



Uintah News

July 2012



MAYOR'S MESSAGE



The budget for fiscal year 2011-2012 was finalized at our City Council meeting on June 19th. The budget for fiscal year 2012-2013 was adopted. As you know, this next year we will have some increases to fund. Those increases are the contract with the sheriff's department, a first responder contract increase for the fire department portion of the response, roof issues, and cemetery expansion and equipment.

Here is the information for the sheriff or policing services proposals that we received:

	Personnel Costs	Vehicle Costs	Other Costs	Total
South Ogden	94,084	26,071	6,845	127,000
Swander-Startup	342,850	272,985	37,000	652,835
Swander-1st Year	176,550	19,847	33,603	230,000
Weber County	82,586	15,263	12,151	110,000

The Council selected Weber County. Last year our contract with Weber County Sheriff was \$67,656. The increase is \$42,344.

Another budget issue that we had was the Fire Department. Here is the information that we received on the proposals:

	Personnel Costs	Vehicle Costs	Other Costs	Total
South Ogden	187,000	6,624	13,643	207,267
Weber Fire District Incremental	City - 7,000 District - 35,000	2,000	6,000 12,300 First Responder	62,300
Weber Fire District Total	Included	Included	Included	27,300 Saving to City
Uintah City	7,000	2,000	6,000 1st Responder 12,300	27,300

The difference between Weber Fire District Incremental and Weber Fire District Complete is that incremental means that Weber Fire District would have incorporated our fire personnel with theirs and Weber Fire District's Fire Chief would have become our chief. In the incremental, we would have had to pay our city firemen plus the Weber Fire District costs. In Weber Fire District Complete, Uintah City would have been incorporated into the Weber Fire District meaning that citizens would have seen the cost for the Weber Fire District in your tax notice thus resulting in a saving to the city but an increase to the citizen's taxes.

The Council selected to stay with the Uintah Fire Department. This decision was based upon an agreement with the Fire Department that they would need to meet certain requirements. The City set a review date of 9 months to meet with the department, review their progress, and to assess their ability to become sustainable and viable.

The cost to the City to maintain its own fire department is \$27,300. During the year, we have informed you of several issues surrounding the Uintah Fire Department. The City and the Uintah Fire Department have been actively working together to resolve those issues, come to a consensus on what really were the issues, what changes needed to be made, how to move forward, and how to make the department sustainable and viable.

I have to say that I admire those that have worked hard to reach resolution on the issues and fight for the retention of the fire department. The firefighters that need to be recognized for all their work and dedication are Denise Vickers, Mike Marz, Ron Batt, Dave Boothe, Tyler Bybee, Shad Bybee, Kurt Combe, and Brandon Hunt. It has been a wonderful experience to work with those firefighters that have truly wanted the fire department to succeed. Changes have been made and we are all moving forward to make the fire department better and stronger.

The next budget item that we are facing is a raise in the first responder costs. Currently, we are paying \$12,300 a year for the ambulance first responder services. The county has a proposal they are working on that would increase our costs for the fire truck first responder services that accompanies the ambulance. At this time, we do not know the cost for this service but can expect it to be approximately an additional \$12,300 a year.

Another budget item that has surfaced is the replacing of the roof at the Scout Building and the roof of the storage shed behind the Scout Building. We are working with our insurance to see if they will cover any of the costs but we have not received a decision from them. If they do not cover the costs, the City will have to fund the replacement costs.

The last issue that we are dealing with as a City is the cemetery. Currently, we have 124 plots left in the cemetery. We sell on an average of 45 plots a year. In order to provide more plots we need to improve the last section and possibly expand. The City has not got estimates on the work that is needed to finish the last section but a retaining wall needs to be constructed, water lines run, and parking improvements made. If we are not able to make the improvements, we will be considering limiting sale on the remaining plots to residents only until the improvements can be made.

The other improvement for the cemetery is a new backhoe that needs to be purchased. The backhoe we have been using has so many issues including safety that it is not cost effective to fix it anymore and we need a new one. We have \$55,000 in a capital investment fund for the cemetery that we have been adding to for several years to do the improvements which will cover some of the costs.

Year after year, we have rearranged the budget to make it work and the last several years we have cut the budget to make the funding balance. We are at a point now that we have very little left to cut. The additional costs from the Weber County Sheriff contract amounts to \$42,344 combined with the other budget issues makes it extremely difficult for us to balance the budget. Everything combined in the 2012-2013 proposal made a shortage of \$67,875 which results in a 174.82% tax request increase. Instead of requesting the 174.82%, tax increase the budget was submitted to the state with a shortage of \$31,656 which will result in a 75.96% tax increase.

I want you to know that one of the hardest thing for the council to do is to ask for an increase. The council will be doing a work session to make further adjustments to the budget in order to reach the lower shortage amount. All these budget issues have resulted in the City going through Truth In Taxation or a proposed tax increase. There will be a Public Hearing on August 7, 2012, at 7 pm regarding the proposed increase.

Below is a copy of the notice that will appear in the newspaper regarding the Public Hearing. If you have any questions, please contact us.

PHONE BOOK CHANGES

Moved In

Tim & Stephanie Christensen
6485 S. Combe Rd.
801-399-5818

Moved Out:

Tyler Bybee
6485 S. Combe Rd

DON PEARSON, CITY COUNCIL

US Highway 89 Project

Thanks for your patience!! There should be no more delays. During the week of July 16th, the work will begin on the HWY 89 project! Just so you know, the reason for the latest delay was to allow the Uintah Fire department time for critical training at the Fenn house before it is removed. During these hot and dry days, please be careful with fire or anything that could cause a fire!!!!



Denise Vickers, Fire Chief



Denise Vickers was officially appointed the Fire Chief for Uintah City. She brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the department. Denise was introduced in April as the City's Interim Fire Chief. She has been a part of the Uintah Fire Department for 6 years.

I started my career as an EMT Instructor for Emergency Medical Education Company (EMEDCO) in Murray in 1998, then also worked at Gold Cross Ambulance where I was able to be involved in the 2001 Olympics. I started my fire experience with Eagle Mountain Fire Department. While at EMFD I worked jointly with Saratoga Springs FD and Cedar Fort FD and was a member of the North Utah County Technical Rescue Team as a volunteer, and later running on South West Ambulance in Salt Lake City. I became very involved in the Wildland Fire service for the State of Utah Department of Natural Resources Forestry, Fire and State Lands as a Volunteer Coop-

erative. I am a Wildland Engine Boss and have taken Engines to large fires in Texas, Idaho, Wyoming and Utah. The last two seasons I worked for DNR/FFSL as the Sovereign Land Specialists at Bear Lake.

I worked for the Utah Department of Corrections at the Utah State Prison as a Correctional officer and in Salt Lake City Adult Probation and Parole and also in Ogden AP&P for almost seven years. I am on the Utah Critical Incident Stress Management Team where I served as Chair Person and now as a Call-Out Coordinator for debriefing for peer support for the State.

I have spent the last eleven years devoting my passion and love for the Fire Service and EMS Service gaining all the education and training I could on my own time as a Volunteer while still working full time jobs and raising my family. Protecting my family and serving my community is what is important to me and in so doing I want to know I am trying to gain the knowledge I need to do the best I can for both. I have gained much but know there is always much more to learn.

Lee Wohlgemuth City Council



The city is moving ahead with plans to remodel and expand the city's fire dept facility. The city will soon issue a Request for Proposal to engineering firms, in order to get a design and an idea of what the costs of a remodeled facility will be. The fire department volunteers have served for years with facilities which need to be improved, and the city believes

that now it is the right time to provide them with the facilities and training that the volunteers need and deserve.

Remember that we are very near our goal of reducing the collection costs of recycle materials. We need to increase the total tonnage of recycle materials a bit more, and we will reach our first goal. We will also reduce the amount of garbage waste. In May, the City produced 59.8 tons of garbage, and 8.9 tons of recyclables. When we get our recycle tonnage up to 10 tons or more, the costs to individuals will go down. This is a city-wide effort, and the city (meaning you) will benefit if everyone takes part to recycle more, and to put less in the garbage can.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED TAX INCREASE Uintah City

The Uintah City is proposing to increase its property tax revenue.

- The Uintah City tax on a \$199,000 residence would increase from \$80.45 to \$141.63, which is \$61.18 per year.
- The Uintah City tax on a \$199,000 business would increase from \$146.27 to \$257.51 which is \$111.24 per year.
- If the proposed budget is approved, Uintah City would increase its property tax budgeted revenue by 75.96% above last year's property tax budgeted revenue excluding new growth.

Uintah City property tax revenue from new growth and other sources will increase from \$37,810 to \$67,656.

All concerned citizens are invited to a public hearing on the tax increase.

PUBLIC HEARING

Date/Time: 8/7/2012 7:00 pm
Location: Uintah City Hall
2191 E. 6550 S.
Uintah, UT 84405

To obtain more information regarding the tax increase, citizens may contact Uintah City at 801-479-4130.

New Ordinances

Ordinance No, 207-12 provides for Bridge Safety, Firearms and Weapons, Hunting, and Curfew for Minors. This ordinance was modified to bring it into compliance with current law. Bridge Safety and Curfew for Minors were previously in the ordinance. Firearms and Weapons and Hunting were added to the ordinance to deal with issues related to firearms. If you would like a copy of the entire ordinance, contact the city office.

Bridge Safety - The purpose of this section is to ensure safety of individuals, both as pedestrians and as the drivers of automobiles, while on or using the bridge over the Weber River on 6600 South. This section states that it is unlawful for any person to dive, jump, or otherwise remove himself from the top or side of a bridge in the city. Also, it is unlawful for any person to stand, fish, linger, loiter, or remain on a bridge in the city, unless otherwise designated. This shall not prohibit an individual from using the bridge to walk from one side to the other.

Firearms And Weapons - This section states that it will be unlawful for any person to discharge a firearm as defined by Utah state law and does not otherwise violate state law within the limits of this city, except

- A. In self-defense;
- B. In the case of a peace officer performing his official duty;
- C. In the case of the lawful slaughter of livestock in an area designated for agricultural use, for personal consumption, where the shooting is not in a direction and distance that would endanger persons, property, or motorists;
- D. In the case of the lawful slaughter of sick or injured livestock in an area designated for agricultural use, where the shooting is not in a direction and distance that would endanger persons, property, or motorists;
- E. In the case of the lawful shooting of varmints in an area designated for agricultural use, where the shooting is not in a direction and distance that would endanger persons, property, or motorists;
- F. Items such as airsoft guns, paintball, and the like would not be prohibited because they do not fit under the definition of firearm.

HUNTING ILLEGAL - In this section, "hunt" means to use a firearm or other weapon, to pursue, harass, capture, or take any game or to carry a firearm or other weapon, in an attempt to pursue, harass, capture or take any game within the city limits.

CURFEW FOR MINORS - This portion of the ordinance states:

- a. Under Sixteen: It is unlawful for any minor under the age of sixteen (16) to loiter or remain in any public place within the city between the hours of eleven o'clock (11:00) P.M. and five o'clock (5:00) A.M. of the following day, except as provided under item D. Exemptions of this article.
- b. Sixteen Or Older: It is unlawful for any minor sixteen (16) years or older to loiter or remain in any public place within the city between the hours of one o'clock (1:00) A.M. and five o'clock (5:00) A.M., except as provided under item D. Exemptions of this article.
- c. Parents, Guardians: It is unlawful for any parent, guardian or other person having legal care and custody of any minor dealt with respectively in subsections A and B of this section to allow or permit any such minor to remain or loiter in any public place, except as provided in item D. Exemptions of this article.

EXEMPTIONS - A minor under the age of eighteen (18) shall not be in violation of this article if, at the time the minor was stopped by a police officer, the minor was:

- a. A minor, fourteen (14) years or older, emancipated by marriage;
- b. Accompanied by the minor's parent, guardian or other adult person having the care, custody or supervision of said minor;
- c. In a motor vehicle involved in interstate travel;
- d. On an errand at the direction of the minor's parent or guardian, without detour or stop;
- e. Acting in response to an emergency;
- f. On a sidewalk abutting the minor's residence or abutting the residence which is immediately adjacent to the minor's residence;
- g. Engaged in a lawful employment activity or going to or returning from such an employment activity without any detour or stop; or
- h. Returning home from, going to or being in attendance at any religious or school function, organized dance, theater, sport event or other such associational activity; provided, however, that going to or from such activity shall be by a direct route and within a reasonable time of the commencement or termination of such event.

Dave Boothe, City Council

I attended a Weber County Emergency Preparedness (EP) meeting last week in which we had the EP Director of Davis County speak to us. His presentation concerned the wind event we experienced last December 1, and the impact it had throughout their county. He discussed how their emergency center was set up, staffed, and how they proceeded to handle the situation before, during, and following the wind event. It was a very informative meeting. He brought to light several circumstances and problems they encountered and how they had to handle each one.



Well, since the wind never blows here in Uintah (ya right) this discussion got me to thinking how easily it would be for our community to be in the same situation. As we move forward on our community emergency preparedness plan, there are several things we need to look at that would help us in such an event. He (Davis Co. Director) expressed the importance of training (as our community has done with Jim Morkin and his work), having block captains, and other community members assist with assessment and action that would be needed during and after an emergency. As Mr. Morkin has stated several times in the preparedness meetings, during any "major" event, (wind or otherwise) our community could basically have to rely on itself for help. Outside assistance may not happen as quickly as we'd like.

As we prepare and plan for such an event, we're asking for community members to become active and involved to help with this process. If any of you are interested in helping, would you please contact me either by e-mail (uintahfire@aol.com) or by phone at 801.479.4595. We can work together to make a difference.

Fire Department

No cute article or factoid this month...just a reminder to be safe during these hot and dry months. Let's all do our part to protect our small City.

Fire Incidents

Thursday, June 14, 10:24 am – Engine 91 responded to a small grass fire at 1050 East 6600 South near the mobile home park. Cause – Unknown. Fire Fighters responded – Kirk Combe.

Friday, June 29, 3:21 pm – Engine 91 responded to a three car accident at the intersection on Hwy 89 South of I-84. Cause – a SUV ran into to back of a sedan that was then pushed into a small truck. One person was taken to the hospital. Fire Fighters responded – Mike Marz, Kirk Combe.

Wednesday, July 4 – No Incidents – Brush 91 was on stand-by during the evening to provide immediate response if needed. Fire Fighters available on stand-by – Ron Batt, Mike Hepworth

Be a Volunteer Fire Fighter

The Uintah Fire Department is looking for volunteers who are willing to serve on our department. Duties include, in short, provide first response services for all emergency situations in the city and surrounding areas as needed. This includes but is not limited to:

- All fire operations, both structural and wild land fires.
- Participating in meetings and seminars with our community to teach emergency preparedness and fire safety.
- Most importantly, become trained in the art of emergency operations.

Requirements:

- *Willingness to serve the community
- *Willingness to learn firefighting skills, basic first aid and become certified. (Training will be provided by the department)

This is a good opportunity to become more self-reliant and gain the peace of mind that comes from knowing what to expect when an emergence arises.

For more information contact Chief, Denise Vickers 801-376-0501 or Capt. Mike Marz 801-791-4533.

Nuisance Ordinance

Some of you may have received a Code Violation letter for the first time in all the years that you have lived in Uintah. Are you wondering why, what is up with the City? Are you curious as to why this little City of Uintah is enforcing the grass, weeds, and junk ordinance so much lately?

We recognize and value all of the people in Uintah. Our neighborhoods are where we live, play, work, and mingle with our neighbors. They are an extension of our homes and, just as we take care of our homes, we need to take care of our neighborhoods. We have a beautiful city filled with diverse landscapes. Many of our residents have strong desires for attractive looking yards and neighborhoods. They worry about health and safety with dry weeds and junk that rodents can hide in.

The purpose of Code Enforcement is to improve neighborhoods throughout Uintah and increase livability by; creating safe and healthy conditions; removing blight; educating citizens; enforcing municipal codes; promoting pride of ownership and community; and building collaborative relationships with residents, businesses, community groups, and local government agencies.

We have found that there are issues even in our little oasis. Perhaps you are bothered by your neighbor's pile of trash or is there an apparently abandoned car parked on your street. Do you have questions about a construction project going on in your neighborhood? Have you noticed an empty home or building that is a safety/health hazard to children or others? Are your neighbor's weeds growing over the fence into your yard? All of these issues happen in our city. As we deal with the issues, the city has to treat all citizens equally with courtesy and impartiality, and refrain from granting any special advantage to any citizen beyond what is available to all citizens.

Less than 20% of our violations come from citizen complaints. Our Code Enforcement systematically covers our residential and commercial areas and work to educate our businesses and residents about possible violations. Our goal is not to issue a large number of Violation Notices – we simply want to encourage compliance and maintain the quality of our neighborhoods.

As we work throughout the community, we all strive to apply the rules equally and fairly while educating and working with our residents. The Code Compliance Division welcomes all questions and complaints. Together with our residents, we are working to keep Uintah a desirable place to live.

CITY DIRECTORY

<u>Mayor/City Council</u>	<u>Home</u>	<u>Cell</u>	<u>email</u>
Mayor Bybee.....	801-648-7628.....	801-391-1447.....	uintahbybee@gmail.com
Dave Boothe.....	801-479-4595.....	801-540-9474.....	uintahfire@aol.com
Heidi Flitton.....	801-476-4125.....	801-458-5707.....	hidflitton@msn.com
Don Pearson.....	801-479-8766.....	801-624-9670.....	depearso@yahoo.com
Lee Wohlgenuth.....	801-475-7334.....	801-648-2508.....	lee_uintah@yahoo.com
<u>City Office</u>	801-479-4130.....	uintahcity@qwestoffice.net	
City Recorder.....	Darinda Wardell		
Court Clerk.....	Amanda Shipley		
Treasurer.....	Nichole Venz		
<u>Planning Commission</u>			
Chair - Glenn Woolsey.....	801-621-6257.....	801-528-2363.....	wool_z@comcast.net
Secretary - Crystal Western....	801-479-4130.....	uintahwestern@hotmail.com	
<u>Maintenance</u>			
Brent Bitton.....	801-721-9481		
<u>Fire Chief</u>			
Denice Vickers.....	801-376-0501.....	dhigvickers@yahoo.com	
<u>Cemetery Sexton</u>			
Gordon Pringle.....	801-479-5965 or 801-479-4130.....	uintahcity@qwestoffice.net	
<u>Weber County Sheriff Dispatch</u>	801-629-8221		
<u>Animal Control - Weber County Animal Control and Shelter</u>	801-629-8221.....	Hours - Monday through Friday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm and Saturday 8:00 am - Noon. Keep current identification tags on your pets and get a microchip. Identification saves lives!!	