

Providence City Newsletter

Upcoming Events

City Council

1st & 3rd Wednesdays except July,
November and December

Wednesday, December 4th @ 6:00PM

*Swearing in for new council members,
January 6th at 6:00PM*

Planning Commission

2nd & 4th Wednesdays except July,
November and December

Wednesday, December 11th @ 6:00PM

Justice Court

From 4:00PM - 6:00PM

Every Monday, except holidays

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

johnd@providence.utah.gov

The Mayor's Memo

More Winter Challenges

Over a short period of time, our public works staff dealt with 4 water leaks in one week. One catastrophic pipe break triggered two more. The volume of water was huge and did significant damage to asphalt in some places. Rob, our public works director, and Ryan our City Manager are working on a mechanical solution to stop multiple pipe failures from occurring in the future.

This time of year our equipment gets a real workout and is subject to the degrading effects of cold temperatures, frozen vehicle parts, corrosive road salt and repeated trips around 42 miles of city streets. Our public works crew spends a lot of time making sure equipment is in top shape before the season begins, but we still experience issues.

Incoming Council, New Faces

Every two years municipal elections are held in Utah cities. For a 6-member form of government which Providence has, three council seats expire and come up for election those election years.

On January 6 we will be swearing in a new City Council with four new members (one of the seats was vacant last year when councilman Baldwin passed, and his appointed replacement serves until

the next municipal election). None of the incumbents whose terms were expiring chose to run.

New councils represent a challenge to City staff. New council members don't realize the sheer number and complexity of issues facing City government. The answers aren't as simple as they think, and the State Legislature requires more of city governments every year.

Planning for Change

Ryan Snow, our City Manager has a lot of experience with state-of-the-art municipal government technology, and is looking forward to adopting implementing some of these changes in the near future. Some of that technology will allow citizen access to information in an easier to find format. Some will streamline office process and save staff time.

We have also wanted to video broadcast our council and planning meetings for citizens to view at their convenience. We went down that path last year and were disappointed with the technology our contractor provided. However, we purchased an inexpensive camera and have posted links to recent council meeting videos on the home page of the City website. We are looking to improve the video and audio quality in the near future.

John Drew, Providence City Mayor

Ryan Snow, Providence City Manager

On Monday, December 2nd, Ryan Snow began his first day on the job as Providence City Manager.

Ryan attended Utah State University on a Presidential (full academic) Scholarship. He received his bachelors degree in accounting, and a masters degree in business administration. So yes, Ryan is an Aggie.

While attending school, Ryan worked for Bear River Mental Health as an assistant to the business manager. After attending USU, Ryan worked for the State Tax Commission for four years as an auditor, reviewing individual, corporate and non-profit state tax returns for compliance. After working for the State, Ryan worked for a local CPA firm in Roosevelt, Utah for two years providing financial audits and reviews of private, non-profit, and government organizations (e.g., special service districts).

Also in Roosevelt, Ryan went to work for a private company that was acquired by Staker Parsons, a roads, streets construction and materials company. He served as division controller in that role for ten years.

Ryan was hired by Roosevelt City five years ago to become their City Manager. During his term, he sums up his accomplishments as having done much modernization of processes, systems, communication, efficiency and operating controls. Ryan made his mark by dramatically increasing the amount of grant monies awarded to Roosevelt City.

Ryan, his wife and four children are in the process of closing on the purchase of a home in Hyrum.

—John Drew, Mayor



City Office Administration

First Annual Tree Lighting and Visit with Santa Claus



Skarlet Bankhead
Administrative Services

Thank you for making our 1st Annual Tree Lighting event such a success. This was a family event that also benefited [The Family Place](#) and the [Cache Food Pantry](#).

Our event was held on Thursday, December 5, 2019. We listened to carols performed by Vocal Stepz; enjoyed hot chocolate, doughnuts, and cookies; visited with Santa; and lit the tree in the 100 North roundabout!

We still have some ornaments available. If you would like to help The Family Place and the Cache Food Pantry, please stop by the City Office between now and December 12th at 5:00 p.m. to pick up an ornament or bring a donation for the food pantry. Proceeds from the ornament sales will go to The Family Place. The recommended donation is \$15, but all donations will be accepted.

We would like to thank our sponsors for this event: Canyon Landscaping, McDonald's, Macey's, David Stock-State Farm Insurance, and Cache Valley Media Group. We would also like to thank Deputy Jake Carley who came out on his own time to help with the event.

We plan to make this event even bigger and better next year. Drop us a note and let us know your ideas.

Holiday Lighting Contest

If you would like your residence considered for the Holiday Lighting Contest, please visit www.providencecity.com, print and complete the entry form and return it to the City. Judging will take place December 9 – 15. Thank you to our sponsors: American First Credit Union, Bank of Utah, and USU Credit Union.

Winter Parking Hours are in Effect

- Winter parking hours go into effect 24 hours after the first snowstorm that requires the City to plow the streets in November; or December 1, whichever is earlier.
- 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.
- The City will not be liable for any damage occurring to any vehicle or equipment parked on any street or right-of-way, during street and right-of-way maintenance.
- For complete ordinance, see Providence City Code [6-2-8:A Winter Regulations: Night Parking](#).

Parking citations will be issued for violation of this ordinance. Overnight parking citation fee is \$25. The fee reduces to \$20 if paid within the first five days. You **must** bring the citation to the city office with you if paying within the first five days.

Business License Renewal

2019 business license renewals are due January 1. Renew by December 31 and receive a 10% discount.

Dog License Renewal

Dog licenses in Providence City expire on December 31. Renewal opens December 1. Please provide a proof of rabies vaccination.

Oath of Office

Monday, January 6, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.; Providence City Offices, 164 North Gateway Drive, Providence UT

Oath of Office for the newly elected city council members: Carrie Kirk, Joshua Paulsen, Jeanell S. Sealy and Brent D. Speth.

Thomas Edison Charter School

Thomas Edison Charter School is now enrolling grades K-8 for 2020-2021. Some seats are still open for 2019-2020. Kindergarten Preview Night will be Wednesday, January 29, 6:30-7:30 PM, 1275 W 2350 S, in Nibley. For information, call 435-752-0123; or thomased.org.

— Skarlet Bankhead, Administrative Services Administrator

Please Make Note: Winter Parking Hours are in Effect

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Water Rights vs. Water Shares

I hear the terms "water right" and "water share" used interchangeably, however there are important differences. Clearly there is some confusion. Hopefully the following discussion will clarify the distinction.

It's complicated, so I thought I would take a shot at explaining in plain language.

Ownership of Water Rights - Municipalities

City governments such as Providence that provide culinary water for their residents own water rights, and have an interest in water shares that have been converted for municipal use.

Providence City accumulates water rights or water shares as new development comes to the City. This is to ensure that land no longer used for agriculture has enough sources to provide culinary water for City residents.

How many does the City own? Does the City own adequate rights/shares for current and future needs?

State Code on Water

The Utah Code provides that, "All waters in this state, whether above or under the ground are hereby declared to be the property of the public, subject to all existing rights to the use thereof." In other words, owned by the public.

In order to legally use water, a person or entity must have permission from the Utah Division of Water Rights to use the public's water.

Irrigation Water Companies

Irrigation companies were formed in the 1800s to solve a problem. Each individual property owner owed water rights. These property owners watered farmland and/or livestock. The problem was created as there were conflicts over who was going to take water, how much, and when. The owners of water rights agreed to pool their interests and their rights and formed a company to hold these rights in trust for the individual owners, and in exchange issued shares of stock in the newly formed company.

Irrigation companies own water rights. Company shareholders have, in effect, a fractional ownership of the company's rights. By owning shares of irrigation company stock, a shareholder is entitled to use a portion of the company's water right. For example, if a company owns a water right for 1,000 acre-feet of water and the company has 1,000 shareholders, each share represents the right to use 1 acre-foot of water from the company's water right.

Spring Creek Water Company

As stated on the State Water Engineer's website, waterrights.utah.gov, Spring Creek Water Company has Right No. 25-3507 dated 1860, and other rights for a flow rate of 16.0 cubic feet per second, dated 1860, in trust and on behalf of all Company shareholders. The right allows the Company to divert and deliver water to its shareholders from Spring

Creek and tributary sources, primarily for irrigation from April 1 through October 31 of 836 acres of land and 400 head of livestock. All of Spring Creek's water is controlled by a weir at the mouth of Providence Canyon and is distributed to eight laterals which feed individual shareholder properties.

Providence City owns approximately 246 out of 908 shares, or 27% of Spring Creek Water Company.

Providence Blacksmith Fork Irrigation Company

The State Water Engineer's website, Providence Blacksmith Fork Irrigation Company, has Right No. 25-4255 and 25-4256 for a total flow rate of 50 cubic feet per second, dated 1861. The rights allow the Company to divert water for irrigation from Blacksmith Fork River from April 1 through October 31 of approximately 2200 acres of land.

A canal carries water about 2 miles from the River to the Millville irrigation company, which splits the water 44% Millville, 56% Providence. Once in Providence, the Company operates an upper and lower canal and various "city streams" are used to convey water to shareholder properties.

Providence City Owns approximately 419 out of 1408 shares, or 30% of Providence

Blacksmith Irrigation Company

"Exactions" by Municipal Governments

When new development comes to town, Providence City requires the developer to provide water rights or water shares. Water *shares* are required when development will occur in a part of the City that is in the irrigation company's service area. Water *rights* are required when development will be in an area that is NOT an irrigation company service area.

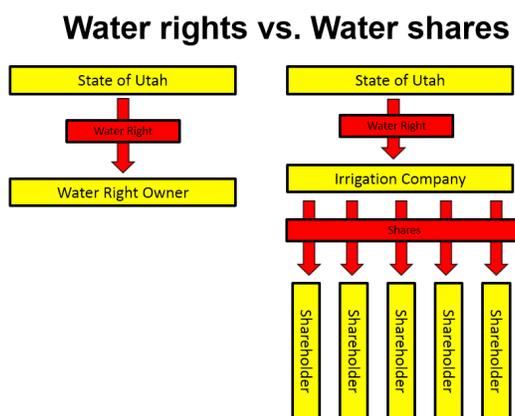
The theory is that land was previously provided water for agriculture, and now the water need is for residential and commercial use. This "extraction" as termed in State Code is done by ALL Utah cities and is not unique to Providence. The intent is for water previously used for agriculture will be converted for municipal use.

See State Code section **10-9a-508. Exactions**, for a legal description of municipal government authority to acquire water interests.

Conversion of Water Shares for Culinary Use

A natural progression for Utah cities is to transition their interest in irrigation water shares to municipal culinary use. This requires an application to the State Water Engineer for a change of use. When approved, the particular shares are assigned a "water right" number. The State Water Engineer encourages the conversion of this surface water for beneficial, culinary and other municipal uses.

—John Drew, Mayor



Source: Jeff Gittins of Smith Hartvigsen

Public Works and Snowplow Season

The Public Works Department would like to wish you all a safe and enjoyable holiday season. With winter and colder temperatures approaching we have a few reminders for you.

Please drive with caution when in the vicinity of a snowplow and remain at least 150 feet behind them. After your garbage and recycling cans have been emptied, please remove them as soon as possible to limit possible obstructions for the plows.

In an effort to keep our streets as safe as possible during the winter months, please remember that it is a **violation of City ordinance** to remove snow from your private property and place it in the street. This can create a hazard for you as citizens along with City employees as they are working in the plows to keep the streets clear of snow.

To prevent outside taps from freezing, you may need to leave a small amount of water running. We recommend that you locate your water meter and make sure that the lid is tightly secured. This will reduce the possibility of freezing pipes.

- Winter parking hours are in effect.
- We have finished our leaf bag pickup for the year.

Stay safe.

—Tara Bankhead, Office Specialist

Priority for Snow Removal by City Street

The Public Works Department has a streets priority for snow removal. As always, the first principle for determining priority is safety, which means heavily traveled arterial roads and steeper roads get first priority.

The second priority is to secondary “feeder” residential roads, and then followed by dead-ends and cul-de-sacs are last.

If you are interested in finding where the priority is for you street and the streets you travel, go to the Providence City, Public Works page and scroll down to **Streets** and then, **Map - Snowplow Priority**, or go to this link:

http://providencacity.com/wp-content/igov_files/map_snow_removal_january_2017_1.pdf

—Rob Stapley, Public Works Director

*** Snow Removal From Sidewalks ***

Please keep your sidewalks cleared of snow to accommodate pedestrians and those in wheelchairs. Yes, we do have residents who use wheelchairs and are out and about this time of year.

Sidewalks should be cleared within a reasonable time after a snowstorm. See Providence City Code **7-1-2: Removal of Snow**:

“It shall be unlawful for the owner, occupant, lesser, or agent of any property, abutting on a paved sidewalk, to fail to remove, or have removed from such paved sidewalk, all hail, snow, or sleet hereon within a reasonable time after such snow, hail, or sleet has fallen.”

—John Drew, Mayor

PROVIDENCE PIPELINE

The Providence Pipeline went live in January of 2018. Initially after two months we had over 300 people sign up.

We now have 705 people signed up as of December 1, about 10% of city residents. Of those, 651 are signed up for urgent alerts, 413 for recreation notices, 378 for City events, 294 for public works notices (road closures, water leaks), 245 for the City newsletter and 221 for City surveys. Some are signed up for more than one alert.

Fortunately, we have not had serious emergencies as have other cities. In 2016 Nibley experienced a diesel spill that contaminated one of their culinary water wells. Nibley’s alert system notified residents and kept them updated with regular reports as to the status of the cleanup effort. Ultimately, residents of Nibley understood the value of the alert system and the sign up rate was over 90% after that incident.

City residents may sign up at www.providencacity.com on the home page. Street addresses are pre-populated. Select notification options; text, email, or voice. Choose alerts that are urgent, community events, recreation, city surveys. I recommend at a minimum everyone should opt-in for urgent notifications. There is be more information on the city website.

I urge everyone to get signed up, and at a minimum for urgent alerts so we can keep our citizens informed in case of an emergency.

Please call the city office if you have any questions.

—John Drew, Mayor

Cache County Council Of Governments (COG) Recommends Grant Award to Providence City

The Cache County Council of Governments (CCCOG, or COG) convenes each year to consider grant applications for Road Sales Tax funds from Municipal governments in Cache County. The available pool of funds is collected from .25% sales and use tax and is intended for new roadway capacity and congestion mitigation.

Of costs that are eligible for COG funding, Right Of Way (ROW) acquisition is included. The COG consists of mayors from all Cache Valley cities and the County Chief Executive.

Providence City staff submitted an application in June of this year for COG grant funds to acquire additional Right-Of-Way (ROW) from property owners on a two-block section of 100 South between 200 West and 400 West.

On November 18, the COG approved grant awards to Logan City, North Logan, Providence and Cache County. The Providence award was for \$281,689, approximately 90% of the funds requested.

The COG recommendation must be approved by the County Council.

—John Drew, Mayor

