



CITY HEIGHTS of FRUIT 75 yrs. Celebrating



RIDGERUNNER

OCTOBER 2014

Bang for Your Buck!

By
Council Member Eileen Moss

Fall brings many things - harvest, cooler weather, back to school and property tax bills. This year some of us have seen an increase in our property valuations and taxes due to updates made by the County Assessor's Office. I want to encourage you to take just a couple of minutes of your time and notice how much you pay for City property taxes compared to the past couple of years. Most of you will notice that that number has remained fairly constant or has possibly even decreased even though your valuation may have increased. If the City chooses to not raise taxes, they effectively decrease over time due to the way State law is written unless your valuation changes significantly. Unfortunately, the City still needs money to provide services and in the past few years some of that money has come from an increase in the monthly fees you pay.

What do you get for your city taxes? You get roads that are plowed in the winter, have potholes filled in the summer and work done on them to try and preserve their life of service. Police and fire protection comes from monies you pay to the City and then those monies get passed on to the Davis County Sheriff's Office and the Kaysville Fire Department. You get parks for you or your children, grandchildren or neighborhood friends to play or walk in that are watered, mowed and usually weed free. You get the security of knowing that when you turn on your water in the morning to brush your teeth it's going to be germ free and of course, it's going to come running out of your tap. For most of you, you know that if it rains excessively that water will disappear to somewhere that is not your basement - or, if that has happened during

an unprecedented rainstorm, the City is working on projects that will help prevent this in the future. All of these things cost money and much of that money comes from property taxes and monthly fees.

Monthly fees are used to fund specific "enterprise funds" such as the water fund. The water fund, by state law, must be self-supporting. This means that we can't use monies from any other source to fund our water projects and associated costs - all money collected from your water bill must be spent on culinary water needs and costs. That's why for the past several years the water portion of your bill has increased in July - we have had a schedule of projects that needed funding as well as a need to buy more water to service our growing community. Our City does receive a small amount of money from other avenues such as the State gas tax and sales tax, but since we don't have much commercial business we don't get much from these other sources.

Additionally, in the past we have not charged a franchise tax on your utilities, such as your cell phone. I'm told we're the only city in Davis County that does not tack that tax on as allowed by State law. It's kind of an unseen or "backdoor" tax that most people don't realize cities have a choice about charging. When compared to other cities that do have these other revenue sources, amazingly, our Property Tax rate is still lower than several other cities in Davis County. We get a lot of bang for our buck! It helps that we have so many people that are willing to volunteer their time and talents assisting with many of our City Committees and projects. Our employees wear many hats as they work hard to make our community one that you can enjoy and be proud to live in. Thank-you to all who continue to help make our City a City of Good Neighbors!



ASSESSORY DWELLING UNITS

ADU's or apartment owners are required to adhere to the city's ordinance 10-11-21 (2010-01, 6-1-2010). An approval permit by the city is to be issued to an apartment owner. A maximum of one ADU shall be allowed within or attached to each owner occupied single-family dwelling.

Apartments are to a) house elderly parents, disabled relatives, and other family members under conditions where those family members can enjoy a degree of independence while also having assistance readily available when needed; b) to accommodate such housing in single-family residential neighborhoods with minimal impacts on the neighborhood in terms of traffic, noise, parking, congestion, and compatible scale and appearance of residential buildings; c) to prevent the proliferation of rental dwellings, absentee ownership, property disinvestment, building code violations, and associated decline in quality of single-family residential neighborhoods.

Green Waste



Green Waste pick-up extends through Nov. You can continue with your fall clean-up putting greens (leaves, twigs, grass, vegetable trimmings) until the last pick-up in November. The first pick-up in December the Green Waste Can may be used for regular household trash until first pick up in April.

WINTER PARKING RESTRICTIONS

Beginning November 1st through April 1st, overnight parking is prohibited on streets from 12:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. and during times of snowfall. Please tell your guests/renters so the snowplows are able to do a more effective job. Violators will be cited by the Sheriff's Dept. whether it snows or not. Also, please remove trash cans from the street as soon as possible to help facilitate snow removal.

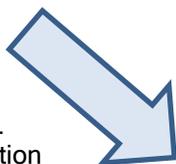


IRRIGATION WATER SHUT- OFF

Irrigation water (Eastoaks, Hights Creek and Benchland Irrigation) will be turned off October 1st through April 15th. Take time to close your valves.

WE ALL LIVE DOWN STREAM

In your yard, fertilizers and pesticides can harm aquatic life and destroy habitat. Improper application and inefficient irrigation practices are sources for polluted runoff. To help prevent storm water pollution:



- ✦ Use alternative pest control methods such as beneficial insects and insecticidal soaps;
- ✦ Store fertilizers and pesticides in a safe place and dispose of unwanted materials at a Hazardous Waste facility;
- ✦ Use recommended amounts to avoid leakage into storm drains;



- ✦ Do not fertilize or spray pesticides if rain is predicted;
- ✦ Control spillage of fertilizer and pesticides;
- ✦ Do not over-water your lawn;
- ✦ Landscape with drought tolerant plants as much as possible; and,
- ✦ Sweep up leaves and trash rather than hosing it into the street.
- ✦ Dispose of debris in your garbage can or curbside pickup.
- ✦ Pet Care - animal wastes are full of bacteria than can be washed into the storm water systems.
- ✦ Carry plastic bags when walking pets; and,
- ✦ Dispose of pet waster properly in the toilet or trash.

SNOW REMOVAL & TREE TRIMMING



Please trim trees and other foliage to make room for proper snow removal. Trees must be trimmed back out of roadways and sidewalks. Trees should be 12 feet above street and 10 feet above curb.

RECOGNITION TO OUR VETERANS

Military veterans and their partners will be honored with a free program and lunch at 11:00 a.m. at the Davis High School on November 9th. We thank our military veterans with heartfelt gratitude for all their sacrifices in defending our country's freedoms we hold dearly.



CHRISTMAS LIGHT PARADE



The annual Christmas Light Parade will be Monday, December 2nd in Kaysville. The lighting of the City Block and the mountain star (above Fruit Heights) will be at 5:45 p.m. The parade begins at 6:00 p.m. and will travel from 500 S. Main to 100 N. Main. Visit www.clippertoday.com or www.kaysvillecity.com for parade entry forms.