Huntsville Happenings

www.huntsvilletown.com P.O. Box 267 801-745-3420 March 2025

Town Council Meetings 1st and 3rd Thursdays each month at 6:00 PM

Planning Commission Meetings 4th Thursday each month at 6:30 PM

The Public is always welcome!

**Huntsville’s Culinary Water System**

Our Huntsville culinary water system is our Town’s largest capital asset. It’s comprised of our water sources (springs and a well), a million-gallon reservoir, the water treatment plant, and the distribution lines that bring the water to your home or business. The current system has been in place since 2000, when the treatment plant became operational. It is now 25 years old. Further upgrades have been made several times since then. We are fortunate to have, according to the state, one of the very best small-community water systems in the state. Our auditors estimate its’ replacement value to be in the range of $5 million. Like all systems, especially complex ones, it is subject to aging. We have accounted for this normal phenomenon in our water bills by setting aside a portion of the revenue in the budget for routine maintenance and replacement costs. We also set aside any surplus funds at the end of each fiscal year into an emergency fund. For over 20 years this has been able to cover expenses while keeping our rates relatively low. The massive leak (The Great Leak of 2024) we experienced in December drastically strained our emergency fund. Besides that significant leak, we have been experiencing an increasing number of smaller leaks, almost all due to aging in the welded seams in the high-density polyethylene (HDPE) distribution pipe. In the coming months the town will have to make decisions on how to deal with this aging culinary water infrastructure. Part of this effort is already underway. We’re in the process of satisfying a federal/state requirement to detect and eventually eliminate piping that has a possibility of introducing lead into the water. Fortunately, our frequent testing has never detected any lead, and the majority of our system was constructed with approved materials. These efforts will incur costs, and we will all have to share the burden. There will be volunteer opportunities to help. We’re establishing an

information page on the Town website with the data which we are assessing to decide the next steps. We encourage you to review it, make comments, and become engaged.

**Upcoming CERT Training**

The upcoming Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training has an online training course which takes about 9-12 hours and must be completed prior to the in-class portion.  The in-class portion will be Thursday evenings, 6:00-9:00 pm, beginning April  24th, lasting 4 weeks, until May 15th.   The final class is a realistic mock exercise.  This is excellent training for almost no cost.  The in-person training costs $40 which is for the supplies you will receive.   Everyone who has completed CERT training is invited to attend the classes as a refresher for free.  We encourage everyone to either sign up for CERT, or if CERT-qualified, to attend these classes for a great review.  The following is a link with all the information about this Spring’s training: <http://www.webercountyutah.gov/sheriff/homeland/cert_training.php> If you have any questions, contact Bruce Ahlstrom at (801) 791-8473.

**Huntsville HALL and Legislative Chambers Available for Rent**

The Huntsville HALL and Legislative Chambers are now available to rent for events and meetings. The space is multi-use and available to the public. The Town Council set the rental rates for THE HALL and the Legislative Chambers at the last Huntsville Town Council Meeting. There is a link on the Huntsville Town website under “Community.” There is also an opportunity to purchase a 10-times electronic punch pass for $20 which will give you $5 off every rental credit card purchase up to 10 times. If you are interested in rentals or the 10x punch pass, please call Rex Harris at 801-791-3926.

**2025 Is An Election Year**

2025 is a municipal election year. Huntsville Town participates in a convention system in lieu of primary elections. Huntsville Town has been hosting their convention for many years. The convention will be held prior to May 30th according to the Utah State Code. There are two registered parties that participate in the Huntsville Town convention; “Our Town” and “Party No. 1.” Residents don’t have to be registered in any party to participate. Residents can choose which meeting they attend during the convention. Each party will nominate one candidate for each open seat. Eligible candidates must reside in Huntsville Town for a consecutive 12 months prior to the convention. This year we have two Town Council seats and one Mayoral seat that will be filled. Candidates that are nominated during the convention will be required to file the appropriate paperwork in person during the week of June 2nd to June 10. We encourage you to not only attend the convention but register to vote in our upcoming election. We will post information on our Huntsville Town website and you can find information on voter registration at: <https://www.weberelections.gov/registertovote>.

**MAYOR’S MESSAGE**

**A Warm Start to Spring in Huntsville**

It has been a mild winter, and before we know it, our kids will be hunting for Easter eggs! Last month, we hosted two fantastic events - the Winter Carnival and the Grand Opening of our new Town Hall and Community Center, now officially known as The Huntsville Hall. Both events saw a great turnout, and I want to extend my sincerest thanks to everyone who helped organize them, as well as to all who attended. The Winter Carnival is always a community favorite, and after three attempts to find the perfect date, Mother Nature finally cooperated with fresh snow and cool temperatures. It was wonderful to see so many families enjoying the festivities! As we look ahead to spring, stay tuned for more upcoming events and opportunities to connect with your neighbors. Thank you for being a part of our vibrant community!

**Opening Obstructed Alleys**

When Huntsville was originally platted in the late 1800s, nearly all blocks included a 33-foot-wide alley. Over time, some of these alleys have become obstructed by vehicles, trees, buildings, or fences. To improve accessibility to properties and maintain our Town’s historic layout, the Town Council and Planning Commission are working with residents to reopen obstructed alleys. We kindly ask for your cooperation in ensuring your alley remains clear of obstructions. Your efforts will help enhance safety, ease of access for other property owners, and the overall appearance of our community. If you are not sure if an official Town alley is adjacent to your property you can check your Weber County Plat map with the first 6 digits of your parcel number at:www3.co.weber.ut.us/gis/pop\_up\_plats.php. Thank you for your support!

**Recognizing Our Town’s Dedicated Team**

Running a town, no matter the size, takes a dedicated team of employees and volunteers working behind the scenes to ensure everything functions smoothly. From maintaining our infrastructure to handling essential services, these individuals play a vital role in keeping our community thriving. Recently, a resident mentioned that the town has only two part-time employees. While we do have part-time staff, our operations rely on many more people, including part-time employees and dedicated volunteers. If you don’t frequently visit our office to pay a water bill, require assistance from our maintenance team, or interact with our water operators and cemetery sexton, you may not have had the opportunity to meet the incredible individuals who keep things running. We encourage residents to take a moment to appreciate the unseen work that happens every day to support our Town. Whether it’s ensuring clean water, maintaining public spaces, or handling administrative duties, our team is committed to serving you. Thank you to all our employees and volunteers who make our town a great place to live!

Sincerely,

Richard L. Sorensen, Mayor