



OUR TOWN

Where the High Desert Meets the Mountains

February 2019
Issue No. 183

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www.haileycityhall.org

Mayor's Remarks

Town Hall Meeting Called for February 25

We will host a Town Hall Meeting on Monday, February 25, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. to talk about the future of Hailey.

Voters approved a *Pathways for People* 2-year tax levy increase in 2016. The projects are nearly complete, and the tax, now fully collected, was not billed this year. The City of Hailey wants to know if residents are interested in paying for new projects. An online survey has been developed to obtain your opinions. Find it at <https://haileycityhall.org> or at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8V72866>. The survey is printed on the last page of this newsletter for those who prefer a paper survey.

Hailey has many infrastructure projects, and two projects have generated significant public interest:

The Hailey Town Square workshops were robustly attended last fall and are scheduled to continue on February 12. Hailey residents have been clear that they want a central town square in Hailey. The town square cost will be dependent upon the design, but may lie between \$500,000 and \$1 million dollars.

River Street improvements have been identified by the Hailey Urban Renewal Agency as the next multi-modal priority in Hailey. The City is currently in the concept development stage of a four block project on River Street that is partially funded by a \$2 million federal grant. This plus additional River Street improvements are in the planning stages. Recently completed or pending *Pathways for People* projects have successfully provided safe east/west and north/south travel for bicyclists and pedestrians. The emergent River Street improvements will complement those connections while improving vehicular circulation and commerce.

Please plan on joining this focal conversation:

Town Hall Meeting - Monday, Feb 25, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. at Wood River High School Distance Learning Lab, 1250 Fox Acres Road, Hailey

Hailey Town Square 2019 Public Process Timeline

General steps:

- ◆ Identify Programmatic Uses
- ◆ Finalize location
- ◆ RFP for Design Competition
- ◆ Finalize design based on competition
- ◆ Seek Funding

**Next Public Workshop:
Town Square Programmatic Uses
February 12, 2019 at Hailey Public Library
Time: 5:00-6:30 PM**



Meeting Calendar

City Council	2/11/2019
City Council.....	2/25/2019
Planning & Zoning	2/04/2019
Planning & Zoning	2/19/2019
Art & Historic Preservation...	2/12/2019
Joint Fire Board, Hailey WRFD	2/13/2019
Parks & Lands Board	2/27/2019
Public Library Board	2/20/2019
Tree Committee	2/14/2019
Sun Valley Air Service Board...	none
Urban Renewal Agency	2/07/2019
Presidents Day Holiday *	2/18/2019

***Holidays— City Hall and Library Closed**

Hailey Public Library February Events

2019 marks the **100th** anniversary of
Hailey Public Library.

To commemorate our centennial, we are celebrating all year with a new logo, parties, learning and events for all.

Follow us for more information:

www.HaileyPublicLibrary.org

www.facebook.com/HaileyPublicLibrary

We're on Instagram!

www.instagram.com/HaileyPublicLibrary#hpl100

Monday, February 18: *President's Day Closure.*

This Month's Era: 1920s

All Month All: *NEA Big Read!* This year we're celebrating our community and connecting over literature. We're reading *Into the Beautiful North* by Luis Alberto Urrea.

Tuesdays – Thursdays, 3:30 – 4:30 PM: *In-between.* Activities for kids 9 - 12 full of STEAM activities, games, crafts and experiments!

Wednesdays & Fridays at 10:30 AM: *Story Time* is an interactive story hour made especially for preschool aged children. Special cultural stories will be on the 6th & 8th and decades themed stories will be on the 13th & 15th.

Saturdays, 4:00 PM: *Conversational English Classes.* Want to freshen up your language skills? Join us for casual conversations in English in the library every Saturday.

Tuesday, February 5, 5:00 PM: *Taco Tuesday Party!* Art, music and tacos: is there anything better? Celebrate the NEA Big Read with us and enjoy Hispanic culture.

Thursday, February 7, 3:30 PM: *Shoulder Bag Sewing Class.* Sew your own unique bag at the library! Beginners welcome. All supplies provided. 14+ years old, please.

Hailey Public Library February Events (continued from previous column)

Sunday, February 10, 6:00 PM: *Magnificent 7 Showing at DiVine.* Join us for a free showing of the original Magnificent 7 at DiVine Wine Bar in Hailey. Doors open at 6:00 PM for dinner, snacks and wine, and the movie starts at 6:30 PM.

Tuesday, February 12, 5:30 PM: *Library Reads Book Club.* Every month, we'll be hosting a book club with picks throughout the decades and special guest Russ Tremayne, PhD. This month's read is *Killers of the Flower Moon* by David Gran.

Wednesday, February 13, 5:30 PM: *Friends of the Hailey Public Library Meeting.*

Saturday, February 16, 3:00 PM: *1920s Vintage Family Games.* Come into the library to experience the types of games that were played in 1910.

Tuesday, February 19, 5:30 PM: *Speakeasy Night @ The Mint.* Celebrate our birthday with the wildest party of the year--hosted by a library! All night long, we're serving up 20s themed drink specials. Upstairs, starting at 5:30 PM, is a cocktail class where you'll concoct a 20s libation. Tickets for the class are \$30. Costumes encouraged!

Wednesday, February 20, 6:00 PM: *Library Board Meeting.*

Saturday, February 28, 5:30 PM: *Seed Talk.* At this event hosted by Blaine County Extension, we'll be premiering our brand-new seed library and talking about the preservation of seed biodiversity and the importance of harvesting.

Tuesday, February 26, 4:00 PM: *Teen Pizza Party Book Discussion.* Did you read our NEA Big Reads pick *Inside out and Back Again* by Thanhha Lai? Join us for pizza and a chat about the book.

Wednesday, February 27, 5:30 PM: *Bilingual Book Discussion and Potluck.* Bring a dish and discuss *Into the Beautiful North* with us!

City Finances

Funding Increase Options

Hailey intends to apply for a large federal grant in July to add to a federal grant already in hand for the River Street projects. In order to be competitive in that grant we need to show a new funding stream that will help to maintain existing infrastructure and implement new street improvements with non-federal funds. That new funding stream needs to be perpetual in order to receive maximum points in the ranking process. Hailey City officials are considering the following options.

Another 2-year temporary levy like the *Pathways for People* levy, which cost property owners \$48/year per \$100,000 taxable property valuation in its first year. Because this levy is only for 2 years and not permanent, it will not give Hailey grant points as it does not create an ongoing funding stream for new or existing infrastructure maintenance needs. However, it would bring in nearly \$1 million over a two-year period.

A Permanent Levy increase, if set at the same \$48 cost per \$100,000 taxable property valuation as was set for the *Pathways for People* levy would bring in nearly \$500,000 per year for capital projects and would also be available for use on future maintenance needs for both existing and proposed new infrastructure. Such a measure, if approved, would set the levy modestly up from what it is currently at .002466 to .002946. The maximum levy of .009 allowed by law is more than 3 times greater than what Hailey's new levy would be.

A capital levy is slightly lower in cost, as the law limits this type of levy to \$40/year per \$100,000 taxable property valuation. A capital levy would give the City permanent funding for capital projects, but not for maintenance of those projects. This funding mechanism is a strong option, bringing in a maximum of \$411,000 per year. However, increasing maintenance and snow removal costs for existing or proposed new infrastructure cannot be covered under the capital levy.

Hailey's franchise agreement with Idaho Power currently sets a 1% franchise fee on electric utility use. Asking voters to increase the franchise fee

(continued next column)

from 1% to 3% would bring \$120,000 in additional revenue to the City each year. The additional money could be used for street projects or maintenance, but will not bring sufficient funds to do the planned Town Square and River Street

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projects in the near term. Hailey would have to collect the funds for several years before having enough to begin the Town Square project, and would not be able to apply funding to maintenance needs until enough has been received for the projects. This option diversifies the revenue stream; utility customers pay the franchise fee.

Trout Friendly Water-Wise Seminar:

Saving Water with Drought Tolerant Plants & Nativars



Come join us at Sawtooth Botanical Garden on Tuesday February, 19th, 2019 Seminar is from 10AM to 3PM.

Admission: \$35 for SBG members, \$40 for non-members

Come explore ways to utilize native and other cultivated plants from professionals such as

Dr. Steven Love (University of Idaho)
Steve Paulson (Native Roots) and
Staff from Perennial Favorites.

Also, staff from Sawtooth Botanical Gardens will discuss construction techniques of rock gardens to bolster water conservation in landscape.



Please contact Sawtooth Botanical Garden at 208-726-9358 for more information.

Are you interested in getting a Water Smarty Grant for your home or business? Go to watersmarty.org to learn about eligibility requirements and to download application forms.

Survey - Hailey Parks & Streets

The City of Hailey is interested in your opinions. Please complete this survey by answering the questions below and delivering to Hailey City Hall by **February 18, 2019**. The survey can also be filled out online at <https://haileycityhall.org> or at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8V72866>

1. Do you approve of Hailey's active pursuit of federal and state grants to fund City infrastructure?
- Strongly approve Somewhat approve
 Neither approve nor disapprove
 Somewhat disapprove Strongly disapprove

2. Hailey receives general fund revenue from the following sources. Do you agree that Hailey City property taxes are well supported by other revenues?

37% Property Tax
23% State Tax and Local Option Tax
16% Franchise Fees, Permits, Contracts, Licenses
17% Grants from Federal and State Agencies
7% Development Fees, In Lieu Fees, Annexation Fees

- Strongly agree Somewhat agree
 Neither agree nor disagree
 Somewhat disagree Strongly disagree

3. Do you agree with a vision of Hailey that includes pedestrian friendly experiences such as biking, walking connections, downtown public spaces?

- Strongly agree Somewhat agree
 Neither agree nor disagree
 Somewhat disagree Strongly disagree

4. Do you believe Hailey streets should be better configured to provide enough space for multi-modal transportation; ie cars, busses, delivery trucks, bicycles and pedestrians all at once?

- Strongly agree Somewhat agree
 Neither agree nor disagree
 Somewhat disagree Strongly disagree

5. Are you satisfied with the condition of Hailey's transportation infrastructure, such as sidewalk or street condition?

- Strongly agree Somewhat agree
 Neither agree nor disagree
 Somewhat disagree Strongly disagree

6. Are you satisfied with the condition of Hailey's parks system, such as turf condition, play equipment, restroom quantity and cleanliness?

- Strongly agree Somewhat agree
 Neither agree nor disagree
 Somewhat disagree Strongly disagree

7. Please identify what projects you care about most. Place a mark by as many as you would like to see accomplished.

Town Square

Park Enhancements, such as play equipment, impact material, additional restrooms.

River Street Improvements such as sidewalks, bike lanes, improved drainage.

Street maintenance, potholes, shoulders, sweeping, resurfacing (chip seal).

Snow removal (faster or more frequent).

Sidewalk maintenance.

Bicycle-Pedestrian network improvements.

Main Street safety improvements, such as more crossing lights, more traffic signals.

Airport Way improvements, such as curbs, parking, connected sidewalks.

Woodside Light Industrial area improvements, such as curbs, drainage, parking and striping.

Other _____

Other _____