



PROVIDENCE CITY NEWSLETTER

Upcoming Events

City Council

3rd Wednesday

January 20th @ 6:00PM

Planning Commission

2nd Wednesday

January 13 @ 6:00PM

Justice Court

From 4:00PM - 6:00PM

Every Monday, except holidays

Open court hearings have been suspended until further notice. Check with the court clerk for questions.

Contact Information

Providence City Offices

164 North Gateway Drive

(435) 752-9441

** After-Hours Emergencies **

Fire or police emergencies - 911

Animal control 435-753-7555

(Cache County non-emergency dispatch)

City related issues 752-9441; after hours message will have an on-call number to call a city employee who will respond.

Direct line to the Mayor

(435) 760-8989 cell

johnmd@providence.utah.gov

Link to Subscribe to

Public Notices:

<https://www.utah.gov/pmn/>

Public Meeting Notice (PMN) website for all jurisdictions

The Mayor's Memo

Welcome to 2021

I think we can all agree 2020 was quite a challenging year in many ways. I believe that 2021 will be a year of significant challenge and change as well. That's why I think planning, prioritizing and goal setting is vitally important, especially for municipal governments.

Without plans in place when challenges arise, we react to the immediate circumstances. Without study and analysis of conditions and circumstances in advance, our reactions inevitably are "ad hoc"

spur of the moment.

That's why I've put our City Manager's challenge to set goals for 2021 on page 1.

In my report on one year of having our city manager in place (page 3), I've included efforts led by Ryan to develop plans and policies for key areas of city operations such as water, sewer, transportation, parks & recreation, and finally, the General Plan. Although plans are "advisory" as stated in the State Code, we still have studied and gathered information valuable to decision making.

John Drew, Providence City Mayor

City Manager's Report

Goals for 2021

The year of 2020 has been one that I never expected when I sat down to develop my 2020 goals. This past year has been filled with the COVID-19 pandemic, an earthquake, a major wind storm, and many other significant challenges. While we cannot predict the future we can do our best to improve ourselves.

I ask the city staff to do each year, I would invite you to do a self-review of what you have done well this past year, and share it with someone. Review what goals you set for yourself and see how you did. As we look forward to a new year, I ask the staff and invite you to join us in setting at least three (3) goals you can do in the next 6 to 12 months to improve your work and daily life.

This might be something you could do quicker, better, or smarter. It also might be taking on a new task. It could be catching up on something you have been putting off. You know best what you can do better. Consider having goals be measurable, achievable, and meaningful. Once you have come up your goals share them with someone.

I look forward to a great year here in Providence, and wish you all a happy new year.

Spring Creek Water Company

Providence City has been working with the Spring Creek Water Company (SCWC) board over the past year to build relationships and further understanding. Earlier this fall we entered into a mutually beneficial agreement. Both governing bodies unanimously approved the agreement. As part of that agreement, SCWC is proposing to make a change to their articles of incorporation to allow a city representative on their board. This will

help to keep good communication between the entities.

SCWC has also agreed to allow the City to access a portion of the city water shares estimated to represent approximately 150 million gallons of water to be taken through Broad Hollow Springs in to its culinary system.

Accessing water through Broad Hollow Springs is gravity-fed, and eliminates the need to pump that amount of water. This is estimated to save the City from \$20,000 to \$25,000 in annual electrical charges for pumping from in-town city wells, not including reduced wear and tear and maintenance costs.

As part of the agreement, the City has agreed with SCWC to work jointly to prepare an RFP for engineering services that would identify improvements that would increase water flows for all shareholders, develop system monitoring devices to measure flows at various points, and steps to ensure future availability of water sources that feed the SCWC system.

The city supports SCWC board members in these proposed changes and encourage resident that are also water users to review the facts, understand the issue and hopefully support the joint efforts of the city and SCWC in moving forward for the best of 2021.

—Ryan Snow, City Manager

(Note: Providence City mayors and staff have had a long-running dialogue with the board of Spring Creek Water Company going back a number of city mayors. Thanks to the efforts of Ryan and a committee of two council members and two SCWC board members, we seem to have achieved a major breakthrough. Kudos to all involved in making this happen. — Mayor)

City Office Administration

Stay Connected to City Government

We encourage anyone that would like to receive notifications from Providence City to sign up for the [Providence Pipeline](#). Notifications can be received as a text message and/or a standard email message. You can select which notices you want to receive from the following notice groups: city events and announcements, city newsletter digital edition; city surveys, public works, recreation activities, urgent notifications, businesses (commercial), businesses (home business), fiber info updates, and public hearing notices. You can select one group, multiple groups, or all of the groups.

We also encourage you to email your comments and/or concerns to the City at providencacityutah@gmail.com or text them to (435) 752-9441.

Business Licenses and Dog Licenses

As we welcome in 2021, if you haven't already done so, please remember to renew your business and dog licenses.

Business License Renewal: 2021 business license renewals were due January 1. Renew by January 31 to avoid late penalties.

Dog License Renewal: All 2020 dog licenses in Providence City expired on December 31. Late fees apply on February 1. Please renew your dog's license by January 31 to avoid the late fee. Along with your renewal, please provide a proof of rabies vaccination.

Competitive Youth Baseball

PCL (Providence City Comp League) is a competitive baseball league for youth teams, for players age 8 – 14 years-old. Registration: January 11 – March 12. Teams can register online at providence.sportsites.com/player. Please visit providencacity.com/baseball/ for more information.

Recreation Youth Baseball, Softball, and Kickball

Registration for youth baseball, softball, and kickball begins February 22 and runs through April 16. Watch the City's website and future newsletters for more information.

Recreation Wiffle Ball

Providence City will offer recreation youth and adult Wiffle ball this year. Watch the City's website and future newsletters for more information.

Winter Parking Hours and Snow Removal

Winter parking hours are still in effect. Vehicles or equipment cannot be parked in the City right-of-way from 12:00 AM (midnight) to 6:00 AM. If there is no curb, vehicles or equipment must be a minimum of eight-feet (8') from the asphalt.

When shoveling/removing snow from your driveway and the sidewalk(s) adjacent to your property, please remember to keep the gutters and storm boxes clear so water can flow freely.

Happy 2021

— Skarlet Bankhead, Administrative Services Director

Public Works

We hope that you all had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year!

Snow Removal

Thank you for your cooperation during the past snow storms as we have cleared city streets. Our whole public works staff from every department has rotating duty for plowing city streets so we can be as responsive as possible using the equipment we have.

Our streets are plowed by priority. We work to clear the major streets that move the most traffic first, and then move to the lesser traveled roads. Cul-de-sacs and dead end streets are the last streets that are cleared. We also wait to widen streets until all streets have been cleared for safe travel.

Please visit our website at www.providencacity.com to see what priority your street is. The link is on the home page, left side for the Snow Plow Priority Map.

A link to the Logan City website with information on what is recyclable, and the 2021 recycling schedule is on our website on the Home page.

If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us at 435-753-0313.

— Rob Stapley, Public Works Director

CERT Training

There will be a CERT training class taught in North Logan. The tentative plan is Tuesday and Thursday nights starting in April and going into May. Anyone interested please email or call Brent Speth bspeth@providence.utah.gov or 435-757-3875 Thanks.

For more information on Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), see <https://www.cachesheriff.org/emergency/cert.html>.

— Brent Speth, Providence City Council Member

Animal Control

This little guy was abandoned in the parking lot at Cache Humane Society on the morning of December 30. He was left in a cardboard box when it was 21 degrees. He looks like a border collie mix.

Interestingly, the cardboard box had an address label and the security cameras have a full view of the vehicle and license number.

Abandoning an animal is a violation of state law. Do you think Sheriff's deputies should issue citations to people abandoning animals?

— John Drew, Mayor



City Manager One Year in Office / Our Highly Regarded Justice Court Judge

City Manager One Year of Service

On December 2, 2019, Ryan Snow came on board with Providence City to fill a newly created position as city manager. In 2018 the council had told me as mayor they would like to revisit creating this position. Three years prior an initiative on the ballot proposed creating the city manager position in city government. The measure failed.

Creating this position and the background work including drafting ordinance language to amend city code took the city council about one year. It also included soliciting, screening, background checks and interviewing applicants. We received 34 applications which were eventually narrowed down to 4 candidates. The 4 candidates were subject to interviews by 4 panels; a citizens group, former majors and local city managers, city staff, and the council.

A year later, what has our city manager managed to achieve? Did our investment in a new top-level position pay off for the residents of Providence see an improvement in city government?

Cost Savings

Compared to the previous year, our city manager notes that engineering costs to the city have decreased from the same period last year by over \$100,000. This despite the continuing growth in new development in our city that must be evaluated and monitored by our City Engineer. Also we have seen our overall legal costs decline for the same period by over \$30,000.

Human Resources

Updated the Personnel Policy Manual to reflect best practices and compliance with State Auditor recommendations.

Worked with a 3rd party HR consultant to perform a salary study for all city positions and made appropriate compensation adjustments.

Reorganized organizational reporting structure to better balance management responsibilities.

Master Plans

The old saying goes, "If you don't know where you're going, any road will take you there." Also, "If you fail to plan, you plan to fail." To me, planning and policy making is essential; better than reacting.

Ryan took the lead on completing or initiating these plans: City General Plan, Transportation Master Plan, Parks, Trails and Recreation Plan, Sewer Master Plan, Fiber Feasibility Study, Fiber Technical Advisory Committee, Downtown sidewalk trip hazard plan and contract.

Budget

Budget process modernization to include a 5-year plan; applied for GFOA Digital Budget Award, additional budget and financial disclosures on the city website to improve transparency.

Information Technology

Updated the city's GIS (Geographic Information System) maps to include specific location information for city infrastructure to include water, sewer, storm water, sidewalk, and zoning.

Began live-streaming city council, planning commission and other public meetings on YouTube. Updated the city office IT structure including a new server and adding a fiber backbone and fiber connection to the city office (the internet service was painfully slow).

Grants Applied for

Grants are often a multi-year process and may take more than one year applying for funds. Some grant monies are not available to Providence because the family median income is too high.

Federal Land Access Program for road construction; \$4.268 million applied for, and not received, will reapply in 2021.

Community Impact Board (CIB) for sewer master plan; \$30,000 granted and received.

Safe Routes to School for sidewalks, application declined.

Community Impact Board (CIB) low interest loan for water storage tank; 1.5% rate on \$1,990,000 borrowed was granted.

Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) to fund Fiber Master Plan, \$15,000, declined.

Negotiations, conflict resolution

Worked with Spring Creek Water Company to negotiate the use of city-owned irrigation shares to be used to collect gravity-fed water from Broad Hollow Springs

Met with and worked with residents on 100 South in relation to the COG (Cache County Council of Governments) grant application to widen and complete 2-block section of roadway between 200 West and approximately 400 West.

—John Drew, Mayor

Meet the Providence Justice Court Judge

Maybe you'd rather not meet him in person. An introduction by newsletter might be preferable to appearing in court.

Judge Matthew Funk was appointed to the Providence Justice Court in 2011. He also serves the Richmond Justice Court. The Providence Court also serves River Heights and Millville.

Judge Funk received a BS in and an MS in accounting from Utah State University and is a Certified Public Accountant. He serves as the treasurer for the Utah Justice Court Judges Association. In his regular job, Judge Funk runs a local CPA firm based here in Providence, Funk Rockwell, PLLC.

In 2020 the Utah Courts Justice Performance Evaluation Commission (JPEC) voted 13-0 to recommend retaining judge Funk as the Providence Justice Court Judge. Judge Funk was reelected to the court in the 2020 election.

In speaking of her experience with Judge Funk, our court clerk commented that our judge, "Believes justice is more than just about collecting a fine."

—John Drew, Mayor



Local Charter Schools



CCID
The Center for Creativity,
Innovation & Discovery

170 West Spring Creek Parkway, Providence, UT 84332
435-258-7097 / Fax 435-994-3379 / www.ccidschool.org

K-8TH GRADE FREE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

Utah core curriculum with hands-on, project-based, STEM focus

Individual student-interest based learning opportunities

National School Lunch, Title I and After-School Programs

		
CREATIVITY The essential part of creativity is not being afraid to fail.	INNOVATION Creativity is thinking up new things. Innovation is doing new things.	DISCOVERY Discovery consists of looking at the same things as everyone else and seeing something different.
Edwin H. Land	Theodore Levitt	Albert Szent-Gyorgyi

Make it Real - Make it Relevant - Make it Rigorous

Applications for the **2021-2022** SY lottery to begin on January 19th, 2021

Please visit www.ccidschool.org to apply
Or call **435-258-7097** for questions

Why Does the City License Dogs?

Why does the city charge for a dog license? Some residents believe this is just another way for the city to make money, a "tax". The yearly \$15-25 fee for dog licensing isn't technically a tax, but some people may feel that it is (\$15 for dogs that have been spayed or neutered, \$25 unaltered). Each year, we license between 500-600 dogs, most of which are renewals. This works out to a budgeted revenue from dog licensing of about \$9,774 for the current fiscal year.

The City's Duty to Ensure Public Safety

The city has a contract with the Cache County Sheriff's Department for animal control services. This year's contract is for \$21,728 providing 679 hours of service. The Sheriff's Department employs three Animal Control Officers (ACOs) throughout the county that provide service from 8:00AM to 6:00PM, and emergency services 24 hours a day.

Our contract with the Sheriff for animal control only covers dogs, so this amount could theoretically be directly chargeable to the dog owners of Providence. Clearly, the city does not make any money on dog licensing, but charges a fee that only covers less than half of the cost of animal control services. In reality, dog owners are subsidized by the taxpayer dollars of non-dog owners.

The city also has a contract with Cache Humane Society for impound services. When animal control picks up a stray dog, it is delivered to Cache Humane Society to be impounded until either the dog is claimed by its owner, or after the mandated 5 days (by state law) is considered abandoned and becomes the property of CHS. If the owner claims the dog, the owner pays the impound fees to CHS.

If unclaimed, the city absorbs the impound fees. The amount the city ends up paying varies depending on how often we have an irresponsible pet owner that abandons their dog. CHS also impounds dogs delivered by an ACO for a mandatory 10-day bite quarantine.

Besides recovering a portion of the animal control costs, why would the city want to license dogs? There are a few reasons.

The first is rabies. It is in the interest of humans and animals to make sure that all dogs within the city have a current rabies vaccination. Providence City does not issue dog licenses unless we have a current rabies certificate on file. Dog bites happen, and when they do, the victims are most likely grateful that the dog was required to have a current rabies certificate.

The second reason is for identification purposes. When a dog is lost or picked up by animal control, the Providence City tag number allows law enforcement or others to quickly identify the owner along with their current address or phone number.

You should know that we do not license cats, we do not ask the Sheriff's ACOs to impound cats.

We do ask animal control to deliver notices to dog owners whose licenses have expired. Be a responsible pet owner and make sure your dog is licensed and vaccinated.

Thank you for supporting our efforts to have a safe, orderly environment for dogs and humans.

—Jesse Bardsley, Admin Staff Assistant



Now enrolling all grades K-8 for 2021-2022
Some seats still open for 2020-2021. **Enroll today!**

Your family is invited to the **Kindergarten Preview Night** at Thomas Edison Charter School

Wednesday JANUARY 27 **6:30-7:30 PM** **ONLINE EVENT!**
The link to the meeting will be on our website.

Join us to meet our amazing kindergarten teachers from both campuses and learn how our unique curriculum can prepare your child for college and their future.

For more info, call **435-752-0123** thomased.org

New addition to our program **Built-in Homework Time**
Establish good habits and still have free time.

