

ELK RIDGE BUGLE

MAY 2010



MEETINGS

City Council

May 11 & 25, 6 pm

Planning Commission

May 13, 6 pm

CONTACT INFORMATION

City Office

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Elk Ridge, UT 84651

Phone

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Email

staff@elkridgecity.org

Office Hours

9 am to 3 pm | M-F
(closed 2 pm on Thursdays)

STAFF

Building Official

Corbett Stephens

Planner

Shawn Eliot

Recorder

Jan Davis

Treasurer

Linda Cooper

Deputy Recorder

Janine Nilsson

Clerk

Annebel Meredith

Fire Chief

Seth Waite

Planning Comm. Coordinator

Marissa Bassir

Public Works

Wayne Frandsen

YOU ARE APPRECIATED

How grateful we are to have so many citizens come forward to uplift our fair city of Elk Ridge. The word is out that Elk Ridge has Esprit de Corps and is working as a team to improve our city. We have much to do, and with everyone pulling together, we can accomplish it.

The County Emergency Services Division displayed their mobile command center during our Disaster Preparedness drill on May 1. Among other things, we were able to see how we can track emergency equipment by GPS on our command

See APPRECIATED on Page 2

SPRING CLEAN UP

We are pleased to announce that, through special negotiations with our supplier, dumpsters will be available for spring clean up at no additional cost to the City. They will be available east of the fire station on the weekends of May 7–9, 14–16, and 21–23.

CITY COUNCIL PROTECTS OUR WATER

On April 13, the council approved the installation of a security fence around the base of the new Fairway water tank, enclosing the pump house. Currently, we are:

- Vulnerable to water system vandalism
- Subject to becoming an “unapproved water system” if assessed too many additional points
- Vulnerable to lawsuits for injury or negligence at the Fairway tank site
- “Assuming liability” for all consequences of not taking action to adequately secure the system
- Negligent in providing for the “health, safety, and welfare” of our citizens if we do not act prudently.

See WATER on Page 2

CATCH THE SPIRIT OF ELK RIDGE

We were delighted to accept delivery of our new council room table in April. It was designed, built, and donated as one of the *Catch the Spirit of Elk Ridge* projects. It is so beautiful, and we invite everyone to come and see it. We know you will be pleased.

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APPRECIATED

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center computer using their special radios. They were very complimentary of the citizens organizing so well to deal with possible emergencies and offered to work with us on joint exercises to help us be even better prepared.

Thanks to all of you who participated in any way to help our drill be so successful. Some doctors also took part—thank you. We appreciate the work that goes into planning such an event, all of the efforts to make it happen, and all of the suggestions to help us improve.

If you are not involved yet, please come to see us or call the office so we can arrange a way for you to participate and *Catch the Spirit of Elk Ridge*.

Ken Lutes, Mayor

SPIRIT

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Our thanks go to the Scout leaders and the 11-year-old scouts that cleared rocks from the tank dirt-storage area. They made it possible to have the project completed on time, and we appreciate very much the valuable service they rendered to the community.

We had a great deal of help from our local telemetry expert in relocating the critical components to monitor our water system. Also, a welder came to our aid in building the new rack needed to hang our salt spreader.

Even SESD, our power company, has *Caught the Spirit of Elk Ridge*. They helped us improve the security at the Fairway water tank, and they installed the salt spreader rack. We appreciate them very much; they are a great organization and are committed to helping Elk Ridge.

There is much more in the works for volunteers. We invite everyone to join with us to make Elk Ridge all that it can be. Thanks to all of you for your contributions of cash, labor, and beautiful work.



Left to right: Robert Goodwin, Mayor Lutes

WATER

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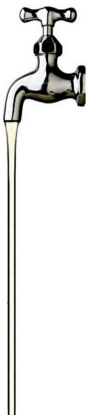
The security fence was approved by the previous council, but was not installed. The approval by the current city council was in response to the majority of the concerned citizens, our legal counsel, our insurance risk management, the state drinking water experts and guidelines, and other experienced municipal water experts. They participated in the field trips to the tank area and testified at the council meetings on March 6 and 9 and on April 13. (Please see minutes at www.elkridgecity.org.)

Weeks of research resulted in a thick file of information that indicated that securing the water system is the prudent thing for the city to do. Pure drinking water is vital to us. The experts presented in our meetings many scenarios of what has happened to compromise other water systems. A security fence will help us keep our drinking water safe (without chlorine) and avoid deficiency points assessed by the state drinking water inspectors. Our system undergoes thorough inspections, which could result in enough points (150) to have our system designated as an “unapproved water system.”

For example, one bad water sample could be 30 points; water storage that is not fenced can be assessed 20 points. There are numerous areas where deficiencies could be detected by the inspectors (we were assessed 124 points in August of 2009). We feel strongly that we need to be diligent in taking care of everything we know about so that we have plenty of leeway for the unexpected points and to prevent possible vandalism.

Those who are concerned about the appearance of the fence and tank area can be assured that the city will encourage and support efforts to plant trees and other vegetation on the hillside of the tank and to obscure the fence as much as possible. Volunteers are already offering to help beautify the tank, pump house, and fence area. The city can help dig holes, provide top soil, and a watering system.

Thank you for supporting your city council in protecting our water.



Help Plan Our City

Volunteers are needed to serve on the planning commission. If you are interested in helping to plan for the future of Elk Ridge, please contact the city office and arrange to visit with the mayor.



EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT
Citywide Yard Sale
 Saturday, May 29
 8 a.m.–2 p.m.
 Fire Station

Bring donations to the parking lot east of the fire station by 7 a.m. Proceeds will be used for supplies to build small wooden cars and trucks for The Tiny Tim’s Foundation. The toys are for underprivileged children throughout the world—sometimes the only toys these children have ever seen. It costs about \$2 to build each one.

Any unsold items may be retrieved at 3 p.m. or left for a donation to Deseret Industries.

Questions? Contact Dakota or Kamile Peterson, 801.423.2205.

ELK RIDGE 3RD WARD
VARSITY SCOUTS FUNDRAISER
Trash Removal
 Saturday, May 8 (or by appointment)
 Starting at 8:00 a.m.



Need garbage, trash, weeds, etc. hauled away from your house? If so, please allow the Varsity Scouts from the Elk Ridge 3rd Ward to handle it for you. The proceeds of this fund raiser will go toward a summer camp trip to Havasu Falls in the Grand Canyon.

Cost: Negotiable depending upon the size of the load.

Please support the Varsity Scouts. To schedule a pick up, or for more information, please call:

Jeff Jones–801.504.6235 or Blain Ogden–801.423.1930
 As always, your support is appreciated.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

On May 1, the city conducted the spring emergency drill. The drill simulated a 7.5 earthquake with fallen buildings, broken gas lines, fires with resulting injuries—broken bones, lacerations, and death. The exercise went well. All disciplines were exercised, demonstrating that the structure of the DPEM team is sound. Communications, security, logistics, fire, CCU, and CERT all performed well.

At 9:00 a.m., the CERT emergency teams sprang into action; search & rescue along with the medical teams found the injured victims and administered first aid and comfort. Some were treated at the emergency scene and others were transported to the Critical Care Unit where they were treated by the medical staff, which included Doctors Graham, Williams, and Gabler as well as RNs and EMTs. Thanks for your service; this gave a much more realistic atmosphere to the CCU.

Simulated fires, gas leaks, fallen walls, and caved-in houses were addressed by CERT and the fire department. Fire department personnel were dispatched by the Incident Commander to the emergency scene where they contained fires and responded to other medical emergencies.

The Utah County Sheriff department responded to the drill as well, arriving in their new mobile communications unit recently brought into service. The deputy sheriffs were able to monitor the operations taking place in Elk Ridge and offered to be of assistance in any emergency by bringing their new unit to our city and setting up a communications operation center



for use by our emergency personnel if the large earthquake destroyed our command center. The unit included a briefing room, food and water supplies, and toilet facilities for use by the operations team.

During the debriefing, individuals who had experienced a large earthquake expressed their feelings of panic and shock at the horrible effects of a large quake, seeing homes destroyed, smoke, fire, and the wailing of sirens during the night. This is not a pleasant scene, but a realistic one. This earthquake will come and we need to be prepared for the worst.



Testing our ability to live for two or three days without going to the store or without using electricity, water, or natural gas is an excellent way to determine our readiness for a disaster. Did anyone try it for this drill? I would like to hear your experience from this simple test.

The city is still in need of individuals who would like to serve as EMTs. This is an important position and, during an emergency, will fulfill a vital role in preserving life. The City will provide the necessary training.

In addition, the annual CERT class will be held on September 18 and 25. Although this training is not as involved as EMT training, it fulfills a vital role in the Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (DPEM) function of the city.

And remember—
IT ISN'T IF, IT IS WHEN!

Spence Sheets, Elk Ridge City Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management Director

Practice Makes Perfect

I coached boys baseball for ten seasons, spending hours teaching the boys how to field the balls, run the bases, and swing the bat. We had many practices. When game day came, it was obvious who had not attended the practices. I do not think there are many professions or activities that do not require some kind of practice or role-playing.

Spencer Sheets is in charge of the Elk Ridge citywide disaster drills. He has surrounded himself with many volunteers that share his desire to have our city ready for a real disaster. The only way to do that is to practice. Is it such a big sacrifice to spend a couple of hours or so twice a year to role-play for a disaster? When the disaster strikes, it is too late to prepare. Valuable time and effort will be spent trying to decide what to do in any given situation. The time to prepare is now.

I wonder if some of us even realize what is going on behind the scenes and why we need to be prepared as a community. There will be security problems requiring roads to be protected against looters trying to come into our area, and there are water tanks to guard. Our Fire Department has a vital role in prioritizing and responding to an unimaginable number of emergency calls. There are six staging areas to supply neighborhood help such as calling in emergencies and arranging for EMT and CERT responders. These neighborhood staging areas are set up to provide help and comfort to those that have lost their home, children who are without parents, and to be a gathering place for much needed volunteers to provide additional help. The Critical Care Unit will function out of the upper LDS Church building on Alpine. "Spur of the moment" volunteers will staff it. The health and well-being of our citizens will depend on doctors, nurses, and others with any type of medical training who will leave their families to offer assistance.

All of these assignments, the communications, and the logistics of this endeavor are coordinated by a command post set up at the City building. There are many individuals working in various capacities to address the welfare of Elk Ridge City *when* the disaster occurs. They are planning strategic moves to protect us, save lives, and maintain the integrity of our city.

If my baseball team had no equipment, no diamond on which to play, and no assistant coaches or umpires to lend a hand, we would never have been able to play the game...win or lose. If we are to endure the coming disaster, we will all have to work together. We will have to *Catch the Spirit* of our community and volunteer to step up to the plate and lend a helping hand.

The City will be offering FREE triage, first aid, and CPR training in the near future. Please increase your ability to take care of your family and friends in an emergency by taking advantage of these classes. Another way to help is to donate items that the Critical Care Unit needs to better serve you during a disaster. Items that come to mind right away are folding cots for makeshift beds, old blankets, and large, covered plastic bins in which to store medical supplies. (Do I smell an Eagle Project here?) These items may be dropped off at the City building.

I would like to publicly thank all of the volunteers that meet together regularly to plan for the protection of our city. A special thanks to those trained medical people who showed up at the CCU during our last drill. It is reassuring to know there are those willing to sacrifice a few hours to help us perfect our plans to provide disaster medical service to Elk Ridge.

Judy Brown, Critical Care Unit Director

From the Sheriff 2010 Dog and Cat Fair



May 15, 2010
10 a.m.–12 p.m.
Elk Ridge City Park Pavillion

This is a great opportunity to get your pets vaccinated, and/or registered as per law. A veterinarian will be on hand to offer the needed vaccinations.

This year, enforcement of dogs and cats running at large, unvaccinated, and unlicensed will be increased. We want to be your local law enforcement, but we do need your help in making the community a safer place for all to enjoy.

Fines	Unlicensed Dogs & Cats	\$90.00
	Minimum Impound Fee	\$25.00
County	Spayed or Neutered	\$15.00
License	Not Spayed or Neutered	\$35.00
Vaccinations	Rabies	\$10.00
	Distemper	\$10.00
	Cat Leukemia Virus	\$20.00

5k and 1 Mile Run

We need someone to be in charge of the City Celebration running events on June 26, 2010. Please contact Derrek Johnson at 423-8307 by May 24, 2010 if you will volunteer so we can keep these events in the celebration.