

# February

1600 E South Weber Drive South Weber, UT 84405

2021

P: 801.479.3177 | F:801.479.0066 | www.southwebercity.com

Dear South Weber Residents,

Well Folks, it's the season of love, and I just LOVE this City!

We've made it through January, and our City has been working harder than ever. We have kicked off the budget process in preparation for the new fiscal year which begins this July. We also had our Council Planning/Budget Retreat last weekend which included ample discussion on next year's budget. From this point, City staff will work with our various City Council Committees over the next couple months to prepare a series of draft budgets as we work toward the final budget. First, department budget drafts are reviewed in the various committees then the full budget draft is compiled and is vetted by Staff and Council again before



Mayor's Message

it is presented to the public to be reviewed and comments made in a public hearing at a city council meeting in May. After the Council has considered public comments and revised the draft a final time, Council will adopt the final budget in June. This is a long, arduous process but I wanted to make sure you were all aware of the work, organization and transparency associated with it.

I am also excited to announce an addition to our team! Shari Phippen is our new city planner. She is not a full-time employee but will be contracted by us. She comes with a wealth of experience and was a city planner for both Nibley and Smithfield. Already she has hit the ground running and I have every confidence that she will be a great asset to our City.

We really appreciate the feedback from residents we have received regarding snowplowing, especially as it pertains to cul-de-sacs. There have been some complaints and some who are pleased with the changes. Staff continues to listen and work to improve that service for citizens.

Finally, the Family Activity Center is open on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 5—8:30 am for pickleball. There are 4 courts there and 4 portable nets residents can use along with some paddles and balls. Bring three other people to play with and practice for the new outdoor courts coming to South Weber this summer!

Folks, I always look forward to February as it means we are one step closer to spring. The days continue to get longer and soon things will be warming up. In the meantime, I hope you are all staying safe and warm.

-Mayor Jo

#### **Council Corner**

Hello South Weber City!

We survived 2020 and are now a month into 2021. I hope things are moving forward for each of you and your families and it turns out to be a wonderful year.

I have completed my first year serving the city as a council member and truly appreciate all of the good people of our community. Many are actively following the various city business and efforts, asking good questions, and providing good suggestions.

Communication is key to understanding and we have been working to improve that. Please be sure to connect through one or more of our portals of information.

One thing I have found is that there are so many sides to every issue. This occasionally leads to some misunderstanding and/or miscommunication. Please continue to ask questions if something doesn't seem to make sense. You might hear a response starting with "were you aware that...." This has been the case with several questions that have come my way. Most seemed to understand after more information was shared. And this works both ways. Others have shared with me things that I was not aware of. It is good to have respectful dialogue.

Administration / Finance Committee Update:

2020 was a year of uncertainty for all. Financially, there were some bright spots for our city. We reduced our budget projections for Sales Tax income this year by 10%. The reality is that Sales Tax income increased by just over 20% for the past year and we had a record amount in November 2020! That is in large part due to a significant increase in online sales and how the point of sale benefits the city. (My wife's online Christmas shopping was definitely part of the November bump.)

We also benefitted from the federal government's CARES act which provided funding to cities to offset many areas affected by COVID. A portion of these funds were able to be applied to things we already had budgeted for the year. The result was additional funds available to be applied to other areas of need.

Now don't think our city is rolling in the dough. These are comparatively small amounts to the major needs and projects that currently exist and are looming in the future. But we are very appreciative for these bright spots from last year.

One big effort and goal this year for the Admin/Finance committee is a more proactive plan for prioritized budgeting for future projects and needs. We have a good start due to funds that we have set aside each of the last few years in anticipation of known big capital projects. But there are other future needs that don't yet have a plan. We have a great city staff and should be successful in this effort.

Please stay safe!

-Council Member Quin Soderquist

# Keep Your Eye Out!

We would like to thank the City Council for participating in our monthly Council Corner in our newsletters. We love that we were able to give our residents an inside look into our city's different committees. We hope that in the future we'll be able to do more of that!

In the meantime, we are excited to pass the spotlight over to you, our wonderful residents!

Starting in next month's newsletter, our amazing Youth City Council will be interviewing residents to be a part of our newest segment, "Citizen Spotlight". Keep an eye out! We're excited to get to know you!

## Family Activity Center

-Spring Soccer Registrations are now open until All business licenses that have not been March 31st.

-Open Gym times are posted on the city's website as well as our Facebook page.

#### Be Cautious!

We understand that it is frigid outside, but we would like to remind you to not leave unattended vehicles running to warm them up. This only creates an opportunity to have your vehicle stolen, and we want to deter criminals from coming into our city by keeping our property secure. The theory is if the opportunity to commit a crime is limited, those seeking to commit a crime will choose someplace else.

# **BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR**

# PLEASE DON'T LITTER

# **Attention South Weber Residents**

We continue to receive complaints about the over-flowing recycling bins located at South Weber Elementary school. Boxes and other garbage are being blown all around the area.

The recycle bins generate funds for the school.

However, the overflowing cardboard and garbage is becoming very problematic. If the bins are full and you are not able to shut the lids, please come back after they have been emptied.

If they are already full, <u>DO NOT</u> place your cardboard on top or around the bins.

#### **Business License Renewals**

All business licenses that have not been renewed by now have been assessed a 50% penalty. Please be aware that a 100% penalty will be assessed to the license fee for all business license renewals which have not been paid by February 28, 2021. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact our Business License Representative, Kimberli Guill at kguill@southwebercity.com or by phone, 801-479-3177 ext. 2205.

Don't forget to schedule your Fire Inspection! One is needed before a Business License can be sent to you. Contact Kimberli for details.

#### Exit Drills Inside the House (E.D.I.T.H.)

#### Plan Your Escape!

-When a fire occurs, there is no time for planning. Sit down with your family today and make a step-by-step plan for escaping from a fire.

-Draw a floor plan of your home, marking two ways out of every room—especially sleeping areas.

-Discuss the escape routes with every member of your household.

-Agree on a meeting place outside your home where every member of the household will gather to wait for the fire department. This allows you to count heads and inform the fire department if anyone is trapped inside the burning building.

## Be Prepared!

-Make sure everyone in the household can unlock all doors and windows quickly, even in the dark. Windows or doors with security bars need to be equipped with quick-release devices and everyone in the household should know how to use them. -If you live in a two story house, and you must escape from a second story window, be sure there is a safe way to reach the ground. Make special arrangements for children, older adults and people with disabilities. People who have difficulty moving should have a phone in their sleeping area and, if possible, should sleep on the ground floor.

-Test doors before opening them. While kneeling or crouching at the door, reach up as high as you can and touch the door, the know and the space between the door and it's frame with the back of your hand. If the door is hot, use another escape route. If the door is cool, open it with caution.

-If you are trapped, close all doors between you and the fire. Stuff the cracks around the doors with towels or blankets to keep out the smoke. Wait at a window and signal for help with little wary about opening your door to a light colored cloth or a flashlight. If there is a phone in the room, call 911 and tell the operator exactly where you are.

More than half of all fatal home fires happen at night while people are asleep. Smoke alarms set off when a fire starts, alerting people before they are trapped or overcome by smoke. With smoke alarms, your risk of dying in a home fire is cut nearly in half.

Subscribe to Public Notices!

Did you know there's a way to subscribe to all of the City's Public Notices? Visit our website for more information and get started!

Subscribe to Our Email List!

Want to know what's going on in the City? The best way to stay connected to us is by subscribing to our email list! Visit our website at www.southwebercity.com for more information.

Check Out Our YouTube Channel!

Due to COVID-19, we have been streaming all of our public meetings. Visit our website to subscribe!

#### Connect with Us!

Did you know the City has a Facebook page AND a Twitter page? Go give us a follow to stay up-to-date on everything city related!

We're Here to Help!

Have you seen our Public Workers at your door before? Have you felt a them?

Please don't feel this way! If there is a problem with your water, or there's something going on in your area that they are needing to work procedure requires them to knock on your door to let you know!