilda the Musical*, June 29-30 at the Highland Community Center.



Beautification Committee

The Beautification Committee would like to recognize Rhett and Heidi Burnham's yard this month as the Yard of the Month for May. Their yard includes beautiful outlining flower beds with bushes, trees, and flowers watered through drip irrigation. Please let them know that you appreciate all of the work that they put into making their yard beautiful. You can see this beautiful yard at 5674 W Haymaker Lane. The Yard of the month winners receives a \$25 Ace Hardware gift card and 2 bags of Oakdell Egg Farm Compost, courtesy of Oakdell Egg Farms. Please send nominations to wisecaryj@gmail.com

We are also looking for Backyards to be featured in this year's Backyard tours, in conjunction with the Highland Fling. The Fling will be held August 1-6, 2022. If you are interested, please let Cary know. It is a great way to share gardening ideas with other gardeners.

Youth Council Corner

The Highland Youth City Council had a busy month of May helping with the City Spring Clean Up and tree planting! They also had state senator Mike Kennedy join them as a guest speaker for their May meeting. They learned about what it is like to create a bill and pass a law in the state of Utah.



The Youth Council is looking forward to the Highland Fling August 1-6 and is excited for the Teen Night activity they are planning. Stay tuned!

Fling 2022— August 1 thru 6

The Highland Fling is coming the first week of August! There will be fun activities for all ages. Expect your Fling magazines mid July for detailed information on events or check them out on www.hIGHLANDCITY.org!

We're still looking for a Grand Marshal for the Highland Fling this year. If you know someone who has served in the community and would make a great Grand Marshal, please fill out the form on HighlandCityFling.com!

Sponsorships and volunteer opportunities are still available, reach out to events@hIGHLANDCITY.org if interested.

Historical Society

The Highland Historical Society has a large amount of information about early Highland on their website at: <https://bit.ly/HC-history>. We invite you to go there and read about what made Highland what it is today. The museum will be open on Saturday of the Fling after the parade-come and visit. The museum is always available for visits-just call Charlie at 801-913-5200.

Friends of the Library

The Friends of the Highland City Library are so grateful to those who have donated books. Rather than sitting unopened, these books each begin a journey. We are able to sell some online. Others are sold at our Used Book Sale. Unsold books are donated to charities where they are delivered into the hands of eager readers. Small book donations can be placed in the drop box in the foyer as you enter the library or in the drop box behind the library. For larger donations, contact Friends at highlandcitylibraryfriends@gmail.com. All earned money is used for the library, so please, keep donating.

The Friends are excited to announce that the Ryan and Diana Holt family has been chosen as the "Cedar Hills Library Patrons of the Year for 2022." Watch for them June 11 at the Cedar Hills Family Festival parade. You can also read about them on the library website on the Library Impact Stories page.

HIGHLAND LIBRARY HIGHLIGHTS

JUNE 2022



Have You Read This?



A bittersweet story about a Scrooge of a man who gets a week to appreciate the kind of life he could have lived if he hadn't spent so much time at the office.

"The sea does not like to be restrained."
~ Rick Riordan,
The Lightening Thief

WELCOME

Hours

Monday-Thursday 10AM-8PM

Friday 10AM-4PM

Saturday 12PM-4PM



Summer Reading Oceans of Possibilities for Learning!* May 31-July 30 | For All Ages

There's an Ocean of Possibilities at the library this summer!
Come in and pick up your summer reading charts!

Friends Across the Ocean

This summer we are exchanging letters with a library in Guatemala! Every week come read the latest letters, and write back to our new friends!

Sunshine Stories*

Wednesdays @ 10am

Ages 0-5 NE lawn

Sea Crafts*

Wednesdays @ 10am

Ages 6-11 NW lawn

Teen Writers Group*

Thursdays @ 4pm

Ages 12-18

Teen Corps*

Every other Saturday
starting June 11 @ 1pm

Ages 12-17

Grandparents Storytime*

June 20 @ 10:30am

Ages 0-5 and Grandparents

* Highland City Library Card
Required

Paint with the Director*

June 4 @ 1pm

For Teens and Adults

Come learn to pain an ocean scene with Donna the Library Director. Supplies limited. Registration required.

Sewing Class*

June 27 @ 10:30am

For Kids and Teens: Children 10 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

Come learn to sew a fish-shaped stuffy by hand with Lori Volmar! Supplies are limited. Registration required.

Lotus Lanterns*

June 14 @ 5pm

For all ages: Children 10 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

The Korean Spirit and Culture Promotion Project will teach us how to make traditional Korean Lotus and Lanterns and share a short documentary. Supplies are limited. Registration required.



Summer Insert

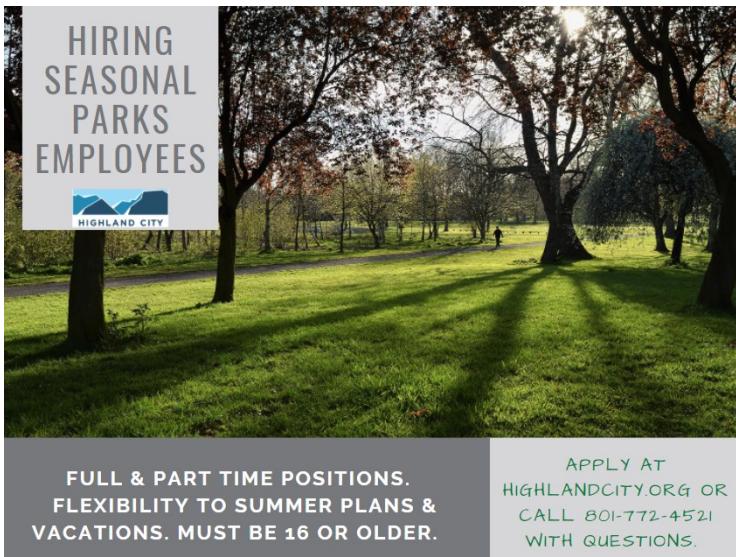
Water Conservation

While the spring showers we received in May were wonderful, unfortunately the drought remains. Currently over 99% of the state is in severe drought or worse, with 55% of Utah in extreme drought. Last year, a large amount of our reservoir water was used up, leaving less reservoir water for use this irrigation season. As such, we are asking Highland residents to stay conservation minded as temperatures rise. While the weather is transitioning, it's not time yet to put your controller on the full summer schedule. Rather, continue to water appropriate to the weather conditions.

The City is not currently implementing any restrictions in addition to our normal watering schedule: even numbered street addresses: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and odd numbered street address: Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.

Watering hours from 6:00 p.m. on the assigned day to 10:00 a.m. the following day. Follow [@conserveutahwater](https://www.facebook.com/conservewaterutah) on Facebook or visit [conservewater.utah.gov](https://www.conservewater.utah.gov) to get a weekly watering schedule to know how many irrigations your landscape needs that week. When you do need to water, make sure you're watering on your assigned day so everyone can have enough pressure when they are watering.

The resources above also have other conservation information including 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. See the Free Landscaping Classes article to the right for classes on landscaping rebate programs.



HIRING SEASONAL PARKS EMPLOYEES

HIGHLAND CITY

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.

Free Landscaping Classes

Central Utah Water Conservancy District hosts free online and in person educational classes on landscaping and water conservation. This month's classes are solely focused on our landscaping rebate programs Flip Your Strip and Localscapes. In addition, in-person classes are available for kid's and youth aimed at providing an interactive and fun learning opportunities. For a complete list of classes for the month of June and to register, please visit: <https://cuwcd.com/classes.html>.

Fireworks Restrictions

For the month of July, state law allows fireworks to be shot from July 2-July 5 and July 22-July 25 from 11:00AM - 11:00PM except on July 4 and July 24 where the hours extend to midnight.

Due to the fire danger, fireworks are prohibited in certain areas of Highland including: Beacon Hills Subdivision; Bull River Subdivision, drainage areas, and surrounding property; Chambery Fields Subdivision; Country French Subdivision; Dry Creek Highland Subdivision and drainage areas; Hidden Oaks Subdivision; Highland Glen Park; Highland Hills Subdivision; Highland Hollow Subdivision and drainage areas; Highland Oaks Subdivision; Hollow Acres Subdivision; homes abutting Highland Hollow and drainage area in the Highland Hollow and Canterbury North subdivision; Hunter Ridge Subdivision; Lone Peak High School; Meadow Lane; Mercer Hollow Subdivision; Mitchell Hollow Park and drainage areas; Mountain Ridge Park; Mouth of American Fork Canyon; Oak Ridge subdivision; Pheasant Hollow Park; Ridgeview Subdivision and state owned property south of development; Skye Estates Subdivision; Sterling Pointe Subdivision; Sunset Mountain Properties; The Hollow Subdivision and drainage areas; Town Center Splash Pad; View Pointe Subdivision; west side of 10150 North; and Westfield Cove Subdivision. A map of these restrictions is available at <http://bit.ly/HC-FireDept>.

In addition to Highland City's bans, fireworks are never allowed on US Forest Service (including American Fork Canyon), BLM, or National Park land. See a map of statewide firework restrictions at UtahFireInfo.gov.