



Elk Ridge Bugle

Year 2002 Edition

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Issue II - February 2002

A Message From Our Mayor - *Vernon L. Fritz*

What a great start! The first month in office for the new Council and Mayor having passed rather smoothly I am left with the pleasure of saying thanks to the staff and everyone else for their patience as we go about learning our responsibilities. Next, a report update.

Water and sewer continue to represent our greatest challenges. An additional water source is our first priority in the next sixty days. With what may be a permanent loss of 200gpm in well No. 5 and the possibility of a low aquifer on No. 3 we are faced with a serious problem. We may be forced to drill another well before spring arrives. Cash reserves however are short of needs therefore we may be turning over sofa seats for loose change.

On another front, we continue to be approached by developers bearing gifts. The first rule however is to be skeptical. We are aware that growth is a "given" but it is our government's responsibility to look after the welfare of the City first and those wanting to be a part of us after that. We are committed to that obligation. As a general statement, we expect proposed developments to pay for their impact upon our systems and to carry their own costs. Currently we continue to talk to a group wanting to build on the Page property on 1600 Ave.

Another item: There is evidence, in the form of surveyors measuring "this and that" on Park Ave. from the City Hall to Salem Hills Drive and then north to the open field near Bridger Lane, indicating that something is happening. That 'something' is Questar Natural Gas Company proposing a new route for a 24-inch gas line that, if approved, will bypass the old line.

I have no mistaken notion that there will be "no objections" to this proposal. I know there will be but in keeping with my commitment to keep everyone aware of significant happenings I would like to take a couple of paragraphs to explain some of the realities regarding this possibility. (The proposal must still pass through the Council and a Public Hearing.)

Questar owns a "right of way" that currently passes diagonally through the City beginning on High Sierra Drive, past the City Hall, down to the open field next to Bridger Lane. Questar has a legal "right" to remove fences, dig up landscaping, and replace old pipe.

This would result in much anger on the part of the property owners. However, in an effort to avoid the heavy hand of a "right" being imposed upon the affected owners, Questar and we are discussing an alternative. Late last summer Questar proposed a route along Park Ave. to North Salem Hills Drive and reconnect in the open field below Bridger Lane. I believe the new twenty-four inch line would replace a thirty-year old seventeen-inch line.

While this is not my first choice, (1st choice being to miss the City altogether) it does appear to have merit. The natural concern is the "perceived" risk to the community. It exceeds my ability to make that go away. The expectation is the project will have passed through Elk Ridge in about three weeks from start to finish. There will obviously be some disruption in moving about but we will try to manage it as best we can if the proposal is approved. The anticipated beginning is sometime in May with a possible date as late as June.

On to another subject: Neither the Mayor nor the Council possesses the wisdom to be everything to everyone. We are not always aware of "better choices" when faced with making decisions. We, like you, want the City to be both beautiful and functional. In the next thirty days or so I am hopeful of organizing several committees to provide input.

If you would like to be involved in helping improve our community, would you please call me personally to talk about your talents, skills, and interests?

In conclusion, may I thank you for the opportunity to serve. It is an honor. With your help I hope also that it will be a productive experience for us all.

LOST AND FOUND

There are several items at the City Office that have been found by our citizens. Among these items is a 24" silver mountain bike and a red and silver scooter. If you have lost these items, please contact the City Office 423-2300.

CPR Classes To Be Offered

Beginning February and March 1st at 7:00 PM there will be a CPR Class offered through the City. For more information please contact Kamille Peterson at 423-2205

JOB OPENING Deputy Recorder Position

The City is accepting applications for the full-time position of Deputy Recorder until February 25, 2002. Salary range is \$9.00 to \$14.00 per hour. Full benefits (Medical, Dental, Life Insurance, Retirement, Vacation, Sick Leave & Paid Holidays). This position requires strong organizational skills and ability to handle multiple tasks. Strong computer skills are a must as well as a background in accounting. Please send your resume and letter of interest to the attention of Mayor Vernon Fritz, 80 East Park Drive, Elk Ridge, Utah 84651 or pick up an application at the City Office. For more information you may call the City Office at 423-2300.

→ Road Closure ←

The bridge on 1600 North is scheduled to be closed from February 4th through April 1st in order to replace the bridge. Alternate routes into Elk Ridge will have to be used such as Goosenest and Loafer Canyon Road. Please drive carefully. Thank you.

Planning Commission News

Members: Stewart Jolley, will be leaving the Planning Commission February 2002. Stewart and Teri Righettini have served on the Planning Commission since February 1997. Alan Nelson has served since October 12th 1999. WELL DONE! Your time served is very much appreciated. A great deal has been accomplished during your time with the Planning Commission.

Leonhardt Schroedter, Teri Righettini and Alan Nelson have been reappointed to serve another term until February 2007.

WELCOME to Sharon Dahlstrom, who will replace Stewart Jolley and serve the remainder of his term until February 2005.

Members of the Planning Commission are:

Bob Goodwin, Teri Righettini, Allen Nelson
Bruce Lindow, Marc Rigg, Sharon Dahlstrom

Planning Commission Business Item:

The Commission will be reviewing a proposed 50-acre annexation and development. For further information come to the meetings. They are open to the public and everyone is encouraged to attend. Meetings are held on the first and third Thursday at 7:00 PM.

A Special Thank You...

The City would like to express thanks to one of our most dedicated citizens, Phyllis Thomas. She has served as our City Historian since 1979 and will be greatly missed. Her records of Elk Ridge will remain a permanent asset for generations. Thank you for your service. Craig Ingram will be filling her position.