



OUR TOWN

Where the desert meets the mountains.

November 2009
Issue No. 77

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Public Projects

Rodeo Grounds Gets Thumbs Up

The Hailey City Council approved a conceptual plan of the rodeo grounds redevelopment last week. The project was conceived in early 2008 by the Hailey Parks & Lands Board, and endorsed by the mayor and council in the first annual strategic planning session of the current city governing board. The city immediately launched an effort to communicate with parties interested in developing a high profile, multi-purpose outdoor sports complex in Hailey. The conceptual plan had been

commissioned by the city from Nick Latham and Michael Bulls of Ruscitto, Latham, Blanton, AIA. After approving the concept, the City Council directed the architect to develop a schematic design and costs, so that a fundraising effort for the widely acclaimed project can begin.

The outdoor sports complex will include an expanded skateboarding facility, a 30,000 square foot ice rink courtesy of Hailey Ice, Inc., and a new full-sized multi-use event arena to seat 3,500 spectators for continued Sawtooth Rangers Hailey 4th of July Rodeo and other events, and a 2,500 square foot visitors center to house the history of the current rodeo grounds and former racetrack known as Wertheimer Park. The Hailey Arts Commission will be involved in the project to foster the development of public art within the new recreational space.

A group of people including representatives from the organizations named above, as well as city officials and staff, have been preparing a fundraising effort for the new facility. The Hailey Rodeo Park fundraising effort will be launched during November in an effort to raise sufficient funds to break ground following next summer's 4th of



July rodeo in order to skate on Hailey Ice's new rink next fall.

The fundraising team will hold an organizational meeting on November 17, 2009, from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. at Hailey City Hall. Anyone interested in joining this effort is welcome to attend and roll up their sleeves.

Tax-deductible donations can be made to this effort through the Hailey Parks Foundation, a non-profit organization which has partnered with the city on several parks projects, including Jimmy's Garden. Donations can

be made at your convenience by mailing to Hailey Parks Foundation, c/o Steve Keefer, President, P.O. Box 3107, Hailey, Idaho 83333.

A website donation center will be set up to facilitate electronic donations. More information on the website will be given in our next issue.

Look for fundraising events to be announced during the following months. We plan to engage the community in a lot of fun during this modern day western community hometown barn raising!

Calendar

Important Dates

Arts Commission	11/05/09
City Council.....	11/09/09, 11/23/09
Community Oversight Committee.....	11/16/09
Historic Preservation Commission	11/24/09
Parks & Lands Board	11/03/09
P&Z Meetings	11/02/09, 11/16/09
Sustainable Building & Planning Advisory Committee.....	11/04/09, 11/18/09
Tree Committee	11/12/09
Veterans Day *	11/11/09
Thanksgiving *	11/26/09

* City offices closed November 11, 26 and 27.

2010 Hailey Comp Plan Update Neighborhood Workshop Summary

Phase 1 of the 2010 Hailey Comprehensive Plan Update is complete! About 50 people turned out for the series of neighborhood workshops held throughout the month of October to talk about what people liked about their neighborhoods and the City of Hailey. There was lively discussion with a wide range of topics covered and a few common topics were heard at all of the workshops. People like the people who live in their neighborhoods, sidewalks, mature trees, park space and access to trails. People want to see traffic impacts reduced, pedestrian and bicycle safety better addressed and do not want to see the existing city boundaries expanded and support infill (the development of vacant land within the existing city), but do not want to see density increased.

Phase 2 begins on November 5. Check out the Planning Department page on the City of Hailey website – <http://haileycityhall.org/planning> – for more information on the next phases and to read the notes from each neighborhood workshop. As always, anyone is welcome to send an email to 2010compplan@haileycityhall.org with ideas, comments or suggestions.

Public Works

Plan Ahead for a Safe, Snowy Winter

The Public Works Department's primary objective during the winter storm season is to provide safe transportation, emergency vehicle access to all citizens, and support education and commerce during adverse weather conditions. The city has prepared equipment and personnel to meet the special needs associated with snow removal. Another important part of this preparation is to inform citizens of their role in the snow removal process. With this in mind, the City of Hailey would like to share a few tips that may make the snow more enjoyable.

NOVEMBER 1 – MAY 1 VEHICLES MUST BE PARKED A MINIMUM OF 6' FROM THE EDGE OF THE STREET.

The city plows at night whenever possible. It is permissible to move your vehicles into the right of way during the day to clean your driveway, but make sure to park well out of the way at night to avoid any vehicle damage. Be aware that a tow truck will be called to remove vehicles that impede snow removal. Owners must pay towing and storage fees.

A new city ordinance allows the Police Department to ticket vehicles (\$50 fine) parked in the street.

DO NOT PLACE YOUR TRASH CONTAINER IN THE RIGHT OF WAY DURING A STORM. Please keep your trash cans and personal items back from the roadway during a storm.

DO NOT LET YOUR CHILDREN BUILD SNOW CAVES OR SNOW FORTS NEAR THE ROADWAY SNOW BANKS. Snow forts can seem like a lot of fun, but they are dangerous when built in the city right of way or next to the road. When snow builds up we push the banks back to help with visibility at intersections. We cannot see children playing in these caves.

Help a Neighbor, Be a Good Sam

Each year during the snow season the city receives numerous requests to remove snow from driveways by citizens who are unable to because they are either elderly or disabled. In an effort to provide snow removal assistance to those in need throughout the winter, the city is requesting that private citizens step forward to help.

City staff will maintain a list of both property owners who require assistance and those willing to lend a helping hand, and will make every effort to coordinate assistance.

Mayor Rick Davis extends a warm thank you to three anonymous volunteers who have signed up to help. More volunteers are needed. Please call 788-9830 x 22 or x 14 to either request or offer this service.

RV Dump Station Upgrades Planned

The RV Dump Station adjacent to McKercher Park may get a facelift next summer. The Public Works Department plans to install a restroom facility at the station, providing a much-needed service to RV users. The restroom would be sited on the south central edge of the McKercher Park lawn, with the doors facing into the RV area. The restroom will be an amenity for park users, as well.

Public Works will also install a frost-free hydrant to extend the season of use for the station. Many RV users come through town during the hunting season, and since Hailey's dump station is the only public one between Twin Falls and Ketchum, this will be a value-added service for RV users.

Finally, the Hailey Parks & Lands Board, Public Works and City Administration have agreed to proceed with policy changes that would extend the parking hours at the RV area to a 12 hour maximum. This RV-friendly change would allow the occasional RV user to take a break in Hailey, and visit our many stores and eateries.

In January, the city will submit a grant application for the project to the Idaho Department of Parks & Recreation. Any questions or comments may be directed to Tom Hellen, Public Works Director at 788-9830, ext. 14 or tom.hellen@haileycityhall.org.

Water & Sewer Rate Changes

Effective every October 1 the water and sewer user fees are subject to change. Minimal changes occurred this October 1, 2009. The water monthly base rate on metered accounts decreased by .09 cents to \$10.15 and the water bond remained the same at \$4.45. The sewer monthly base rate on metered accounts decreased by .44 cents to \$12.12 and the sewer bond remained the same at \$6.49. The water monthly non-metered base rate increased by \$2.46 to \$42.00. The sewer monthly non-metered base rate decreased by \$1.16 to \$27.00.

Hailey Fire Department

Hailey Firefighter Honored

The Hailey City Council honored Hailey firefighter Vaughn Palmer at the October 26 council meeting. Palmer joined the Hailey Fire Department on October 1, 1989 as a volunteer firefighter. Currently a captain, during the past 20 years he has held every position in the department except Fire Chief.



Vaughn is known throughout the valley for his competence and skills and is deeply respected by his peers for his willingness to be a mentor to less experienced firefighters, day, night or weekends.

Vaughn is one of few employees that have provided over 20 years of service with the City of Hailey. He is a valued member of the Fire Department and we hope that he will continue to remain with us for many years to come.

Hailey Business

Hailey Announces Launch of Business Directory on City Website

Hailey recently launched a new business directory on its website. A listing in the directory is available to all businesses holding a valid City of Hailey Business License. Each business may choose up to three different categories in which to be listed. To check it out, visit www.haileycityhall.org/HaileyBusiness/HaileyBusiness.asp

City Finances

Financial Status Report

The City of Hailey closed its fiscal year on September 30, 2009. The unaudited year-end financial report is that

Hailey holds \$8.41 million in seven separate funds at the conclusion of a year during which departments spent \$1.276 million less than budgeted. Cutbacks were continually made throughout the fiscal year due to revenue shortfalls in all funds except the water and wastewater operating funds. Expenses were held below the level of incoming revenue in all funds except the water and wastewater replacement funds, which are funded by connection permits paid for new construction.

The seven fund balance amounts include:

General Operating Fund	\$ 556,706
Water Operating Fund	\$ 1,161,490
Wastewater Operating Fund	\$ 493,428
General Capital Projects Fund	\$ 2,759,577
Water Capital Replacement Fund	\$ 1,820,468
Wastewater Capital Replacement Fund	\$ 1,074,520
Water Bond Reserve Fund	\$ 540,307

The General Operating Fund decreased its fund balance by approximately \$20,000 from a year ago. This decrease was due to a decision made by Mayor Davis to defray fundraising efforts for the 4th of July fireworks display due to the economy's strain on local businesses and citizens. The Fireworks Endowment Account, consisting fully of donations and housed within the General Operating Fund, decreased from \$137,000 to \$117,000, with a \$20,000 fireworks display held last summer.

Hailey Hometown Holidays

Brought to you by the
Hailey Chamber of Commerce
and the
South Valley Merchant's Alliance

Date: Friday, December 4

Time: 6:00–9:00 p.m.

Place: Main Street & the Meriwether Building

The Christmas Parade will go north on Main Street from Pine to Carbonate, with a gathering afterwards at the Meriwether Building. Santa Claus will make an appearance, there will be treats for revelers, and music will be provided by the Bellevue Choir.

Join in the fun!